

GBSA Pursuit racing – Second 2009 Series: Race 8 Thursday 25th June

With Tim Laine and Simon Gregory setting off for Aland to do battle for Guernsey in the Island Games, and three other regular competitors being away, only a small fleet of 4 craft were tempted onto the water by the 5 knot NE breeze.

Denis White and Graham Le Page started first on 4 min handicap followed by Seb Lovell on 5 min and Simon Lovell on 6 min. A large triangular course had been set which in the dying breeze took all of 1 hour to get around three times.

Denis and Graham had a close battle from start to finish. Seb caught up at the start of the second leg whilst Simon, on his Serenity board, caught up to Denis and Graham shortly after.

Some poor decisions by Seb saw his considerable lead reduce on the second beat and Simon had him in his sights up to the start of the third leg around. However a large catch of seaweed put paid to Simon's chances when they entangled the fixed fin on his Serenity, causing him to have to turn the board though 360 degrees to dislodge it, dropping to 4th in the process.

Light weight Seb finished first by miles followed by Simon, Denis and Graham. This meant that Seb won the second series by one point over his Dad!

The overall points of the first and second race series combined have Simon Lovell leading by one point from Tim Laine, followed one point behind by Seb Lovell.

After this long final race of the series, no further racing took place that evening, with the first and second races of the third series scheduled for 2nd July.

GBSA Course racing –Third 2009 Series: Races 1 & 2 Sunday 28th June

This being the last Sunday of the month, we continued the trial of having races at a venue other than Ladies Bay and as in May, Grandes Rocques was chosen. However, with several members still being away, a force 2 to 3 offshore breeze only tempted three competitors into racing around this rocky coastline (Simon and Seb Lovell and Graham Le Page).

In race 1, a beach start saw Seb take an early lead, but Simon took a shorter route inside Grosse Rock to overtake. Every one closed up again at the Cobo buoy. Seb eventually passed Simon on the beat inside Grande Rocques Bay. Simon tacked off and lost much ground, which also allowed Graham to overtake to place second.

The second race was around the large rock at the north entrance to the bay, around the outside of Grosse, into Cobo and back via any route to the beach. An early lead by Simon was consolidated when Seb fell off in the wind shadow at Grosse. The small fleet stretched out with 100 feet between each racer. However Seb was able to rail his board and catch Graham quite quickly. He also carried on catching up to get within striking distance of Simon. The cheeky devil then finished on the extreme southerly end of the beach to finish first. Next time we have a beach finish it will have to be more specific! In this race, Simon was second and Graham third.