

The sailing conditions at the Club have generally been very good this season with far fewer poor sailing days than we normally get, and very little current to battle against. The season started with a N to NE 5-8 knot wind giving a reasonable sail on a very fine day. There were excellent conditions for the Easter Egg races with a NNE 6 to 12 knot wind although the gusty conditions made for many incidences; capsizes, falling in, gear failure, being stuck on the far bank, and a collision with a narrow boat.

The Mid-Thames Trophy inter club event was held at Hampton SC this year and the very gusty, up to 20 knots, wind gave very exiting sailing with many capsizes. Charles Dennis broke the mast of his Laser's new Radial rig on it's first time out. Of the visitors we had the largest number of boats and came 2nd to the host club for the third time.

The weather was terrible for the Open days; wet at first and a very strong, gusty and horrible fluky wind; not surprising we didn't have many visitors.

We hosted a Signet Open Meeting at the Club again, this time combined with the regatta on Saturday. The wind was rather light and variable but warm and dry for the spectators supporting the 4 visiting Signets. The Sunday regatta had excellent conditions with a steady 5 to 10 knot Easterly. With such ideal conditions the last race was also sailed for the Cundy long distance race Trophy and spinnakers were use all the way up to Rivermead Island at Sunbury.

Although I was getting the impression of poor support for the racing, analysis of the entries indicates that we had a better year than I expected and it has been better than the previous 2 years; average boats per race was 5.5 and a maximum of 10. A total of 25 members helmed in at least one race, 29 crewed and 37 helmed or crewed.

A club boat has only been used on half our race days and then apart from 2 days only one has been used.

AQSC members supported all the SigneT Meetings and came away with the majority of the prizes. At the Signet National Championships Richard Cannon, with Robert Britton as crew were 2nd. Also Richard with Robert as crew won the Signet Annual Points Trophy.

As usual all trophies, except the Broken Boom which is for the overall best Boat Handicap result, have been allocated to Personal Handicap results and this gives much closer Series results and usually helps spread the Trophies amongst the competitors instead of all going to one helm. Some results were very close and a tiebreak was need on three 1st., one 2nd and one 3rd place result.

We need more members to partake in more races to make the distribution prizes more interesting. I welcome suggestions that might improve support for events. Am I giving members what they want? Should racing be different times or days, too much or too little racing, alternative events. Please let me know so I have a chance to incorporate any suggestions in next year's programme.

The AQSC Web site and E-mail continue to be useful communication media. The latest race results are generally available on the web site by the morning following Sunday racing. Apart from the race results there are notes on the weather conditions for each race day. There is also a list of all the trophies with pictures and winners over the years. Other useful pages are general News, Sailing and Social program, Sailing and Bar duty rosters, and the last 14 newsletters. I hope members are finding it useful. If Members with Email are not receiving occasional E-mails from me could they please let me have their E-mail address. I would welcome any suggestions on improving the communication, marketing and presentation aspects of the web site.

RICHARD CANNON.

2003 PRIZES

The race series match those of last year and the same trophies have been awarded. Everyone who was 1st, 2nd, or 3rd for Boat Handicap or Personal Handicap result in a main series receives a glass. Some glasses have also been awarded for amount of sailing.

If helm capsizes or have any other incident or breakage would they please make sure it is recorded on the race sheet so it can be include in my result records. The good sailing conditions this year meant there were a large number of capsizes; 38 in total.

There were a number of contenders for the Water Rat Trophy; 13 helm had a total of 37 capsizes. Keith Hatton had eleven capsizes and Charles Dennis ten. Pat Halling was next on the list with three capsizes, this was more capsizes than he has had in the previous ten years, and his last was in 1999. But the Water Rat has been awarded to Bryan Clements for 3 capsizes and on each occasion he waited sitting on the hull for the safety boat; he was determined not to get his feet wet and it wasn't easy towing the capsized Graduate back to the club.

The Young Helm Trophy hasn't been awarded this year because no one has done enough races to qualify.

A total of 95 races on 31 days, including 27 Fun races, were sailed during the year. With 83 races Graham Thompson has done far more than any one else and has had an extremely successful year. Ignoring tiebreaks he was first on Boat and Personal Handicap in most series in spite of having a Personal Handicap of -11. Bryan Clements had the next highest number of races with 58. A tiebreak was need on 3 results to decide first place.

A printed report of each race entry, series results, summaries and other items are in the Race Result folder that is normally kept in the Club entrance. As the race entry reports are very compact and give virtually all the information (except intermediate lap times) on the original race entry sheets these will not be retained.

SERIES	TROPHY	MEMBER, Number of races H = Helm, C = Crew
Autumn PH	Cruiser Cup	Charles Dennis, 40 H + 0 C = 40 races, rank 4
Sprint PH	Enterprise Cup	Graham Thompson, 83 H + 0 C = 34 races, rank 1
SPA PH	Saturday Trophy	Richard Cannon, 48 H + 5 C = 53 races, rank 2
Spring PH	Handicap Class	Graham Thompson
Summer PH	Laser Cup	Pat Halling, 41 H + 0 C = 41 races, rank 3
Boat Handicap Result	Broken Boom	Graham Thompson
Long distance race	Cundy Trophy	Laurie Bridges
Event	Water Rat	Bryan Clements 3 capsizes waiting to be rescued

No Other Prize

Most races	Summer Afternoon	Mike Baker, 33 H + 6 C = 39 races
Most Crewed	Glass	Liz Archer, 8 H, C 23 = 31 races

PRIZE POINTS

The following table lists the places of helms that were in the first three places for Boat Handicap or Personal Handicap in any series, except the Easter Egg, Regatta and Fun series. One point is given for each 3rd, two points for each 2nd and 3 points for each 1st place. Ranking is according to the total number of points obtained; rank gives an indication of overall performance including BH and PH results. Bold figures are used to indicate that a tie break was used.

Series	Autumn		SPA		Spring		Sprint		Summer		Rank for Prizes			
	BH	PH	BH	PH	BH	PH	BH	PH	BH	PH	Points		Position	
Name	Places										BH	PH		Total
G Thompson	1	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	2	4	13	8	21	1
R Cannon	3	3	3	1	3	3	2	2	1	3	8	8	16	2
P Halling	4	4	1	3	2	2	5	6	3	1	7	6	13	3
C Dennis	2	1	5	5	12	13	3	4	4	2	3	5	8	4
K Hatton	14	14	4	2	6	7	8	9	13	14	0	1	1	5
R Wheeler.	7	5	7	7	4	5	4	3	7	7	0	1	1	6

PRIZE SUMMARY

RANK/POINTS

1/21	G Thompson	Enterprise Cup Handicap Class Trophy Charles Broken Boom Glass	Sprint PH 1st Spring PH 1st Overall BH 1st Autumn BH 1 st , Spa BH 2 nd , Spring BH 1 st , Sprint BH 1st, Summer BH 2 nd , capsizes 1
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RANK/POINTS

2/16	R Cannon	Saturday Trophy Glass	Spa PH 1 st Autumn BH & PH 3 rd , Spa BH 3 rd , Spring BH & PH 3 rd , Sprint BH & PH 2 nd , Summer BH 1 st & PH 4 th , capsizes 1
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RANK/POINTS

3/13	P Halling	Laser Cup Glass	Summer PH 1st Spa BH 1 st , Spring BH & PH 2 nd , Summer BH 3 rd , capsizes 3
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RANK/POINTS

4/8	C Dennis	Cruiser Cup Glass	Autumn PH 1 st Autumn BH 2 nd , Sprint BH 3 rd , Summer PH 2 nd , capsizes 11
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RANK/POINTS

5/1	K Hatton	Glass	Spa PH 2 nd , capsizes 11
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6/1	R Wheeler	Glass	Sprint PH 3 rd , capsizes 1
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L Bridges	Cundy Trophy	Long distance race 29 Jun 2003
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B Clements	Water Rat	3 capsizes waiting to be rescued by safety boat
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M Baker	Glass	Most races Junior, 9 Helm + 5 Crew = 14 total, no other prize
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Liz Archer Glass

Most Crewed, 8 helm, 13 crew races, 31 total, no other prize