

420 Worlds Selector III – Chew Valley Lake 2-3 May 2009

Chew Valley hosted the final 420 Worlds Selector event over the 2nd and 3rd May 2009. With very light winds forecast the 38 boats arrived to a pleasant if a little shifty 5-8knt westerly. Ralph Singleton (PRO) briefed the teams that there would be 4 back to back races on a trapezoid course with a number of outer loops depending how fast the fleet were going.

Race 1 got away after a short postponement, Mike Wood and Hugh Brayshaw lead comfortably into the windward mark, with Amy Seabright and Kartrina Brewer and Phil Sparks and Ben Gratton chasing, Sparks/Gratton just getting through to take second. With the wind so shifty snakes and ladders seemed to be the order of the day.

Race 2 started under a black flag, 4 sinners were caught, Sarah Hickman and Kat Kimber lead at the windward mark from Ben Palmer and Konrad Weaver these two got away from the pack only for Hickman/Kimber to relinquish the lead on the last run to Palmer/Weaver. Tim Gratton and Ed Riley held off the rest of the fleet to take third.

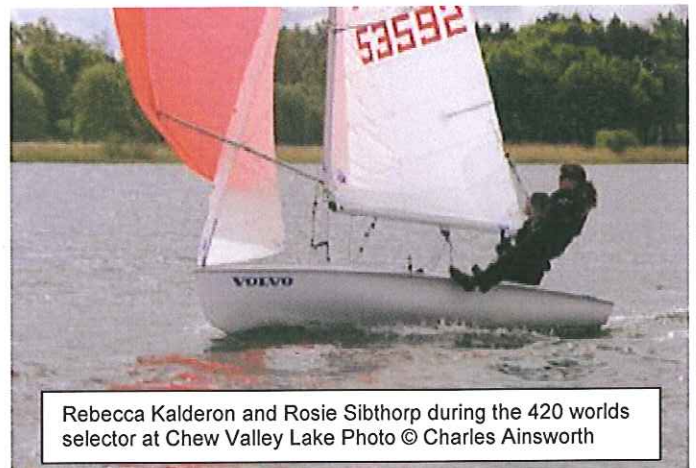


Phil Sparks and Ben Gratton during the 420 worlds selector at Chew Valley Lake Photo © Charles Ainsworth

Race 3 again saw Wood/Brayshaw getting to the windward mark first and develop a nice cushion across the top reach. Rebecca

Kalderon and Rosie Sibthorp held second throughout and Sparks/Gratton worked their way into third by the finish.

The final race of Saturday saw the breeze increase to about 10 Knts, but remaining as shifty as ever. James Hayward and Tim Carter secured a good lead at the windward mark which they kept to the end. Wood/Brayshaw overtook Andrew Wishart and Liam Garrison to take second and third respectfully.



Rebecca Kalderon and Rosie Sibthorp during the 420 worlds selector at Chew Valley Lake Photo © Charles Ainsworth

Overnight, Wood/Brayshaw lead from Sparks/Gratton and Palmer/Weaver.

Sunday dawned with a little more wind and the expectation that it would shift to the North West. This did not materialise so the fleet launched into a 10knt westerly, just as a fishing competition started, making for some entertainment for the spectators and 38 420s jostled with 20 fishing boats.

When race 5 got underway, Sparks/Gratton lead from the front with Matt Rainback and Simon Foskett holding back Wood/Brayshaw to take second and third respectfully. With Wood/Brayshaw in a commanding lead but also with a black flag, Sparks/Gratton set about some match racing tactics to see if they could secure the open meeting win.

Race 6 saw Tom Pain and Nathan Bailey lead at the windward mark, only to be hunted down and eventually passed by Palmer/Weaver who took the bullet with Gratton/Riley second and Hayward/Carter in third. Then all eyes turned to see what Sparks/Gratton had managed to do.

Whilst Wood/Brayshaw finished in 6th they were adjudged to infringed Sparks/Gratton and so had to count a Black flag score.



Ben Palmer and Konrad Weaver during the 420 worlds selector at Chew Valley Lake Photo © Charles Ainsworth

In the final tally Sparks/Gratton won the event from Palmer/Weaver and Kalderon/Sibthorp.

The 420 class thanked Chew for an excellent weekend and especially the galley, which has to be the best in the country. Ralph Singleton and Gordon Scott (commodore CVLSC) thanked the 420s for the great sailing and pleasant nature and welcomed them back for a future event.

Brian Wilkins, Chairman of selectors then announced the 420 Worlds and Junior European Teams, which are:

2009 INTERNATIONAL 420 CLASS OPEN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Helm	Crew
1. Phil Sparks	Ben Gratton
2. Ben Palmer	Konrad Weaver
3. Matt Rainback	Simon Foskett
4. Mike Wood	Hugh Brayshaw
5. Josh Pistol	Piers Strong
6. Tom Kinver	Charlie Makepeace
7. Tim Gratton	Ed Riley
1st Reserve James Hayward	Tim Carter

2009 INTERNATIONAL 420 CLASS LADIES WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Helm	Crew
1. Imogen Stanley	Hermione Stanley
2. Rebecca Kalderon	Rosie Sibthorp
3. Amy Seabright	Katrina Brewer
4. Anna Burnet	Flora Stewart
5. Joanna Freeman	Hannah Mitchell
6. Sarah Hickman	Kathrine Kimber
7. Billie Quinlan	Sophie Pearson
1st Reserve Nia Jones	Hannah Jones

2009 INTERNATIONAL 420 CLASS JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Helm	Crew
1. Phil Sparks	Ben Gratton
2. Ben Palmer	Konrad Weaver
3. Rebecca Kalderon	Rosie Sibthorp
4. Amy Seabright	Katrina Brewer
5. Matt Rainback	Simon Foskett
6. Mike Wood	Hugh Brayshaw
7. Tom Kinver	Charlie Makepeace
1st Reserve Anna Burnet	Flora Stewart