



Shropshire Sailing Club Race Results

Sunday 20th March, Long Distance A & Shropshire Shiverer

AN eventful day's racing at Shropshire Sailing Club saw capsizes, changing leads and broken boats.

Eight boats lined up for the morning long distance handicap race and the fleet spread quite quickly. Brian Rapson pulled away from the other Lasers of Dave Wright, Steve Parker and Les Freeman, though Parker rallied and halved the distance. Tom Dutton, in his British Moth, steadily worked his way through the fleet, but Basil Thompson and Bob Robson, in a Flying 15, put most pressure on Rapson.

The southerly wind built through the lunch break and some nasty shifting gusts swept across Whitemere, causing problems before and during the pursuit race. Dutton capsized three minutes before his start, but recovered well and began making up lost ground. Graham Parry, helming a Laser 2000 solo, capsized, lost his centreboard through the hull and battled to recover. Thompson overcame the handicap of a broken tiller extension, damaged in another gust, to claim second behind Rapson. As others retired, Dutton was hit by another gust and as he began to recover from the capsize his centreboard split clean in two at the hull, forcing him to retire.

Thompson came ashore for running repairs and with only two boats on the start line, Officer of the Day Mary Clifford was forced to abandon.

With only three boats left, the final race of the day became a handicap, rather than a pursuit. Rapson and Thompson enjoyed close quarters competition all the way, which meant that the former took the honours on handicap, with Parry a gallant third.

11.15am Long Distance A Race 4 (handicap)

1. Brian Rapson; 2. Basil Thompson & Bob Robson; 3. Steve Parker; 4. Tom Dutton; 5. Dave Wright. Top Junior, Tom Dutton.

1.30pm Shropshire Shiverer Race 10 (pursuit)

1. Brian Rapson; 2. Basil Thompson & Bob Robson; 3. Dave Wright; 4. Roger Hilliard.

2.15pm Shropshire Shiverer Race 11 (handicap)

Cancelled.

3.30pm Shropshire Shiverer Race 12 (handicap)

1. Brian Rapson; 2. Basil Thompson & Bob Robson; 3. Graham Parry.