

The Atom Accounting Services coastal dinghy race took place on Saturday, starting in Ramsey and heading south to the finish in Laxey Bay. As the Laxey Regatta was to be held on Sunday it made sense to travel there via the scenic route!

The forecast was for 8 knots from the south but in Ramsey Bay it was quite a bit more, easing and becoming more gusty at Maughold Head, particularly close in where the fleet needs to be out of the strong spring tide.

A fleet of 9, including a full turn-out of D Zero's - Andrew Dean, Mike Swales and Stu Brew were up against Lasers, including former winner Donald Edwards and one 2-handed Laser 2000 of John and Peter Harper. The start was from Ramsey Beach and in a 'Le Mans' style with competitors hanging onto their boats and once the hooter is sounded they jump in and head out towards Maughold.

As seems to be the way racing only starts at Maughold Head, keeping in and playing the gusts and shifts had Donald Edwards (Laser) and Stu Brew (D-Zero) pull a slight lead over the chasing pack of Dean and Swales (D-Zero) and the Laser of Ralph Kee.

By Cornaa Brew had pulled ahead of Edwards while Swales, distracted by seals had a lengthy capsize and dropped back a little, by Laxey Head with the wind easing even more Dean pulled ahead of Kee.

Line honours went to Stu Brew in 2hrs 16mins with Edwards 2 ½ minutes back, however on correction Donald took the win with the Radial Laser of junior Matthew Perry in second, 29 seconds ahead of Ralph in third.

With an event of this distance Manx Sailing & Cruising Club would like to thank the three support crews of Kev Christian, Emily Kee, Peter Hoosen-Owen, Graham Wilson, May Shiu Chan and Helen Kee. Also thanks to our sponsor Yogi Quayle, Race Officer Keith Poole and Laxey Sailing Club for providing showers and nourishment.

See the MS&CC Facebook page for full result and pictures by Peter Hoosen-Owen.