

GBSA Sunday course Race 18/7/10
Wind: SE Force 2 to 3 fading. Sunny and hot
Participants: 7

1st Race

Watching Briggsy practicing with his new black 12.5 metre sail, Simon Gregory thought it might be enough wind for a Formula board for him too. It wasn't, and his 10.5 metre sail was not up to the task so he came in and changed to his IMCO board, then arrived late for the start and too late for a position!

Meanwhile Simon Lovell had had a good start. But leading on the first run, his concentration on sail adjustments was such that he sailed straight into the middle of a bright red fishing boat much to everyone's dismay (and amusement)! No damage done to either in the light winds, fortunately.

One of the marks was the rocky islet between Ladies Bay and Chouet. On the final beat for the finish rounding the islet Jo, who was in the lead with Simon overlapped inside her, accidentally managed to push him over several submerged rocks as she tried to keep the gap closed tight. What about "Water at the Mark" Jo! In the event she was able to claim first spot.

At the back of the fleet Robert Read was tacking to finish in front of Rod, but unfortunately took a dive into the water. Maybe it was the heat!

2nd Race

Jo was the only one close enough to Nigel, who was rabbit, to get a good start. She never relinquished it! It looked like Simon Gregory would get second place until Sebastian started flapping his way around the course to take a late second place.

GBSA Pursuit Race 22/7/10
Wind: South East Force 2 to 3
Participants: 6

With extremely variable light winds coming off the shore and quite a big handicap difference of 6 minutes between the first and last starters, this was bound to be interesting racing.

The regular wind shifts were often in the order of 30 degrees and radically changed the fortunes of those on whom the gods were and were not shining!

Jo though managed to get the wind shifts right most of the time in both races, so it can't be just chance. She was rewarded with a first and a second place.

Simon Gregory, who was too late (again) to start the first race, used his 10.5 metre sail to advantage to get a second in the second race. The sail was a definite benefit on the deep reach. Graham was pleased with a second in the first race off a 5 minute handicap, but could only do sixth in the next race (off 6 minutes). Sebastian meanwhile was consistent with two third places.

Simon Lovell managed to sail off on the wrong side of every major shift and went home to kick the dog!
Ian did better in the second race and is doing well in this series, racing off a low handicap.

GBSA Sunday course Race 25/7/10

Wind: WNW Force 2 Sunny

Participants: 7

1st Race

Simon Lovell was the rabbit. Every one else started badly but fortunately for them, theirs was the favoured tack!

Jo went into an early lead, which she retained and increased until the end. Sebastian followed in second followed by his father Simon who was playing catch-up.

2nd Race

This proved to be one of the more eventful races of the season. Simon Lovell managed to barge past Ian, who was rabbit, then Sebastian and Jo before doing a penalty turn in contrition. The close racing and argy bargy continued throughout the race, particularly between Simon Gregory and Sebastian in lead positions, and Jo and Simon Lovell hard on their heels.

Jo later dropped her rig at the wing mark during a gybe, perhaps trying a little too hard in chasing Simon Gregory and Sebastian.

Ian was trying a new centreboard, and also managed to stay in the thick of it.

At the finish Simon Gregory crossed the line first with Sebastian on his heels - both going in the wrong direction! This allowed Jo and Simon Lovell to complete their sparring, though with Jo not fast enough on her final gybe, Simon pipped her at the final post. The lesson for Sebastian is “Don’t follow Simon Gregory!”