

Shropshire Sailing Club Race Report

Sunday 26th June – Mid Summer Long Distance Team Race

SIX hours of racing was settled by a margin of four minutes at Shropshire SC's first-ever long-distance team marathon.

The junior Laser team of Lottie Rapson, Crystal Truman and Tom Endacott finished, on adjusted time, in 328 minutes dead, while the Solo trio of Martin Parry, Brian Johnson and Tim Allan, came in on 332 minutes, 19 seconds.

Five three-man teams spent Sunday afternoon criss-crossing Whitemere before a wind which was predominantly from the south and fluctuated between 5 and 15mph.

One boat was used by each team, and after about an hour at a time, crews sailed in to the jetty in front of the club house for a quick 'Le Mans style' racing changeover, much to the amusement of spectators offering encouragement.

The fluctuating wind, and some slow changeovers meant that boats that had stretched out during the race were often brought back together again as the next hour began.

Club member Paul Dutton said: "It's the first time we've tried a long distance team race and everyone enjoyed it.

"It was an odd experience, because usually when you're racing, if you make a wrong tactical choice it only affects you, or you and your crew, but this time you also had team-mates on the shore watching and that added to the pressure."

Final results.

Mid-summer long-distance team race (handicap)

1. Lottie Rapson, Crystal Truman & Tom Endacott (Laser) 328 minutes 0 seconds (adjusted time); 2. Martin Parry, Brian Johnson & Tim Allan; (Solo) 332' 19"; 3. Colin Smith & Oliver Smith, John James & Rob Smith; Basil Thompson & Rachel Thompson (Flying 15) 337' 03"; 4. Brian Rapson, Rob Shelley & Chris Endacott (Laser 2000 s/h) 339' 34"; Chris Truman, Ben Lawrence & Brian Ashton (Laser) 340' 16".