

Mini40 Open Meeting 1st & 2nd April 2017

Fast, Fun Fantastic!

It certainly was fun and on Saturday fast but the wind dropped on Sunday – still managed to race but it was not as exciting as Saturday! Not nearly as many capsizes!!!!!!

Our congratulations go to the winner, Christian Egelbandt from Germany who sailed consistently well. He was on the ball at the starts, usually hitting the line at speed and at the gun, a brilliant performance. In second place, Mike Cooke who has just joined GMYBC and will clearly give our club fleet some competition, gained a number of first places, but not enough to unseat Christian! In third place was Mike Dann who had a mixed weekend where, sadly, capsizes and collisions paid a major part in his not catching Christian.

Mike was closely chased by the German IOM champion, Michael Scharmer, who sailed his catamaran to fourth place.

Alex Corey was sixth, Andy Cleal, racing his very new deep purple catamaran was seventh and Mervyn Cook, the ancient mariner of the fleet, was eighth. Considering the quality of the opposition this was high achievement. Well done!

Visitors Glen Read, a New Zealander living in the UK came ninth – we would welcome your joining us Glen – and Arjan van der Cingel from The Netherlands came tenth. They both sailed well with borrowed boats.

Club members did well considering the variable wind conditions especially on Sunday. Paul Edwards, despite some spectacular capsizes came eleventh overall. Simon Walley, at times leading his fleet, came twelfth and Peter Fothergill had occasions where he was well placed but then sailed into a hole in the wind was thirteenth. Bob Pearson and Chris Durant had gear failure dropping them down the final results Pete Lawley with his 'the French thing' sailed doggedly round the courses often keeping out of trouble and passing tangled boats. Andreas Konietzny, from Germany, was fifteenth overall. He is a skipper that competed at Flevo last year and was clearly keen to continue and compete at Gosport.

All in all it was an excellent weekend's sailing. My first PRO at the club and my heartfelt thanks go to the race team who did Gosport proud. The visitors want to come back again next year.....!

Jacque Cook PRO