

Race Report 25th October 2011

Having missed two weeks through bad weather it was good to have a fine autumn day for the last races of the series. The wind was a relatively light but steady southerly, and with the sun shining through at times it was the best part of the day.

Race 1

Six qualifying boats came to the line for the first race with first time racer Gerald getting the best of the start at the port end, the rest not far behind and Steve heading off on his own at the starboard end.

Gerald led at the first mark (Number 1) closely followed by Alan and then Steve, Tony was next, then Rhia and Jim. The run to 5 and the beat up to 2 saw Gerald and Alan continue a close battle with Steve and Tony in their own battle not far behind. Jim had a problem with his jib sheet jamming which dropped him back so he eventually called it a day. Tony won his battle with Steve but Alan and Gerald continued to swap places with Gerald getting the upper hand during lap 2 and holding a lead to the finish whilst Rhia took fifth.

Race 2

The start was more competitive with a similar choice of routes and Steve out on his own. When they crossed tacks half way up the beat Gerald and Alan crossed just ahead. Steve and Tony rounded 1 together battling for third but it was a close run down to 5. The beat to 2 saw Alan drop from second to fourth. This left a slow run to 8 as the wind dropped further but Gerald held onto his lead ahead of Steve while Alan managed to pass Tony for third.

With only ten races sailed during the series it was six to count and this left Alan Harmer in first place on 10 points, Tony Barkses in second on 13 points, and Steve Sims and John Page level on 16 points. To separate them the results were placed in order from best to worst, and John's two first places gave him third overall in the series.

Congratulations to the top three, but also to all who took part in the racing and made the series as competitive as it ever has been.