



CurraDinghy 420 Nationals at Brightlingsea Sailing Club

23-27 August 2010

By Lesley Foskett 29 Aug 2010 15:54

Photo © Lesley Foskett



Prize winners at the 420 nationals held at Brightlingsea

A fantastic sailing event was enjoyed by 57 teams and their families enhanced by the great hospitality of Brightlingsea Sailing Club.

Keen to optimise their performance 12 teams signed up to the pre event training run by Jonny McGovern, the class coach for the week, and Ben Ainsworth. From newbies to youth squad sailors, all enjoyed the sunshine and super sailing conditions.

The adjacent campsite proved popular with the marina apartments providing the luxury accommodation (late discovery by the coaching team).

For the uninitiated Brightlingsea Sailing club is a friendly organised members club who focus on providing great sailing and a welcoming atmosphere on shore. All their team worked extremely hard to host such a successful event.

As Saturday arrived, teams unloaded their kit in a semi organised fashion on the local field, IBI established measurement headquarters and CurraDinghy their chandlery base. Sailors flew in from USA/Ireland whilst others were still on the road post worlds/euros event. Time was needed for those new to the class to fathom the set up whilst ex champions Phil Sparks/Ben Gratton and Veteran competitor and YS coach Neil Marsden were rather more slick.

The practice race... well had they ever met tide like this before? At least 20 BFD with a strong tide underneath then.

Our gratitude to BSC as they and the local dignitaries hosted the Commodores' reception to open the event.

The weather systems then started the usual event challenging behaviour and even the sunshine coast didn't avoid the elements. Torrential rain and howling gales overnight left wet tents and wary sailors; some very cautiously rigging and avoiding the tally gate. AP for strong wind gave time for Jonny to brief and reassure the fleet and remind them about the tidal conditions! By 1200 race 1 was underway—everyone launched under the W flag and only one returned to shore. Sea state remained stable and small with 14-19 gusting 22 through the day with bigger seas and a big wind shift on the beat of the final race. With good race management and slick mark laying the course was quickly altered to allow the race to finish in the 25 knots and big swell. 36 boats managed to cross the finish line before all headed swiftly to shelter ashore. Numerous muddy main sails could be seen within the fleet. So 3 races complete and all clear starts, often under BFD. Of course the sun came out for the Hawaiian BBQ evening—exhaustion led to tempered outfits but awards go to the Welsh girls for their colourful flamboyant attire. Winners Phil/Ben race 1 & 2 with local guys and recent 29er champions Dave Conlon/Ed Gibbons winning race 3.

Tuesday blue skies, 17 knots, 12 noon high tide..wonderful Race team launched as wind builds. Coastal weather warnings and wind farm workers called to shore...AP over A. A great call the wind definitely filled in –gusting 40 later with cyclists and walkers leaning side wards. So chillin on shore in advance of an extremely well supported AGM where lots of opinions were offered.

Wednesday promised sunshine and light winds. Race 4 started 6knots SW but after the first loop the wind dropped to 2knots, shifting right causing half the fleet to invert, hence abandoned. After a significant wait the SW filled again, at 11 knots with light rain. With a constant breeze three races were run, however with the later sailing the knot of tide pushing them over the line proved challenging. Numerous black flags through the day. Winners Toby Morsley/Matt Wallis, Mike/Hermione and Tim/Ed.

The socials go on: great theme-dress as something beginning with the first letter of your name. Hence a superb Anna the Avatar , Nia the Nemo, Mummy Mike, James and Joe the jellyfish. Just a splattering of body paint for the mummies to hose off the washrooms the next day.

Thursday Race 7 clear start on a P flag, SW 15 gusting 20; Race 8 started under black flag, 20 knots with building winds. Coastguard reports again suggested an imminent F7, big black creations in the sky looming. The PRO chose caution and responsibility: AP over A for the day. Winners Phil/Ben both races.

This gave plenty of time for the famous black tie dinner preparations! Nail polish, hair straighteners,..blew those campsite electrics again. BSC again came up trumps and provided a black tie, 3 course meal for 150 guests. Incredibly smart gear! 107/114 entrants attended. Retreat by the sailors to their 'social dance' room.

3 points now separating the top 3 teams going into Friday so all to sail for.

Friday: a superb final sailing day. Rain over, blue skies on the way. 14 knots building to 20, this time from the north so tide pushing the sailors over the line. Champagne sailing, 3 races, some choosing port flyers whilst others chose to go right to the deep channel. Even the Red Arrows thought it worthy of a quick display over head. Winners Mike/Hermione, Neil/Flora and Phil/Ben.

Brightlingsea, as can be seen on the boards around the clubhouse, has produced many champion sailors. The nature of the venue with its combined tides from the Blackwater and the Colne along with its deep channel and shallow flats makes for challenging strategy. If you can master sailing here you are well equipped to perform well elsewhere. 420 sailors learnt lots!

Our thanks to headline sponsor CurraDinghy with other prizes from North sails and Banks sails.

Next year: Pwllheli so sign up soon! Not to be missed.

Overall Results:

If you finished in the top ten at the 420 nationals then enter your Gear Guide information here

Po s	Na t	Sail No	Helm	Crew	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	Pt s
1st	GB R	527 5	Philip SPARKS	Ben GRATTON	1	1	-10	-10	6	2	1	1	2	5	1	20
2nd	GB R	539 66	Mike WOOD	Hermione STANLEY	6	3	-13	4	1	4	3	2	1	2	(DN F)	26
3rd	GB R	539 67	Tim GRATTON	Ed RILEY	2	2	2	8	(BF D)	1	2	3	6	-9	2	28
4th	GB R	541 23	James HAYWARD	Tim CARTER	3	4	-11	3	2	3	6	(DN F)	3	6	6	36
5th	GB R	540 58	Matt FOSKETT	Adam WALKER	4	5	6	2	(BF D)	13	4	7	12	-17	10	63
6th	GB R	540 91	Tarra GILL-TAYLOR	Christian TOWNROW	13	7	12	11	8	(DN F)	10	4	8	-15	5	78
7th	GB R	527 59	Craig DIBB	Charlie COX	11	8	14	-16	9	10	13	6	(BF D)	7	3	81
8th	GB R	527 56	Neil MARSDEN	Flora STEWART	7	20	20	(DN F)	11	6	12	(BF D)	4	1	4	85
9th	US A	317 7	Reinier EENKEMA VAN DIJK	Maarten EENKEMA VAN DIJK	-34	15	-23	6	3	5	7	11	10	20	15	92
10th	GB R	535 91	Amy SEABRIGHT	Rosie SIBTHORPE	17	9	5	14	13	8	14	14	7	-27	-22	101
11th	GB R	540 82	Harry DERBYSHIRE	Tom LOVESEY	8	6	(RD G)	20	18	14	-23	15	9	4	13	107
12th	GB R	517 54	Toby MORSLEY	Matt WALLIS	18	13	16	1	(BF D)	17	11	-21	5	11	17	109
13th	GB R	531 16	Sarah ALTON	Katie TOMSETT	15	-19	3	18	7	16	18	13	18	-22	7	115
14th	GB R	540 06	Annabel VOSE	Megan BRICKWOOD	16	12	-28	(BF D)	10	12	9	5	15	13	24	116
15th	GB R	520 67	Chris TAYLOR	James PARKER-MOWBRAY	5	14	17	-30	21	23	15	12	(DN F)	12	8	127
16th	GB R	519 70	Jess LAVERY	Georgie MOTHERS ELE	9	18	7	(BF D)	4	11	47	(BF D)	14	14	9	133
17th	GB R	538 89	Issy HAMILTON	Hannah JONES	20	17	8	7	(BF D)	(BF D)	22	9	26	3	26	138
18th	GB R	524 25	Nia JONES	Molly FROST	21	22	19	(BF D)	5	7	17	(BF D)	13	18	19	141
19th	GB R	538 71	Hugo SLOPER	Xander MORRISON	12	-36	4	15	20	18	21	26	(BF D)	24	11	151

20th	GB R	519 88	Callum AIRLIE	Drew AIRLIE	-35	16	-29	17	23	20	25	10	21	8	21	16 1
21st	US A	7	Brendan O'LEARY	Jack SCHNEIDER	30	21	-33	5	(DS Q)	15	32	25	22	10	18	17 8
22nd	GB R	526 75	Christopher BREWER	John PAGE	14	24	15	(BF D)	(BF D)	32	31	8	24	31	14	19 3
23rd	GB R	524 07	Tom PAIN	Sasha BRUML	25	34	(RD G)	22	(BF D)	9	24	19	11	35	16	19 5
24th	GB R	517 66	Isabel FITZGERALD	Katherine COLVIN	27	27	(RD G)	19	14	19	-36	18	27	19	25	19 5
25th	GB R	533 77	Andrew WISHART	Peter ALTON	19	10	21	(BF D)	(BF D)	26	8	20	31	25	40	20 0
26th	GB R	514 07	Theo BULL	Arthur HENDERS ON	38	-47	26	28	(BF D)	29	5	16	16	34	12	20 4
27th	GB R	506 6	David CONLON	Ed GIBBONS	23	11	1	34	34	-43	16	28	29	29	(DN F)	20 5
28th	US A	531 77	Megan GRAPENGETER-RUDNICK	Caroline ATWOOD	31	28	(RD G)	21	19	24	-34	22	20	33	20	21 8
29th	GB R	522 08	Alex CURTIS	Andy CLARKE	22	26	9	12	29	-40	37	34	23	-40	33	22 5
30th	IRL	538 36	Aodh KENNEDY	Daniel BROWN	26	32	18	9	(BF D)	25	19	17	(DN F)	43	43	23 2
31st	GB R	529 07	John BEARDON	Fergus BARRIE	28	-40	24	(BF D)	25	33	20	23	19	30	31	23 3
32nd	GB R	528 68	Anna GREENWELL	Kirstie URWIN	29	30	22	13	(BF D)	35	29	-38	35	21	27	24 1
33rd	GB R	524 82	Amy YEOMAN	Rosie LAWRANCE	32	33	(RD G)	(BF D)	24	30	30	36	25	23	30	26 3
34th	GB R	537 03	Will KENNEDY	Max INGALL	39	25	(RD G)	32	22	28	33	30	34	-42	23	26 6
35th	GB R	525 65	Lisa MCDANELL	Oliver SMYTH	10	29	25	27	27	39	27	31	(DN F)	(DN C)	DN C	27 3
36th	GB R	530 26	Harry YEOWARD	Nick ELSDON	37	38	(RD G)	31	17	21	39	24	33	-54	35	27 5
37th	GB R	522 05	Christopher TIERNAN	Tommy FREEMAN	33	-42	31	-44	39	31	28	35	17	38	32	28 4
38th	GB R	524 26	Emily KINVER	Caroline CROFT	49	43	(RD G)	29	15	22	42	(DN F)	40	16	44	30 0
39th	GB R	526 26	Millie NEWMAN	Emma SPRUCE	24	-48	(RD G)	40	31	44	26	32	44	32	29	30 2
40th	GB R	506 60	Robert BADDELEY	Benjamin BROWN	36	-46	35	25	28	46	-49	29	45	28	34	30 6
41st	IRL	531 16	Fiona DALY	Patrick DALY	43	23	(RD G)	(BF D)	16	37	43	39	39	37	46	32 3
42nd	GB R	531 17	Jessica QUINLAN	Stevie GREEN	41	31	34	(BF D)	12	(DS Q)	35	44	32	44	DN F	33 1

43rd	GB R	51971	Tim RILEY	Ross MACKLEY	45	44	(RD G)	36	33	34	-48	42	36	26	39	335
44th	GB R	51024	Andrew SMITH	Henry MILLS	-53	37	(RD G)	23	36	47	51	27	30	47	38	336
45th	GB R	53327	Roseanna YEOWARD	Henriette BRAND	42	35	RD G	33	(BF D)	27	40	(BF D)	28	53	28	342
46th	GB R	50125	Abigail CROFT	Molly BROWN	40	39	(RD G)	35	(BF D)	42	41	33	37	39	37	343
47th	GB R	51369	Alice COURAGE	Eve CLEMANCE	44	41	(RD G)	24	32	36	44	40	42	-48	42	345
48th	GB R	51347	James DODD	Joseph BUTTERWORTH	-50	-51	27	39	30	41	45	43	48	41	36	350
49th	GB R	54125	Kellie CARMICHAEL	Emily MCCALL	-52	45	(RD G)	38	37	48	46	37	47	46	41	385
50th	GB R	49399	Serena DE NAHLIK	Emma PEARSON	47	49	(RD G)	26	35	45	56	(DN F)	41	45	48	392
51st	GB R	50191	Emma PALMER	Rosemary JENNINGS-MAUN	(RD G)	-54	30	45	38	52	50	50	38	50	47	400
52nd	GB R	51989	Andrew CROCKET	Rory KILGORE	51	-52	32	42	41	49	-53	45	46	49	45	400
53rd	GB R	50552	Sara DOUST	Eleni MORUS	48	(RD G)	(RD G)	37	26	38	DN F	46	52	52	50	407
54th	GB R	54059	Meia HARNETT	Elin HARNETT	46	50	RD G	46	(BF D)	(BF D)	38	41	43	36	51	407
55th	GB R	53644	Rosie WATKINS	Anna WATKINS	(RD G)	53	(RD G)	41	42	50	55	47	51	51	49	439
56th	GB R	51444	Mali HARNETT	Maddy ANDERSON	RD G	55	RD G	43	40	51	54	49	49	(DN F)	(DN F)	453
57th	GB R	52566	Iona WILLIAMS	Morgan DIBB	(RD G)	(RD G)	RD G	BF D	43	53	52	48	50	DN F	DN C	478