

Sailing Report May Day Bank Holiday Weekend

An intensive sailing programme had been planned for this long weekend but weather conditions and failure of the hydraulic system of the bridge reduced the sailing by 50%. Despite the winds on Saturday morning being very light, the 7 boats which came out for the first race were keen to get away. One, however was too keen and *Antix* was recalled to start correctly. *Cold Steel* made the best legal start and led the fleet round the pier end mark with the remaining boats, *Icon*, *Masquerade*, *Minty*, *Antix*, *Double D* and *Tiger Rag* following closely. The positions changed frequently but *Antix* eventually made up her lost ground and made it to the front of the fleet. *Minty* suffered gear-failure and was unable to fly her spinnaker but this hardly slowed her. *Icon* passed her sister ship, *Cold Steel* and the finishing order was *Antix*, *Icon*, *Cold Steel*, *Minty* and *Masquerade* in Class A. In Class B, *Tiger Rag* finished ahead of *Double D*. However, the application of the handicaps radically changed the result and the first five boats finished within 1 minute 30seconds and *Minty* won her first race at WYC by just 2 seconds.

Result: Class A 1st *Minty* (Shaun Adams), 2nd *Antix*, (John Allen and Sandy Ransom), 3rd *Icon* (Neil & Lorraine Williamson). Class B 1st *Tiger Rag*, (George Davey & Nathaniel Drake), 2nd *Double D* (Dave & Mel Broughton).

The wind picked up for the second race on the Saturday allowing a course to Sandsend to be set. *Antix* made the best start and *Cold Steel* led the group who were chasing her, followed by *Icon*, *Minty*, *Masquerade*, *Tiger Rag* and *Double D*. The only change of place took place between the two sister ships, *Cold Steel* and *Icon* as *Icon* grabbed second place. The race finished after 2 laps.

Result: 1st *Antix* (John Allen & Sandy Ransom) 2nd *Icon* (Neil & Lorraine Williamson), 3rd *Cold Steel* (Colin Dey, Keith Gowland & Nigel Jarvis). Class B 1st *Tiger Rag* (George Davey & Nathaniel Drake), 2nd *Double D* (Dave & Mel Broughton)

The third race of the Bank Holiday Series took place on the Sunday. A strong south easterly wind greeted the boats as they left the harbour. Consequently *Icon* carried a reefed mainsail and *Antix* sported a small jib sail. A short race was selected for these two bold crews. *Antix* led *Icon* in, when they were released to return to their moorings before the tide dropped too low.

Result: Class A 1st *Antix* (John Allen & Sandy Ransom), 2nd *Icon* (Neil & Lorraine Williamson).

Racing was cancelled on the Monday owing to the failure of the hydraulic system of the bridge. Fortunately for the town the bridge was closed at the time of failure but this meant that boats moored in the upper harbour were unable to put to sea.