

Dinghy racing did take place on West Baldwin reservoir despite it being a little on the nippy side. Although not the largest fleet this season, some may have been put off by the cold or maybe lured by the hot meal being provided by IOMYC Commodore Phil Hardisty. Full marks though for a full turn out from Peel, the Whiteleggs Senior and Juniors!

The breeze, as last week was blowing down the Baldwin valley, crews arriving to rig early even wondered if it was a bit too strong. They needn't have worried, by the start of the first race it was about perfect (for Injebreck!).

Race one and the fleet sailed the relatively straightforward windward/leeward course, up and down the lake. Fairly soon the fleet split with the faster single handers, Jerry Colman (Finn), Dave Batchelor (Aero 7) and Ralph Kee (Laser) pulling well clear of the Enterprise of Joe and Eric Whitelegg. They were themselves well clear of the juniors Tom Watterson and Will Osbourne (Tera Pro) and Jim Whitelegg in the mighty Gull. Throughout the race though the wind had been easing, by the last lap close to nothing, all crews managed a finish.

In the lead on the water Dave Batch won on correction with Ralph moving up to second and Jerry third. Joe and Eric put a good distance ahead of Jim in fourth and fifth respectively.

Between the races the wind piped up and a second race was held over a similar course. This time Jerry's turn to be far enough ahead to take the win even after correction but it was very slim, only one second ahead of junior Will Osbourn and third to Dave Batch. In a reversal of race one Jim Whitelegg took fourth place ahead of Joe and Eric in sixth.

Manx Sailing & Cruising Club would like to thank Doug Watling of Watling Streetworks for his continued support. Many thanks also to Keith Poole for Office of the Day and a not overly used patrol boat crew of Helen Kee and Yogi Quayle. Nothing like a bit of cold weather to keep crews out of the water.