

What a difference a month makes, the IOM Copiers Easter Regatta that was postponed from Easter Saturday due to poor weather finally took place this weekend in Ramsey Bay. The strong easterly winds (surf on the beach) and low temperatures were replaced by gentle breezes and bright sunshine.

This traditional season opener is held on one day and over three races, all to count, no discards. Racing was extremely close with different winners in each of the races.

Race one over a windward/leeward course was won by Dave Batchelor (RS Aero), five seconds clear of Russell and June Collister (RS 400) with Donald Edwards (Laser) third just seven seconds ahead of junior, Ben Batchelor (Laser Radial).

For Race two it was the same format but a longer course, Russell and June who led the pack on the water and on correction to win by nearly a minute from Phil Hardisty/Ciara Kaneen (RS 200) and Dave Batchelor in third with junior Peter Cope (Tera Pro) only ten seconds down in fourth.

For the final race the OOD shortened the now familiar course. Although Russell and June were clearly ahead at the finish line, on correction the win went to Phil and Ciara by some thirty seconds and a delighted Yogi Quayle in his new classic OK in third.

The overall Regatta win went to Russell and June, second place to Phil and Ciara, same points but better position in final race than Dave Batchelor in third place. Best wooden boat Yogi Quayle in fourth, best junior was Ben Batchelor in fifth and best junior junior was Peter Cope.

Manx Sailing & Cruising Club would like to thank Mark Corrin of IOM Copiers for sponsoring the event and helping to man one of the patrol boats. Also Race Officer Keith Poole, ably assisted by Dave Edwards and the other patrol boat volunteers May Shiu Chan, Helen Kee and Adam Beighton. Thanks must also go to Niamh Poole and the other ladies who provided a very welcome Regatta Tea.

Please visit the MS&CC website for full results and the club Facebook page for some excellent action photos. The MS&CC Sunday morning sailing starts at 10.30am on 6 May with Thursday evening sailing also commencing next week.