

## YARE Cup 2015

Sunday morning dawned and the ideal forecast of a WSW 14 knot wind, with dry conditions was for once completely wrong. Instead of the projected forecast, the 14 competitors were greeted with a 5 knot SW wind interspersed with rain and the prospect of more to come.

PRO Vinnie Zammit and his assistant Paul Hyde set a short windward leeward course, hoping that there would be enough wind to allow the fleet to sail around the course. As it was some of the fleet managed to get away from the start line, albeit very slowly, whilst other boats sat on the line or behind for some time, only to catch up later.

This first race set up the pattern for the morning racing, with Mark Holt winning the race, with Duncan Ellis second and Terry Burton third after starting some 5 minutes behind the two leaders. As the race took some 25 minutes to complete the PRO decided it would be a good idea to have an early coffee in the hope that the wind would increase in the meantime.

On their return the competitors found that unfortunately the wind had stayed as it was and all settled down to a very frustrating days sailing, not helped by the occasional bit of weed.

Race 2 went to Terry Burton who managed to start on time, with John Hanton 2<sup>nd</sup> and the consistent Mark Holt 3<sup>rd</sup>. Unfortunately, our most travelled guest Nigel Gilson fell foul of Servo problems and had to retire from the event at that point.

The next two morning races were won by Mark Holt and Keith Whiddet and it was a relief when lunch break came and all retired to the "Barn" for a spot of food and some warmth.

On returning to the sailing area it was found that the wind had swung nearly 180 degrees was now from the NE and had increased slightly. Duly, the course was changed and afternoon session started.

Mark Holt continued his good form with two 1<sup>st</sup> places and a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Wins also went to Terry Burton and Duncan Ellis.

It was a relief to all concerned that at 3pm with the light fading the PRO called it a day to what can only be described as a very frustrating meeting. The fact that only 8 races were sailed reflects on just how difficult the conditions were.

I would personally like to thank Paul Hyde and Ronnie Vertigan for their help in running the event and Robert Owen our well used Rescue Boatman.

Finally, a big congratulation to all who took part, for their patience in what can only be described as very trying conditions.

Vinnie Zammit

PRO

