

Troon Cruising Club

50th Anniversary Trophy



Race Report form race 10/08/2019

Course : Lappock(p)-Lady Isle (p)- Finish Wind : 0-10 knots NE-NW

With a light to moderate forecast of NE 6-10 knots veering NW 3-5 knots 5 yachts took to the water on Saturday 10th August. The shortened course was decided upon as the tide was ebbing and the longer course was felt to be unachievable in the dying forecast.

The fleet was somewhat diminished due to a number of yachts still being on the west coast with the muster from the weekend prior however Storm, the current series 2 leader was the only yacht not to maximise sail area and use a spinnaker while Green kestrel and Crystal Clear the previous series winners were present with Petra and Hunters Moon both of whom had shown good pace at the Wednesday night races.



The standard Dolphin-MillRock Bouy start line was used with a 10-12 minute fairly one sided beat undertaken by the fleet on the first leg. While Storm and Crystal Clear started at the Mill Rock bouy Storm quickly used her water line length and speed to take the lead with Crystal Clear and Green kestrel rounding Lappock very close together some 3 minutes behind Storm.

Petra and Hunters Moon having started towards the Dolphin followed thereafter but it was good to see Petra display her big kite for the first time this season on the downwind leg to Lady Isle.

Storm, Petra and Crystal Clear here motoring out to the start area.

Crystal Clear and Green Kestrel were then on the hunt for Storm before their convergence at Lady Isle with Green Kestrel pulling ahead towards Storm only to be overtaken again at the spinnaker drop to the southerly leeward side of lady Isle by Crystal Clear.



From this leeward rounding only a matter of 100m's separated the first 3 boats but the final beat home was to prove a frustration for 2 and a joy for one.

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Storm, Crystal Clear and in turn Green Kestrel all remained on port tack heading towards the South beach shore until Storm tacked off to starboard, back out into the channel. Initially this looked like the correct approach as there was a little more wind on the left and Green Kestrel had by this stage followed suite.

However as Storm and Crystal Clear to leeward approached the shore again the wind fell very light and Storm tacked back out as previous while Crystal Clear elected to avoid the tid, hug the shore and stay beneath the lay line in the hope of a further band of pressure from the Barrassie shore.

Lady luck was with Crystal Clear on this occassion and in addition to some pressure a right hand wind shift of 40 degrees meant that when she tacked back onto starboard the lead of 200m's plus that Storm previously had, converted to the reciprocal for Crystal Clear. The frustration could almost be felt in the air at this stage from the Storm team!

The wind was again to die to nothing before filling in, in a band frmm the northwest initially with Storm but not enough to catch Crystal Clear who finished the beat flying her kite across the line to take both the win and line honours.

Storm and Green Kestrel in turn completed the course in this band of breeze however having enjoyed a close and fast downwind leg both flying their soltire spinnakers to lady isle the ebb tide made the beat impossible for Petra and Hunters Moon to complete the course and they were forced to retire.



Results:

- 1st Crystal Clear: Connor McGaughey & James Purss
- 2nd Storm: Iain Gairns: Iain Gairns, Kyle Stewart, Jim Hood
- 3rd Green Kestrel: Stuart Powrie, David Abbott, Gordon Scott