

After last week's cancellation due to bad weather it was nice to be able to continue the Watling Streetworks March dinghy sailing on Sunday at West Baldwin reservoir.

Although the wind, a westerly blowing across the lake, was the same direction as the previous week the gusts lacked the ferocity but still gave some exciting sailing only tempered slightly by the usual random calms.

The Race Officer set a course that included a windward (into the wind) slog down the lake, a short run across and then at times a fine blast back up the lake. To make the most of the conditions both D-Zero crews (Mike Swales and Stu Brew) used their black 'Death or Glory' big sails!

In Race one it was Stu Brew who was first out of the blocks and clean around the first mark after catching a big gust, he quickly reached the third before the following pack were close to the second! For once Injebreck rules didn't apply and Stu continued to increase his lead to finish over four minutes ahead of next finisher, Ralph Kee (Laser). Such was Stu's lead that even after correction he took his first win of the series by a comfortable 30 seconds from junior, Teddy Dunn (Tera) with fellow junior Peter Cope in third and Kee in fourth 10 seconds behind.

Race two over the same course was once again led by Stu, keeping him in his sights was junior, Matthew Perry (Radial) after retiring from Race one with gear failure. The chasing Adults would have made better progress if they had spent less time going round in circles, penalty turns (no names!) one for touching a mark and two for touching another boat, close racing and poor eyesight?

Although Stu stayed ahead Matt was very nearly 'Injebrecked' whilst sitting a calm patch at the final mark as Ralph caught a lucky gust and blasted the full length of the course to finish only one second down on the water.

At only one and a half minutes ahead on the water Stu was 'demoted' to fifth place on correction by a Junior 1,2,3, Peter, Teddy and Matt, first adult Ralph again in fourth.

Manx Sailing & Cruising Club would like to thank Doug Watling for sponsoring the series, Race Officer Keith Poole and Graham Wilson and Andy Dunn for manning the patrol boat. For full results and pictures check out our Facebook page.