

The IOM Copiers Easter Regatta took place in Ramsey Bay on Easter Saturday hosted by Manx Sailing & Cruising Club. This is traditionally the first Dinghy Regatta of the summer season and with Easter falling particularly late this year it was spectacularly warm and sunny. The gentle southerly breeze, enough for full hiking out bore none of the winters nasty gusts, wild wind shifts and viscous calms, it's great to be back on the sea again!

A full turn out of the Island Games squad, Laser Donald Edwards and Phil Hardisty and Radial Simon Pressly and Matthew Perry joined the rest of the fleet for the series of three races.

For Race one the race officer, Keith Poole, set a 'P' course, usually an advantage to two handed boats, in their absence the lead on the water and on handicap went to Donald by a two minute margin! Although third on the water, one second behind Jerry Colman (Finn), Brian (Yogi) Quayle was placed second after correction with Simon Pressly in third.

Race two was over a standard windward/leeward course it was Andrew Dean (Aero 7) that made the running, only to be pipped by Donald on correction with Phil third.

Race three over the same course saw Donald again break free of the fleet, this time (and about time!) chased by Ralph (Laser), getting within two boat lengths at times and good enough for a one two on the water and after correction with Brian in third.

Overall results - no surprise 1st Donald Edwards (3 firsts), second Brian Quayle and a delighted Ralph third. Junior winner was Peter Cope.

A superb afternoons sailing was finished off with a magnificent Regatta Tea in the MS&CC Clubhouse which also included the Watling Streetworks Winter Series prize-giving.

Many thanks to sponsor Mark Corrin of IOM Copiers, Race Officer Keith Poole and patrol boat crews Dr May Shiu Chan, Helen Kee, Peter Hoosen-Owen and Graham Wilson. Also to Niamh Poole and ladies for putting on such an impressive spread.

Full results, and because David Kneale was on hand , excellent photos can be found on the MS&CC Facebook page and Website. Next sailing will be on Sunday morning at 10.30am and until further notice (winter).