

Norfolk Broads Yacht Club dominate Norwich Frostbite Sailing Club in first leg of Annual Team Match

Frostbites welcomed visitors from Norfolk Broads Yacht Club for the first leg of the annual team match between the two clubs. Conditions were demanding with a variable, gusty south west wind which produced many place changes over the two back to back races. In the first race Ian Richardson (NBYC) sailing B53 "Twinkle" and crewed by Sarah Hovey gradually worked his way to the front closely followed by Matthew Thwaites (NBYC) in B15 "Wee Simby" crewed by his son Tom and they finished in that order with only eleven seconds between the two boats. A minute later Danny Tyrrell for Frostbites came in third sailing B71 "Wild Duck" and crewed by Ray Johnson. That gave the visitors 8 penalty points against 13 for the home team. In the second race following a change of boats and in some cases a reversal of crews and helms, Mike Lees (NFSC) sailing B6 "Lucifer beyond repair" and crewed by Sam Woodcock took the lead and held it for most of the race until on the last beat to the finishing line was forced to tack off in a header allowing young Tom Thwaites (NBYC), in B50 "Dodman" crewed by Matthew, close behind to tuck under and head up to the line to take first place, much to the delight of his father but also his grandfather watching from the clubhouse. In third place was Ian Richardson (NBYC) who, having been at the back of the fleet earlier in the race, heeded the audible instructions from his team to do better and obliged. That gave the visitors another five point win as in the first race. The overall result was a conclusive win for NBYC by 16 points to 26.

In the club race earlier, sailed in much lighter airs, 10 Norfolks started downstream and David Mackley sailing B6 "Lucifer beyond repair" and crewed by Linda Allen, soon established a significant lead which he held throughout the race to win by almost four minutes. In second place was Sam Woodcock in B50 "Kelpie" crewed by Jan Hubbard and a creditable third bell was achieved by Sue Grief sailing B47 "Brambling" and crewed by Phil Board. On handicap Sue won the race with Mackley second and third was Steven Ford sailing his boat B73 "Condor" crewed by Bernie Woodcock.

After sailing the visitors from NBYC were provided with a sit down meal and Vice Commodore Paul Youngs thanked Frostbites for their hospitality and looked forward to the return match in September. Next week is the "Power Station Race" at Frostbites. There is no power station now but they will sail there all the same!