

Notts County Sailing Club

Scorpion Open 11/12th October 2008

Notts County SC hosted a cracking Scorpion Open meeting over the weekend, sponsored by Harken, with 38 boats from as far afield as Brightlingsea, Bristol and Lyme Regis.

There was a force 2-3 breeze on Saturday, which was a marked improvement on the almost windless events in 2006 and 2007, even though conditions reverted to form on Sunday. Race 1 had the most breeze with tight planing reaches. In Race 1 1995 (Peter and Andrew Rose, Chew Valley SC) were first at the windward mark and established a clear lead followed by 1934 (Terry Flannaghan/ James Barr, Pennine SC).

By race 2 the wind had dropped off, a trend which continued over the rest of the day. After a general recall, 1997 (Richard Mason/ Simon Hextall, Notts County SC) made a good start at the pin end and took the lead from an early gybe on the first reach, closely followed by 1951 (Andy McKee/ Chris Massey, Dovestone SC) with 2005 (Janet and Alan Ritchie Chipstead SC) having their best race of the day in 3rd place

Following a break for tea and Pauline's famous cow pats, the 3rd race was lighter still. The black flag took its toll with 3 boats disqualified. The lead was held this time by 2008 (Rich Adams/Steve Graham, Northampton SC) followed by 2012 (Nigel Potter/ Simon Hibbert, Notts County SC). Because of the poor wind forecast for Sunday the Race Officer, John Allen, wisely held a fourth race of the day in drizzle and poor visibility but there was at least still some wind. This race saw yet a different leader 1962 (Tim Parsons/ Sarah McGuire, Lyme Regis SC) followed by 2012 and 1997.

Racing was delayed on Sunday morning due to lack of wind but the fleet finally got away in very light conditions. 1951 pulled away from the start and held the lead, despite several challenges from 2008. With a different winner in every race, it was consistency that determined the final positions.

Results

1. 1997 **Richard Mason / Simon Hextall** Notts County SC
2. 2012 **Nigel Potter / Simon Hibbert** Notts County SC
3. 1951 **Andy McKee / Chris Massey** Dovestone SC
4. 2008 **Rich Adam / Steve Graham** Northampton SC

1st Lady Helm **Catherine Putt** (6th)

1st Lady Crew **Sarah McGuire** (7th)

1st Junior Helm **John Rose** (27th)

1st Junior Crew **Andrew Rose** (5th)

Paintcraft Trophy for most promising junior: **Cameron Coghill**