

The annual Frostbite Regatta, the last regatta of the 2020 season was held on the West Baldwin reservoir on Boxing Day hosted by Manx Sailing & Cruising Club.

This event is a Pursuit Race with a staggered start so slow boats start first and fastest last, very easy for spectators - the boat in the lead when time is up is the winner.

Despite the chilly and gusty conditions 17 boats took to the water for the various different start times in this year's Pursuit Race, Levi Baugh's gear failure just before his start time meant Nickolas Ellis was first away at 11:03. He was almost able to put a full lap in before the Feva of James Allinson got away at 11:10, over the next 10 minutes the rest of the fleet got away and the chase was on.

It was fairly lonely for Nickolas out in front for the first three laps as the faster boats were visibly chasing him down. Unlike normal racing where all the dinghies start together, in a pursuit race they should all finish together, making the last few minutes the most exciting.

After an hour of racing the finish signal sounded, by which time defending champion Donald Edwards was first on the water followed by Teddy Dunn in 2nd just keeping ahead of Peter Cope 3rd. Fourth Ralph Kee in his Laser (same start as Donald) kept a boat length ahead of Ffinlo Wright who had managed to climb through the fleet to 5th with Nickolas a credible 6th.

At the shore side presentation Teddy Dunn was also presented with the MYA BT Youth Challenge Trophy for his achievements over the last 12 months.

MS&CC would like to thank our sponsor Doug Watling, race officer Keith Poole and patrol boat crew of May Shiu Chan, Emily Kee and Charlotte Corlett.