

Write-up by Keith Poole

For those who looked out the window on Christmas Eve morning and decided it was blowing a gale, well, it was somewhat different at Injebreck reservoir for the latest round of the Bourne Plaice Winter Series.

The first race had massive calm patches the second on the other hand was a little more brisk but still a lot less than expected.

Race 1 was started after a short delay to allow Jim Whitelegg to fetch his buoyancy aid, the light patchy conditions made for some very tricky racing, Ben Batchelor repeated his performance from the first race last week to claim the top spot on the podium with Ralph Kee 2nd and Simon Pressly 3rd.

Race 2 got under way in a much stronger breeze but that meant the gusts had a bigger bite, two early victims were Simon Pressly and Andrew Dean, both testing their drysuits for leaks. Jim Whitelegg sensibly decided the shore would be a more pleasant place to be. Dave Batchelor, on his first outing of the season, was close to emulating his son Ben's result by taking a commanding lead however an untimely capsize and a long recovery resulted in the evaporation of his lead. That left the door open for Matthew Perry to snatch 1st place with Ralph Kee again 2nd and Ben Batchelor 3rd.

With the series races 3 & 4 cancelled a couple of weeks ago because of the snow, two races will be held on the 31st January to allow for the completion of the series. If this goes to plan it means the discards kick in which means around six or seven of the competitors have a shout at the top slot, so it's all to play for.

Manx Sailing & Cruising Club would like to thank OOD Keith Poole and Neil Rawlinson, Sian Meeuwsen and Adam Beighton for the patrol boat and of course our sponsor Rob Cowell of Bourne Plaice. For full results check out the MS&CC website and there's photos on the Facebook page.