

July 2009

DHEKELIA SAILING CLUB



NEWSLETTER

TEAM RACING WEEKEND

Dhekelia played host to a weekend of team racing fun at the end of May. The new format turned out to be a great success, sail training and instruction on Saturday with more structured racing and practice on Sunday.

No teams were available from Episkopi Services Sailing Club, but Akrotiri turned up in force to enjoy some very close racing. Using only Laser 2000 dinghies (without gennakers), we organised two fleets, each containing three boats, white team and blue team. Allowing only a maximum of 10 minutes per race led to very tight racing, and proved to be a good formula for the weekend.

The weather seemed to be a little too windy on Saturday, with the forecast a steady force 5, gusting to a six later in the day. This required us to reef the sails down, a good decision as there were no capsizes and no gear failure throughout the day!

Three races were sailed in big waves, with changes of crews allowed to maximise time on the water. Upwind and downwind markers were set to give the teams plenty of scope for choosing which way to go and which boats to cover.

I gave a talk and explanation on the basics of team racing and Rod Kershaw explained how best to start the races as a team effort, which was well received by the sailors, who then had an opportunity to put the theory into practice!

On Sunday the team racing began in earnest, fantastic breezes of 12-15 knots allowed us to sail with full rigs for the first three races. Very close competition off the start line with just a little friendly shouting taking place! By midday, the wind had built to a gusty force 4/5 and we reefed the boats so that the next three races could take place.

Racing was in fact so close that each team won two races apiece! In order to break the tie between the fleets it was necessary to count up the aggregate scores from each race.

The results were very close...Dhekelia Team Two finished with 45 points, Akrotiri with 41 points and Dhekelia Team One finished with 40 points! Well done Dhekelia!

With only one point separating the winner and second place and a total of nine races over the weekend, this was a great success and one that I am sure we will repeat next year!

Many thanks go to the Rescue team of Ian, Rick, Martyn, Trish and Rob, who did a fantastic job keeping us all safe on the water. Thanks too to Neil my driver!

The bar staff did a great job of keeping the teams fed and watered throughout the weekend, thanks also to Helen, Lorraine, Mike, Rachel and Pete, and Andreas. Forgive me if I have forgotten any names!

Andy Cherry

Shipwreck Night



The Shipwreck night was a great success. Many thanks to all those who helped with decorating the patio (and with the tidying up on Sunday!) and of course to everyone who dressed up for the occasion! **If you took your camera please share your pictures!**

Thanks also to Pete, Trish and Andreas.

If you have any ideas for social events please contact Dave Jackson.



Quick reminder from the Bosun!

1. Please return anything you get out, back in the same place
2. Please hang the sails on the hook so I can reach them ie not at the top of the hook!
3. Please write in the booking-out file any problems with the boats.

It's very annoying to find something broken that could have been fixed, had it been reported earlier!

Iris

Finally...

All contributions for the newsletter are welcome. Please let me have them by the 25th of the preceding month.

Email: editor@dhekeliasailing.com

Rachel Gresswell