

Bough Beech Finale 10 & 11 November 2012

When I was asked to write a report of the Bough Beech Finale, from the Class Secretary's point of view, I was rather daunted; I've never written a report like this before.

However, it was such a good weekend, with a super turnout of 21 boats enjoying the warm hospitality of Bough Beech Sailing Club, I wanted to, in appreciation of all the hard work, organisation and kind hospitality of the Club.

Saturday dawned wet with barely any wind. Yet, by the time the first race started at 11:30, the rain had almost stopped and there was a light breeze: enough for a competitive race, won by Mike McNamara and Simon Townsend, with Martin Collen and Donna Rouse 2nd, Graham and Robin Barker 3rd. After a warming lunch provided by the Club's galley, Race 2 was held in the afternoon. With the wind, such as there was, dying towards the end of the race, we were watching Michael and Martin battling it out for a close finish, only to see Guy Marks and his son Tom creep up and steal the win. What a well deserved outcome for a home boat with Martin and Donna 2nd, Bill and Lisa Whitney 3rd. With the wind all but gone, temperatures dropped as a glorious November sunset glowed on the still water, and we all headed back to the Club house ahead of their evening meal. The evening was much enjoyed by all those present, good food accompanied by some complimentary beer and wine. A very nice touch and much appreciated.

Remembrance Sunday dawned with an almost cloudless blue sky, but still little wind. First race was delayed until 12:00 waiting for more wind, which did indeed come. The two minutes' silence was held under the club flag pole, giving us all the opportunity to reflect on what has gone before - and how lucky we were to be there. Race 3 was closely contested, with Guy Marks' boat looking to get to the front again, but the lead was held onto by Quentin Strauss and myself. Michael McNamara was 3rd.

Due to the delayed start, Race 4 was held back to back with Race 3. We were soon off again, for another close race won by Martin and Donna, with Michael and Simon 2nd, Richard Stone and Catherine Gore, 3rd.

With boats packed away, the hot meals were again most welcome, for a late lunch before the prize giving and our journeys home.

It was a super weekend, with racing closely contested in light winds, and the hospitality offered by BBSC very warm and sociable. It was great to see friends not seen for a while and such a good turnout; regulars, and also those newer to this event. Recognition goes to Elliott Marks helming W9494 with Nick Humphries, who were awarded a special Youth Prize.

Sincere thanks must go to Dave Roberts, the race officers and their team, and absolutely to those slaving away in the galley and behind the bar. It was lovely.

Praise indeed must go to Martin and Donna for their overall win, and Michael McNamara for his very close second.

Personally, I am just sorry it's now the end of our season and can only look forward to the next, in the hope I get to take part!

Sarah Burgess

Full results to follow elsewhere:

				Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4		
				11:45:00	14:41:00	12:00:05	13:32:00		
			Sail					Net	
	Helm	Club	Crew	Number	10/11/12	10/11/12	11/11/12	11/11/12	Points
1	Martin Collen	UTSC	Donna Rouse	88	2	2	-5	1	5
2	Michael McMamara	NBYC	Simon Townsend	10648	1	-4	3	2	6
3	Quentin Strauss	UTSC	Sarah Burgess	10618	-8	5	1	4	10
4	Guy Marks	BBSC	Tom Marks	7470	-10	1	2	8	11
5	Graham Barker	CaSC	Robin Barker	8888	3	-6	4	5	12
6	Bill Whitney	S.S.C	Lisa Whitney	10688	7	3	-8	7	17
7	Richard Stone	MYC	Catherine Gore	8288	4	-11	11	3	18