

Manx Sailing and Cruising Club

MYA IOM Dinghy Championships 27 & 28 August 2022

King Penguin takes the crown and the Feva XL girls win the Youth Trophy

Despite a forecast of very little wind at all, 16 teams (including 5 youth teams) from 4 island yacht clubs assembled in Ramsey for the 2 day, 6 race 2022 Manx Yachting Association Isle of Man Dinghy Championships. The fleet launched in a light North-Westerly breeze to find an area of good breeze North of the harbour entrance with the committee boat anchored in the middle of it. 3 windward/leeward races of around 40 minutes each were completed with defending champion Phil Hardisty's Ultimate 18 'King Penguin' (presumably named in memory of their now departed yacht Albert Penguin) showing almost indomitable speed upwind which coupled with good starts saw the three man crew of Hardisty, Iain Fenna and Gary Proctor (IOMYC) taking the lead on day 1. Next in line was past champion Simon Pressly (MS&CC) in his Laser Radial who took the third race, then Jerry Colman (MS&CC) in the Finn. The youth fleet showed promise especially when concentrating on sailing rather than yacking to each other. The Race Officer noted that when crews quietened down they immediately shot off into a significant lead. Jimmy Cope (IOMYC) in a Tera took day one with straight bullets so looked well set up for the youth prize.

Day 2 saw an even lighter start with around 5 knots eventually settling in from the East. The start was delayed both to wait for wind but also to tow out the committee boat which seemed to have caught a rope round the prop. On arrival at the start area patrol boat crew Jade Leach bravely dived under the boat to find a tyre with a attached rope wrapped around the propeller. She removed the tyre with a sharp knife but she still couldn't get the rope off. Amazing what you find floating round in Ramsey Harbour. Once the racing started the 18 showed it's paces again but in the slightly choppier conditions Colman's Finn took 2 seconds and a win in the final race to move up to an unaccustomed second overall. In the youth fleet non-yacking Daisy Cope and Emily Osbourn (IOMYC) in a borrowed Feva XL just squeezed past Jimmy to take the youth trophy. Great to see an all-girl team winning in this open championship.

In the final reckoning, King Penguin took the MYA Trophy with Colman's Finn second and Pressly's Laser Radial third. Joe and Eric Whitelegg (PSC), always there or thereabouts, were 4th in their new Enterprise and Tom Cringle with crew Darcey Withington (LSC) in the Laser 2000 made 5th.

In the youth section, Daisy and Emily took the Cadet Trophy with Jimmy second and Max Cope with crew James Osbourn (IOMYC) coming in third.

Full results and some great photos on the MS&CC website and thanks to the race officers Keith Poole and Neil Rawlinson, the patrol boat crews, the ladies who provided the pasties on Saturday and tea on Sunday and Laxey Sailing Club for lending us their rib.

Jerry Colman, Finn 87, MS&CC.



King Penguin