

## 9 Gallon Race 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017 Sponsored by Teeside Breweries

It was a sad day for the boats coming out to race on Saturday as they gathered for the final race of the season. However it was for the prestigious prize of 9 gallons of beer which was donated by the Club's drinks provider - Teeside Breweries. This race is traditionally a pursuit race where the slower boats set off first before the faster boats set off for the chase. It was a fresh south westerly wind as the first boat, *Skywalker*, started the sequence and she was closely followed by *Serenade of Parkstone*, *Bamboozle*, *Double D* and *Rampage*. There was a short break before the middle order of *Masquerade*, *Minty* and *Samaki* got away and then not long after, *Icon*, *Cold Steel* and *Antix* got underway.

The bold sailors in the fleet sported spinnakers on their leg to the Bell Buoy but even with the moderate wind, some struggled to tame the sail and *Cold Steel* was laid on her ear but recovered and retained her lead over *Icon*. At the front, *Skywalker* also retained her lead as the faster boats stretched their legs. *Cold Steel*, *Icon* and *Antix* quickly gobbled up *Samaki* who was closing just as fast on the initial starters. *Double D* was struggling to keep control as the wind increased and *Cold Steel* and *Samaki* had to take avoiding action. *Cold Steel* took the lead with *Icon* and *Antix* overtaking the front runners.

Spinnakers sprouted for the leg back to the Bell Buoy before another lap commenced. The wind, however, was increasing and all the boats struggled, both on the beat to Sandsend and then going back to the Bell Buoy. *Cold Steel* had her spinnaker sheets released and flew her spinnaker straight from the masthead and had to gyrate around to get it back on deck. *Skywalker* also had to give up her efforts with her spinnaker. *Antix* had taken the lead by now and as the time limit approached, *Icon* just pushed her nose in front of *Cold Steel* and grabbed second place.

**Result:** 1<sup>st</sup> *Antix* (John Allen and Sandy Ransom), 2<sup>nd</sup> *Icon* (Neil and Lorraine Williamson), 3<sup>rd</sup> *Cold Steel* (Colin Dey, Keith Gowland and Nigel Jarvis).