



Shropshire Sailing Club Race Results

Sunday 19th September, Autumn Day Series

A FINE display of single-handed sailing by Brian Rapson in his Laser 2000 clinched Shropshire Sailing Club's Autumn Day Series at Whitemere.

With racers counting their best three results from four 50 minute races during the day, Rapson was able to discard a second place in the third race and claim overall victory with three first places giving the lowest possible score of three points.

The south-westerly wind varied from 15mph dropping down to a flat calm, then gusting up again into the mid-20s, making life difficult for everyone.

With several regular racers instructing at an RYA level I course at the club at the same time, the start line for the first race was short on numbers, but high on quality.

After a poor start, Brian Ashton made some good choices on the beats and, by the half-way point, his Laser had opened up a 90 second lead over Angus Bartaby, with Rapson in third. But the chasing pair gradually hauled Ashton back on the last lap for Bartaby to take line honours in his Laser, but the handicap favoured Rapson for the overall victory.

After lunch, with the wind still coming and going, there were a few capsizes to keep spectators entertained, but Hugh Butler showed well in his Laser to land a solid second.

The final two races saw Mike Davy and Karen Ashton finally get to grips with the course and inflict Rapson's only defeat of the day in their Flying 15. In the final race, the capsizes were coming thick and fast as racers tired and winds freshened.

The fight was for second place, which Davy and Ashton secured, pushing a dogged Brian Ashton down into third overall.

Autumn Day Series

11.15 Race 1 (handicap)

1. Brian Rapson; 2. Brian Ashton; 3. Angus Bartaby.

1.15pm Race 2 (handicap)

1. Brian Rapson; 2. Hugh Butler; 3. Mike Davy & Karen Ashton. 4. Brian Ashton.

2.30pm Race 3 (handicap)

1. Mike Davy & Karen Ashton; 2. Brian Rapson; 3. Hugh Butler; 4. Brian Ashton; 5. David Cope.

3.45pm Race 4 (handicap)

1. Brian Rapson; 2. Tom Endacott & Lottie Rapson; 3. Mike Davy & Karen Ashton. 4. David Cope.

Final Placings.

1. Brian Rapson (1,1,1,2) 3pts; 2. Mike Davy & Karen Ashton (1,3,3,-) 7pts; 3. Brian Ashton (2,4,4,DNF) 10pts.