

Regatta 2011 - Tuesday

A stunning day in Bridlington Bay await the regatta fleet ahead of another day of close racing. A NNWesterly 14-18 knot breeze took the start line out to the south bay's mark '6', using windward marks '1' and '2' for classes B&D and C&E respectively.

D Class – The Contessa 26s

After the protest committee decided race 2 should be re-raced after today's races 5&6, the Contessa class knew they were in for a busy day and were not surprised to see 3 races of 1-7-6, 3 times round each! In race 1 *Contessa Juliet* led the way to the windward mark on the first round, only to 'hour-glass' their spinnaker for the second time in as many days and lose their lead to *Daisy Dog* (keel-haul the cabin-boy Jeff!) Fortunately they held off stiff competition to claim 2nd place. In the second race it was *Constant* who used the mystical powers of 'The Jacket' and took the fleet by surprise to lead at the windward mark. Unfortunately they too realised spinnaker issues, and it was again *Daisy Dog* who benefited from the error, leaving *Constant* to claim a well-earned 2nd. In the final race of the day (race 2, resailed) it was again *Constant* who took the lead round the windward mark, only to again yield the position to *Daisy Dog* as they failed to hoist their spinnaker until halfway down from '1' to '7'.

C Class – National Squibs

In the squib class starting was as close ever with all 4 boats getting good starts in both races. However in the first race it was a similar story to yesterday as *Ghost* led the way around the windward mark, only for *Perkers* to close up from 40yards behind going downwind to close things right up again at the leeward mark. As *Ghost* played the 'match-racing' game upwind they pulled further into the lead again which they then held until the end of the race. In race 6 though it was *Derek Higgins* and *Linda Dyson* on *Trio* who were going well - "They're going like a bloody train" commented one helmsman! After leading for the first full round they were eventually caught and overtaken by both *Ghost* and *Perkers* on the following windward leg, the same order in which the boats crossed the line.

E Class – The Yorkshire One Designs

With all 7 YODs now up to speed and in fighting mode it was good to hear that barging was kept to a minimum today (although still a little naughty in places!) In race 5 it was the newly fitted-out *Jesta* who took the lead at the windward mark. However they were hunted down on the 2nd windward leg by *Blackie* and then others in the class. *Yilt* continued their good run of form to finish a clear 2nd ahead of *Patience*. Race 6 went pretty much according to the form guide as *Blackie* took and held the lead from the 1st leg, and were followed by *Yilt* for 2nd place. *Patience* fought off a strong challenge from *Mona* to again claim the final flag place.

B Class – The Cruisers

The cruiser class took a scenic trip around the bay as they headed to windward mark '1', with a hitch out to '8' before returning to '6'. Racing saw a game of follow-the-leader in both races today with Hippiie Chick leading from Halo and Jumble around the course on the water to then take wins in both races on corrected time. The only moment of confusion came as they came to start their 2nd race just as Squib 772, Threadbare was coming to round their leeward mark which just happened to be the start line pin end! Add to this a jammed spinnaker halyard and there was a perfect recipe for disaster which was fortunately averted!

As mentioned above, Mike Walker claimed the coveted 'Jacket' yesterday. Whilst B class' Hippiie Chick couldn't find the big yellow number 7 mark, Constant found it far too easily and managed to, in his own words, 'just kiss it'. I'm afraid it still counts as hitting a mark Mike, so that would be turns and a jacket for you! 29knot gusts tomorrow according to windguru, so stock up on pork pies guys!