

Brass Monkey 2 Race Report

Liverpool Yacht Club's second race of the renard-systems.co.uk Brass Monkey series was held on Sunday January 25th. A strong southerly breeze over the flood tide gave conditions just on the acceptable side. 14 yachts started the race and the conditions caused 3 to retire as strong gusts and short waves caused mayhem for several boats. Most seriously Steve Carruthers' & Geoff Whitaker's Ragtime IV was dismasted when beating upriver, the mast snapped about 2/3rd up the mast, above the spreaders, Gullmaren was on the scene within minutes, standing by in case aid was required. The heroic efforts of Duncan a rock climbing member of the Ragtime crew saved the yacht by clambering up the mast stump to secure the sail and yacht. For the second consecutive race Mick Ryan's JLS blew out her main, this time irrevocably and had to retire. Jack Hilton's She Fever from class 3 completed the retirements. Several class 1 yachts tried flying their spinnakers and this resulted in some spectacular broaches!!

Race Officer Paul Boycott's courses, as normal, had both fleets sailing up river and out of sight of the race officer unfortunately the recent storms had eliminated the "Midway" buoy much to the consternation of the class 2 & 3 fleet, who couldn't find it!! However by self management and the assistance of Gullmaren the fleet substituted G9 instead.

The Prima 38's dominated class 1 with Glyn Sheffield's Dynamite Tee taking both line and class honours followed by Richard Booth's Another Nods and Jim Cartwright's Beneteau Daydream Believer third. Andy Farrell in the much smaller "The f word" came in fourth.

Class 2 saw the Sigma 33's of Michael Inman take the class ahead of Paul Hampson. Stuart Lofthouse's Impala, was temporarily handicapped halfway round when his jib halyard failed, came third. Andy Freeney's Mistoffelees was fourth.

Richard Baldwin's Tango took class 3 line honours but Warwick Telfer in Clarevouyant managed to stay in contention to take class honours with Annie Ward third in DiRich.