

Staunton Harold Comet Open 14th October

The final Comet Open of the year was held on a sunny, chilly day with good westerly wind forecast. It was a joint event with 7 Solos. As well as Midland based helms it was good to see other visitors from South Wales, Reading, Bristol and Devon. There were 7 home boats, 12 visitors and it was good to see 4 ladies on the water.

In race 1 the line had a heavily port biased line as the wind was shifting a lot and it was best to tack as soon as possible. This course had 3 beats, 2 reaches and a long run. Nigel Austin 875 (Cransley) was first to the windward mark closely followed by home sailor Alan Bennett 126. Close behind were Ben Palmer 597 (Baltic Wharf), Eddie Pope 377 (Ogston) and Dave Turtle 815 (Shustoke).



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Alan managed to get past Nigel at the second windward mark going onto the long run. Dave worked his way through and was on the tail of Alan going down the run on the second lap, managing to get past him at the end. These two pulled away with Eddie managing a good 3rd and Nigel 4th.

Nigel Fern (SHSC) got a great result in 7th with which he was highly delighted! So much so he turtled his Comet after the finish!

The wind was a lovely F3 with F4 gusts so planing was occurring!

Race 2 after lunch had 2 beats, 2 reaches and a long run. The temperature had gone up as had the wind F3 and gusts F4 generally. Chris Robinson 867 (Burghfield) was first to the windward mark followed by Alan, and this held for the first half of the race. During the second half of the race what was a long beat turned into a fetch with a strength drop. Boats behind, more by luck than judgement, were able to sail around the 2 leaders. Chris held on to second, Eddie won with Dave third, then Ben, Nigel and Alan.

There were 4 boats who could win the event going into the last race. The wind went up a notch now to F3 to F4 with many sailors deciding to retire and pack up early for their trip home.

The course stayed the same with very close racing between Dave, Eddie and Chris with them

finishing in that order, which happened to be the same as the overall result! Ben was 4th, Nigel 5th, Becky Priest 6th, and Alan 7th.

A good day was had by all so thanks to the club, race team, catering, safety and Matt Smith for the pictures.

Alan Bennett. SHSC.

2023 SHSC Comet Open

Staunton Harold Sailing Club

Results are provisional as of 13:06 on October 15, 2023

Overall

Sailed: 3, Discards: 1, To count: 2, Entries: 19, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	SailNo	HelmName	Club	R1	R2	R3	Total	Nett
1st	White Xtra	815	Dave Turtle	Shustoke SC	1.0	(3.0)	1.0	5.0	2.0
2nd	White Xtra	377	Eddie Pope	Ogston SC	(3.0)	1.0	2.0	6.0	3.0
3rd	Standard	867	Chris Robinson	Burghfield SC	(6.0)	2.0	3.0	11.0	5.0
4th	White Xtra	126	Alan Bennett	Staunton Harold SC	2.0	6.0	(7.0)	15.0	8.0
5th	Standard	597	Ben Palmer	Baltic Wharf SC	(5.0)	4.0	4.0	13.0	8.0
6th	White Xtra	875	Nigel Austin	Cransley SC	4.0	(5.0)	5.0	14.0	9.0
7th	Xtra	683	Becky Priest	Staunton Harold SC	(10.0)	8.0	6.0	24.0	14.0
8th	White Xtra	311	Steve Bellamy	Winsford Flash SC	(8.0)	7.0	8.0	23.0	15.0
9th	White Xtra	845	Nigel Fern	Staunton Harold SC	7.0	11.0	(20.0 DNC)	38.0	18.0
10th	White Xtra	864	Peter Mountford	Staunton Harold SC	9.0	9.0	(10.0)	28.0	18.0
11th	White Xtra	694	Alun Bevan	Merthyr Tydfil Sailing Club	11.0	(13.0)	9.0	33.0	20.0
12th	White Xtra	705	Martin Loud	Winsford Flash SC	12.0	(15.0)	11.0	38.0	23.0
13th	White Xtra	688	Richard Barnett	Staunton Harold SC	(14.0)	12.0	12.0	38.0	24.0
14th	White Xtra	849	Timothy Higgs	Burghfield SC	16.0	10.0	(20.0 DNC)	46.0	26.0
15th	White Xtra	835	Sue Jones	Nottingham SC	13.0	14.0	(20.0 DNC)	47.0	27.0
16th	White Xtra	527	David Waymont	Staunton Harold SC	15.0	17.0	(20.0 DNC)	52.0	32.0
17th	White Xtra	740	Steve Boud	Staunton Harold SC	17.0	16.0	(20.0 DNC)	53.0	33.0
18th	White Xtra	835	TBA	Nottingham SC	(20.0 DNF)	18.0	20.0 DNC	58.0	38.0
19th	Standard	351	Ellie Kirkwood	Nottingham Sailing Club	(20.0 DNF)	20.0 DNC	20.0 DNC	60.0	40.0