

Comets, Supernovas and Comet Trios Compete at Sutton Bingham Sailing Club

Sounds like some intergalactic phenomenon but no, it was three classes of sailing dinghy competing on the reservoir at Sutton Bingham just outside Yeovil last weekend.

On Saturday 29 April Sutton Bingham Sailing Club were hosts to the Comet, Supernova and Comet Trio classes with 26 boats taking to the water for hotly contested fleet racing. Three races were sailed with the best two results to count. A shifty South to South Easterly breeze challenged the Race Officer, Richard Frost to set good courses and kept the sailors on their toes.



The morning race was sailed in a light 6-7 mph breeze which rose to 8-11 mph in the afternoon with the occasional stronger gusts which caught some sailors unawares.

First Race

Clear wind was key in the first Comet race with a skewed first beat due to the constraints of the Halstock leg of the lake. Eddie Pope worked the light shifty wind to great effect to win convincingly whilst Ben Palmer, Chris Hatton and Chris Robinson had a closer battle to follow in that order.

Second Race

It was Ben Palmer who nailed the start and broke well clear for the win. After an early pursuit by Dave Harris it was last year's winner, Chris Jones who held second for most of the race, until in a dying breeze Chris Hatton broke through on the final reach.

Third Race

The wind breezed up for the final race with more place changing as sailors came to grief or excelled in the gusty conditions. The battle at the front was between Chris Robinson and Eddie Pope with Chris Hatton, Ben Palmer and Dave Harris not far behind. Eddie Pope secured his second bullet of the day to win overall with Chris Robinson 2nd and Chris Jones pulling through to 3rd after an early capsize.



Overall

Performances earlier in the day were good enough to give Ben Palmer and Chris Hatton 2nd and 3rd overall respectively behind Eddie Pope.

Report by Chris Jones
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