

Manx Sailing & Cruising Club held their annual Laser Regatta in Ramsey Bay on Sunday after being postponed from Saturday due to the poor forecast. This would feature five races (four to count), very close racing and with four different winners.

The event was open to dinghies of the Laser and ILCA (same thing, different name) which is an Olympic class, Standard rig men, the smaller Radial rig ladies. They are also the current choice for the Island Games, which should have been held in Guernsey next year but has now been postponed for obvious reasons!

Conditions on the Sunday morning, at first did not look very promising, a stiff south easterly breeze causing a lumpy sea and surf on the beach.

By the time the fleet of thirteen, which included four Standard rig, eight Radials and one 4.7 rig had started Race one the wind had moderated, better still the sun shone! Over the windward/leeward course the fleet was led by the Standard rigs of Donald Edwards and Ralph Kee, though after correction the win went to Simon Pressly (Radial) and second to junior Cameron Blamey (4.7) one second ahead of Edwards in third.

For race two, over the same course, the fleet was again led home by the Standard rigs but after correction it was the smallest 4.7 of junior Cameron that took the win ahead of Edwards (Standard) and Pressly (Radial) in third.

To spice things up for race three, Race Officer Keith Poole set a 'P' course, with the wind dying and starting to shift the larger sails of the Standard rig dominated with Edwards, Kee and Angus Jolly finishing in that order. Both on the water and after correction.

After a short postponement to allow the course to be altered to follow the 70 degree wind shift, race four was again dominated by the Standard rigs which even after correction the win went to Edwards, followed by Kee and Jolly.

By the final race five, windward/leeward course the fleet seemed to be getting into the groove, after correction 2 ½ minutes separating first to last and only 30 seconds between first to sixth. The final win went to Kee, second Jolly with Andrew Dean (Radial) bringing the oldest boat by far home in third.

Overall, after five races, discarding the worst result, first place went to Donald Edwards, second by only 2 points Ralph Kee. Third place and best Radial was Simon Pressly. Best junior going to Cameron Blamey, fourth overall.

MS&CC would like to thank Race Officer Keith Poole, patrol boat crew May Shiu Chan and Helen Kee and Niamh Poole for the Regatta Tea.

For full results please go to the MS&CC Website and Facebook Page.