



Shropshire Sailing Club Race Results

Saturday 25th September, Junior Open

THREE straight wins for Ben Lawrence were enough to bring him through the pack to clinch the junior open title at Shropshire Sailing Club on Saturday.

The 17-year-old had to produce some outstanding sailing late in the day after his earlier results had left him in the wake of new pairing Rob Morris and George Shelley, in a borrowed Vago, and last year's defending champion Tom Endacott in a Laser.

With three potential winners going into the final race, Lawrence, in a Laser, produced the strongest sail to hold Endacott by 30 seconds and take the title.

The annual event at Whitemere, held for under-18s, attracted a strong field, including two previous champions, and a clutch of younger members competing for the first time.

With the best five results to count from six 30 minute races on a variety of courses, in steady winds of around 15mph with challenging gusts, it was a demanding day's sailing.

Endacott had claimed the first race of the day, by 45 seconds on adjusted time from Morris and Shelley, but it was the Vago that took the next races either side of lunch, winning by more than a minute in one and just 10 seconds in the other.

Also showing strongly after lunch were the Norris sisters, Louise and Charlotte in a Lark, who produced a fourth and three seconds, but could only finish fourth overall.

Crystal Truman, a little overpowered in her father's full Laser rig, was the gutsiest competitor of the day, recovering from at least a dozen capsizes in the gusts to finished fifth overall.

Among the younger competitors, Dominic Baldwin sailed consistently to come an outstanding sixth overall, while Daniel Richardson, Kieron Ross and Duncan Parry all showed great determination to complete all six races.

Final placings:

1. Ben Lawrence, 9pts; 2. Rob Morris & George Shelley, 11pts; 3. Tom Endacott, 11pts; 4. Louise Norris & Charlotte Norris, 14pts; 5. Crystal Truman, 29pts.