

Mount's Bay Sailing Club report for Sunday 25th September 2016

On Sunday morning a southwesterly Force 5 gusting 6 and a big awkward sea left from the day before might have deterred Race Officer Peter Jelliss from putting on a race at all, but instead he was up for it as were the sailors.

Four Lasers, three Mirrors, two Ospreys and one Lark hauled their boats down to the beach and into the uncertain sea.

The dinghies were given a few extra minutes to settle into the conditions when Race Officer Peter Jellis popped up the postponement flag to reset the course after a front passed over and then the six minute warning flags were hoisted.

In the Mirror fleet, all boats stayed upright and completed the course which was impressive in itself. Lily Medlicott and Demelza Hewett won with Amy and Chloe George coming second and Rob Bode third. The girls made it look easy and deserve huge compliments on their work.

In the Osprey fleet Steve George and Matt Skewes won the Osprey battle but were pushed all the way by Adam Ellery and his son Thomas until they capsized on third round. Up until that point Thomas had done an exceptional job crewing in those conditions.

In the Laser fleet Kian Andrews and Nick Stoten enjoyed a pre-start match race which Kian won to start at the pierhead-end and establish a good lead followed by Nick and Peter Williams and then Duncan Bruce whose swift release from the starting blocks was hampered by a pre-start capsize. The first beat saw Kian round the windward mark with a good lead followed by Nick, and then Pete with Duncan catching him up in fourth. The first reach was pure exhilaration for the sailors as they screamed down the waves with the adrenalin levels high heading towards the jibe mark. The second reach and run were more chaotic in the confused sea near the turning mark. With Kian holding a comfortable lead over Nick throughout, both helms could simply enjoy the fabulous conditions, especially on the first reaches flying over the waves at times lifting their centreboards out of the water. Meanwhile Pete and Duncan had also spent some times lifting their centreboards out of the water in another fashion and having spent too long in the water without a wetsuit, Pete opted to retire. Duncan, nonetheless, righted his boat and went on to finish third behind Kian who took the honours with a comfortable lead followed by Nick. All four helms enjoyed a refreshing start to the day, albeit a somewhat cold one for Pete.

A big thank you must go out to the safety boat crews who as well as keeping the sailors safe managed to take superb pictures which are on the Mount's Bay Sailing Club Face Book page.

Results:

Mirrors: 1, Lily Medlicott/Demelza Hewett; 2, Amy George/Chloe George; 3, Rob Bode (S/H).

Ospreys: 1, Steve George/Matt Skewes; 3, Adam Ellery/Thomas Ellery.

Lasers: 1, Kian Andrews; 2, Nick Stoten; 3, Duncan Bruce.