

PRYC IOM SWD Winter Series 19th January 2025



We arrived at the lake to be greeted by slate grey skies on a very cold day. However, the key ingredient, wind, was already blowing across the lake. A south easterly breeze dictated setting a course from the top of the lake racing towards the club house. A course was set pushing the length as far as we dared before the wind line ran out, as the trees and buildings shelter the top of the racecourse.

We elected to split the fleet of 24 boats into 2 fleets. The racing started on time with a healthy, but very shifty breeze. The breeze kept shifting, so a few course tweaks were required to try and get the course as balanced and fair as we could. The wind direction made for some big shifts, so inevitably helms could make some big gains if they played the shifts well or were just in the right place at the right time!

After lunch the rain started, but at least the wind still stayed with us, so we completed a full afternoon's racing. Going into the last race 3 helms were all within a few points of each other and anyone could secure the day. The wind was dropping away by the last race, but there was still enough breeze to complete 7 full races before we ran out of time.

After racing finished, we all enjoyed soaking up the heat in the club house, whilst consuming tea and cake as the results were worked out. In the end there was only two points separating the first 3 positions. Well done Nigel Barrow for securing the day in fine style with a win in the last race, Craig Richards for finishing second one point behind. And Tony Edwards (the highest placed PRYC entrant) in 3rd a further point adrift. It doesn't get much closer than that!

A big thank you goes to all the helpers from PRYC whom without the event wouldn't have been possible. As everyone at PRYC knows, we lost a long-standing member, Patsy Askill late last year. Patsy would have historically looked after the canteen at events like this. So, I want to particularly say a big thank you to the ladies (Carol, Sue and Julie) that stepped forward and looked after canteen all day and provided the lovely mixture of cakes for us all to enjoy.

Lastly, thank you to all the competitors that turned out on a cold, damp January day, particularly those that visited from other clubs. We hope you enjoyed your racing at PRYC and get to see you soon. On that note our next IOM open is on the 30th of March, the entry is already open.

Paul Robson
Sailing and Club Secretary