

GBSA Pursuit Races 12/8/10
Wind: West to North West Force 4
Participants: 8

In Simon's absence, Jo set a good course, with a long beat from the beach out to a windward mark north of Rouse pier, a nice reach to a gybe buoy in Tiger Bay, a further reach and gybe near the end of the Amarreurs rocks, then back to the end of channel buoy. Perhaps in deference to the older sailors, what should have been a third gybe here was avoided by leaving the buoy to port, which just required firming up onto the beat for the second lap of the two lap course.

Race 1

In the first race heavyweight Rod Hutchinson found the breezy conditions to his liking and, off a 1 minute handicap, lead from start to finish. But the lightweights also found the going good. Bob Perkins (off 3) was hot on his heels, but took a dive at the final gybe mark. This nearly let Graham Le Page (off 5) through, but Bob just kept his second place by a nose, with Graham third.

Jo Robinson, off 9 minutes no less, and on her IMCO, was a close fourth. Simon Gregory admitted to having sailed a course more of his own devising than the one set, and retired gracefully, while Tim Laine sped around the course on his formula board, but could not make up the time lost at the beginning by arriving too late for the official start.

Race 2

Rod, now off two minutes, again led from start to finish, but Graham (5 minutes) finished only a few board lengths behind. In the freshening breeze the formula boards came into their own. Tim and Simon (both off 7) were third and fourth respectively. Even so Jo on her IMCO, still off 9, was close on their heels at the finish.

Series 2

These two races completed the second Pursuit Racing series of the season. Graham Le Page (average handicap 5.3 minutes) and Ian Campbell (2.1 minutes) tied for first place with 16 points. Simon Lovell (6.4 minutes) was third with 19 points.