

## **LIVERPOOL YACHT CLUB**

### **RACE REPORT**

#### **SPRING 03**

The Skipper and Crew of Mighty Max 2 were so keen they almost filled LYC Flagship Gulmaren to the gunwales, accompanied by various LYC members and the trusty race control team. A start line was duly established upstream with G5 as the pin end. Two lock outs were required as the impressive fleet of 15 yachts made their way down to the line on this warm yet calm day.

When the fleet gathered the wind was blowing SE at about 3 – 6 knots but was oscillating further south at times. On commencing the sequence the wind decided to die, leaving several boats drifting backwards towards the committee vessel in the strong tide. Neil Thomas OD decided to abandon the start on safety grounds and it was reset with a now SE breeze gently appearing.

This time the fleet was away with both classes sailing the same course in the absence of the scratch vessels. It was a real hotch potch on this first leg, some boats had spinnakers set others seemed to be beating due to the light wind and still significant tide. If only there were time to run through all the position changes on this leg alone!. Its fair to say everyone whom led was also last at some point but special mention to Rebel (particularly as it wasn't "Rebel Weather"), and Di Rich whom, were at some point both first to the mark. Only to be pipped however by Clairvoyant whom was technically "more first" to the mark as the other two were duly washed away. Skukusa and Ragtime looked promising as did Mistofflees and Saphoenix, it was however a surreal site to see the ever present Flash 2 sail through the becalmed fleet with apparently no wind, sliding through all the other boats in a majestic manoeuvre that saw them begin to make up tide back to G5. Ragtime followed suit as did Rebel. No one else seemed to manage and the training in the Doldrums of Windermere paid off for Flash as they led the way around the course.

Di Rich hit tide as did Tango, and Skukusa crept inshore with steady progress. The leading pack were way in front as the majority of the fleet, minus the now retired Sleeper battled on. Catch 32 was last round G5 as the Spinnaker - come beat for some boats leg back to G9 erased some of the up tide frustrations. Saphoenix led the Sigma's and sailed a great race as did Skukusa behind the trio of pace setting yachts out front.

Thanks to the OD and his team, Race Control and Gulmaren Crew for a memorable, yet testing Race!!

Flash 2 scooped first with Ragtime second and Clairvoyant third in the overall results.

Class 1: Ragtime, Rebel, F Word

Class 2: Flash 2, Skukusa, Saphoenix