

29/4/10 Thursday Pursuit Race
Ladies Bay 18.30
Wind: West Force 3
Results: See Excel sheet for the series

There were 5 racers for the first pursuit race of the season. Ian Campbell started first followed by Rod Hutchinson and lastly Simon Lovell, Seb Lovell and Graham le Page. The course left the middle reef and island to port heading in past the harbour around a blue buoy then out to the Christmas Pud, down wind on a very broad reach to the store pots before a run in to the yellow buoy three times.

The two early starters misjudged the distance upwind that they needed to go and went too far, throwing away their early advantage.

Simon and Seb swapped places for the first two laps with Simon faster and more accurate on the tacks and gybes and Seb faster down wind. Eventually Simon got clear to finish first, followed by Seb. Rod came a respectable third, sailing a better course for the final two laps. Ian finished last appearing mysteriously out of the fog from which we had thought he might never return.

The second race was cancelled as the fog which had come in during the final lap of the first race was too thick, making mark spotting a bit of a lottery.

GBSA Sunday Race 2/5/10
Ladies Bay 10.30
Weather: Sunny. Wind: Force 2 to 3 South West
Starters: 7

A large inverted "U" shaped course was set which included one lap of most of the bay, with a very long run and beat.

The fleet started from the beach to run inside the reef into Tiger Bay. Simon Lovell took an early lead followed by Sebastian Lovell. Simon Gregory seemed to have set his Tushingham 9.5m sail with too much twist and was unable to point as high or to extract the expected speed from his sail. Jo had a poor start but battled her way into third position sporting her brand new Tushingham 8.5m race sail, whilst Graham was in close contention.

At the front of the fleet Sebastian was giving his dad a hard time, getting in front on three occasions. Ultimately he came second by less than a board length when his dad took a tighter route to the finish, which involved a lot of pumping to stay in front!

The second race was changed to a smaller triangular course with two laps and a rabbit start by Simon Gregory. Simon Lovell started early and sailed into a header from which he never recovered. Jo and Sebastian lead the fleet around the course and Simon Gregory crossed tacks with Simon Lovell but ultimately came fourth.