

## **Success for 420 sailors at RYA Eric Twiname Junior and Youth Team Racing Championships**

Once again, the 420 Class was well represented in both the Junior and Youth team racing event at Farmoor. After hanging around on Saturday to wait for the mist to clear and the wind to arrive, the teams took to the water to sail in very light winds.

In the Juniors, we had **Scott Wallis** and **James Taylor** sailing in the Bluefin team, **Ella Stoggall** and **Jemima Lawson** in "Here come the Girls" and **Matt and Ben Lulham-Robinson** and **Rosie Watkins** in the Mirrorcles and **David Abraham** for Helensburgh. Bluefin and Here come the Girls finished the day with 100% success rates but both Bluefin and Mirrorcles were facing a re-sail of one of their races on Sunday following redress claims for too much water in leaky hulls!

In the Youths, two all-420 teams, Spinnaker Pirates (**Harry Derbyshire, Craig Dibb, Tarra Gill Taylor, Toby Morsley, Annabel Vose** and **Matt Wallis**) and the, imaginatively named, 420 Team (**Annabel Cattermole, Bryony Bennett-Lloyd, Anna Greenwell, Kirsty Urwin, Hannah Jones** and **James Parker Mowbray**) sailed well in varying wind conditions and both ended the day with 100% unbeaten records. The 420 Class was also represented by sailors in various other teams - Forty Two (**Gilly Makepeace** and **Will Kennedy**), Hayling/Torbay (**Robert Baddeley**), Helensburgh (**Ali Gray, Rory Kilgore** and **Alan McIntosh**), Jelly Cubes (**Morgan Dibb, Sara Doust** and **Rebekka Thomas**), Royal Grammar School (**Tim Gratton** and **Josh Voller**) and South Staffs SC (**Alison Norbury**).

Everyone arrived on Sunday to be greeted by fog across the water meaning everyone had time to watch the end of the Grand Prix and see New Zealand beat Australia in the rugby. When the fog cleared, the wind slowly started to appear and the racing got underway.

The Juniors continued their round robin races until everyone had sailed 8 races. At this stage only Bluefin had their 100% record intact going into the semi finals and finals. As the wind increased, after losing the first race of their best of three semi final (just to make the parents nervous!!) the Bluefin team went on to win the Juniors for the second year running..

Having completed more races than the Juniors on Saturday, on Sunday the Youths were split into four divisions, each of which sailed 5 races in increasing wind. With both 420 Team and Spinnaker Pirates in Gold A, after some exciting racing the event was won by West Kirby, the current ISAF team racing world champions, with Spinnaker Pirates a close second having only lost one match to the winning team. RGS were top in Gold B and Forty Two topped Silver B.

All in all, despite the hanging around waiting for wind, as always it was a fantastic event with some excellent sailing by all the teams. Congratulations to them all.

Apologies if I have missed any 420 sailor mentions but let us know and we can add you in.

Jackie Taylor