



## National Championships

### Mayflower Sailing Club, Plymouth

14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August 2011

#### Results and report

Pos	Club	Sail	Fleet	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Pts	
1st	Sam Mettam & Geoff Phillips	RNSA/Hayling Island	4039	Gd	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	(DNC)	(DNC)	12	
2nd	Martyn, Rebecca, Daniel & Jack Lewis	Draycote	3834	Gd	4	1	1	(OCS)	(OCS)	1	8	1	1	18	
3rd	Phillip & Helen Bailey	Hunts	3825	Gd	2	3	3	4	5	2	4	(10)	7	8	30
4th	Richard & Katheryn Byne	Draycote	3678	Gd	(DNF)	4	6	5	3	9	(11)	2	3	3	35
5th	Ally & Harry Jones	Draycote	3847	Gd	(7)	7	5	(9)	6	5	5	4	2	2	36
6th	Ian & Julia Bradley	Ouse Amateur	4027	Gd	(8)	6	4	6	1	4	8	7	(11)	5	41
7th	Martin & Grace Huett	Draycote	3796	Gd	5	9	7	(11)	4	8	7	(12)	5	4	49
8th	Richard & Harrison Pye	Draycote	3330	Gd	12	5	(OCS)	3	7	(OCS)	3	5	6	11	52
9th	Neal Gibson & Keith Macey	Redoubt	4016	Gd	3	(18)	8	12	(14)	3	9	9	8	6	58
10th	Tracy Amos & Brian Mumford	Redoubt	3692	Gd	6	(10)	9	7	9	10	6	6	10	(BFD)	63
11th	John Tippet & Kathy Boulton	Draycote	4020	Gd	9	12	(16)	10	8	11	10	(20)	9	9	78
12th	Brian Jones & John Green	Maidenhead	4021	Gd	(16)	11	10	(18)	10	7	14	11	12	7	82
13th	Dave Butler & Andrew Yates	Welton	4035	Gd	10	15	(19)	13	12	12	(17)	3	13	10	88
14th	Hannah & Nick Smith	Thornbury	3805	Sv	18	8	13	8	(OCS)	6	16	(DNC)	4	21	94
15th	David and Jean Reed	Girton	3725	Sv	11	13	(25)	14	(15)	13	13	14	14	12	104
16th	Richard & Todd Brameld	Beaver	3131	Sv	15	(19)	11	17	11	15	(21)	15	17	13	114
17th	Richard & Mike Smith	Delph	3493	Sv	(DNC)	16	14	15	22	(25)	12	16	15	19	129
18th	Colin & Maureen Lown	Wilsonian	206	Sv	17	(23)	18	(19)	16	14	18	19	16	15	133
19th	Sam Donaldson & David Rowlands	Delph	2166	B	19	22	15	(25)	13	18	(DNC)	13	21	14	135

Pos	Club	Sail	Fleet	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Pts
20th	Matthew & Tom Donaldson	Delph	B	(24)	(28)	12	24	17	17	15	18	20	16	139
21st	Paul and Andrew Robinson	Whitefriars	B	14	(24)	20	21	23	16	(31)	17	19	17	147
22nd	Steve & Matt Bloomfield	R.Y.A.	Sv	20	17	17	(27)	18	22	26	(DNF)	18	18	156
23rd	Michael & Diana Thompson	Crawley Mariners	Sv	21	14	(28)	16	26	21	24	(DNF)	26	20	168
24th	David & Helan Hiam	Draycote	Sv	22	20	(27)	23	20	20	19	(DNF)	25	25	174
25th	Brian & Sharon Worrall	Beaver	Sv	13	26	22	22	25	(28)	22	(DNF)	27	23	180
26th	Rene Savelli & Angela Sweeney	Delph	Sv	29	29	(33)	20	21	19	20	(DNF)	22	27	187
27th	David Herbstritt & Josie Aims	Shotwick Lake	B	27	21	23	29	19	(30)	25	(DNF)	23	24	191
28th	Martin & Mavis Bathe	Delph	B	23	27	21	(30)	24	24	28	(DNF)	24	22	193
29th	Geoff Weir & Louise Stevenson	Shotwick Lake	B	30	25	26	31	29	27	23	(DNF)	29	(DNC)	220
30th	Gillan & Kenneth Gibson	Thornton Steward	B	30	25	26	31	29	27	23	(DNF)	29	(DNC)	220
31st	Andrew Clarke & Theo De Bie	Wilsonian	B	26	32	24	33	31	(DNC)	33	(DNF)	28	28	235
32nd	Bret and Isabella Candy	Lympstone	B	28	34	32	28	28	26	27	(DNF)	(DNC)	(DNC)	238
33rd	Steven Pettifer & Sara Cotton	Wilsonian	B	31	31	29	(32)	30	29	29	(DNF)	31	29	239
34th	Malcolm & Sara Perkins	Thornton Steward	B	32	33	31	(34)	32	31	30	(DNF)	30	26	245

### Miracle Nationals at Mayflower Sailing Club, Plymouth - Day 1 – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August

#### Day 1 - Sunday - Practice race and Race 1

With a number of regular sailors busy with other commitments, 35 boats arrived at Mayflower Sailing Club in Plymouth for the Miracle National Championships. The schedule for the first day of racing was a practice race followed by the first of 10 points races. The race committee were challenged by winds varying in strength from flat calm to 15 knots.

After a short postponement, 8 knots of wind arrived to allow the practice race to take place. Ian and Julia Bradley (4027) from Ouse Amateur SC made the most of the right hand side of the course to lead at the windward mark followed by Hannah and Nick

Smith from Thornbury (3805). The Bradleys carried their lead through a dropping and increasingly shifty breeze to take the gun followed by Richard and Harrison Pye from Draycote (3330).

For Race 1, the wind had picked up to around 15 knots allowing the windy weather specialists to thrive. Defending champions Sam Mettam and Geoff Phillips, RNSA/Hayling Island (4039) led at the top mark, followed closely by Phil and Helen Bailey of Hunts SC (3825) and the Bradleys. A tight 3 sail first reach allowed heavyweights Neil Gibson and Keith Macey (4016) through into 3rd by

the gybe mark. The large right hand shift that made the beat a one-tacker, should have given Mettam/Phillips an easy sail to the finish. Unfortunately they lost control at the last gybe mark and gave the Baileys a sniff of victory. Mettam /Phillips just managed to get away on a gust to give them the first race of the Nationals followed by the Baileys and Gibson/Macey with Martyn and Daniel Lewis from Draycote (3834) sailing fast downwind to take 4th.

## **Day 2 - Monday - Races 2 & 3**

### **Two bullets for Martyn and Daniel Lewis**

Day 2 started with a sea like glass. After a short postponement the wind filled in to around 8 knots and the fleet launched. In race 2, Sam Mettam and Geoff Phillips led to the windward mark, closely followed by Martyn & Daniel Lewis and Phil & Helen Bailey, who both got through Mettam/Phillips at the top of the first reach. Team Lewis then extended their lead to take their first win of the week, with Mettam/Phillips getting back through the Baileys to

secure second. In the chasing pack, the Draycote boats of Richard & Harrison Pye and Richard & Katherine Byne (3678) showed their light airs pace to finish 4th and 5th.

The wind picked up to around 10 knots for race 3. This time Team Lewis won the pin end of the line and sailed fast up the first beat to lead at the windward mark ahead of Ian and Julia Bradley, the Bynes and the Baileys. Team Lewis pulled away on

the downwind legs and weren't troubled for the rest of the race. Behind them, a battle for 2nd ensued up the second beat between the Bradleys, the Baileys and Mettam/Phillips, with Mettam/Phillips just edging ahead and holding position to the finish followed by the Baileys, the Bradleys and the Bynes.

## **Day 3 - Tuesday - Races 4 & 5**

### **Fireworks and Fastnet**

Day 3 was forecast to bring 15 – 20 knots. Unfortunately this was the case until the first warning signal when the wind dropped to around 7 knots. Perhaps the wind had been taken by all of the Fastnet boats recording record times and keeping the fleet entertained as they sailed into the sound.

In race 4 Richard and Harrison Pye lead to the windward mark followed by Richard & Katherine Byne and Martyn & Daniel Lewis. Team Lewis overtook the leading boats on the first reach and extended their lead to take their third bullet in a row. Behind them a battle was developing between the Pyes, the Bynes and Sam Mettam & Geoff Phillips resulting in a final leg tacking duel between the Pyes

and Mettam/Phillips with the latter just squeezing through on the line to take another second.

In race 5, Ian and Julia Bradley lead to the windward mark followed by Brian Jones and John Green (4021). Behind them a melee was developing at the windward mark, where Hannah and Nick Smith moored onto the windward mark and caused a 6-boat raft trapping a number of the top contenders. Out of the carnage Mettam/Phillips popped into 3rd, passing Jones/Green on the second reach. Team Lewis pulled through from 10th to 3rd on the reaches and then put pressure on the leaders all the way to the finish only to find out on getting ashore they had been OCS along with the Smiths. The Bynes took

advantage to finish 3rd with Martin & Grace Huett 4th (3796).

Consistency proved to be the key with Ally & Harry Jones (3847) and the Huetts keeping in touch with solid results. In the Silver fleet, Richard and Todd Brameld from Beaver (3131) led after an 11th in Race 5, whilst in the Bronze fleet Sam Donaldson and David Rowlands from Delph (2166) were winning, sitting in 18th overall, but only 5 points ahead of their nearest rivals.

In the evening a BBQ was followed by the 2-part spectacle of the National Fireworks Championships, with more Fastnet finishers too.

#### **Day 4 - Wednesday - Races 6 & 7**

##### **Tactical sailing in light, tricky Easterlies**

Day 4 brought a light Easterly wind to Plymouth Sound allowing for some tactical sailing, making the most of the Miracle's ability to spin on a sixpence. Race 6 got away with Sam Mettam and Geoff Phillips leading to the windward mark followed by Martyn & Daniel Lewis, Ian & Julia Bradley and Neal Gibson & Keith Macey. On the second beat, the Bradleys got the better of the shifts on the right hand side of the course and sailed through Team Lewis, only to be overtaken again on the run. Team Lewis were on a roll, catching up with Mettam/Phillips on the beat and passing them on the final reach, unfortunately only to find out later that they had scored their second OCS of the week. Phil and Helen Bailey sailed

a solid race to post a second with Gibson/Macey boosting their overall score with a 3rd.

In Race 7, Richard and Harrison Pye sailed a high-class first beat to lead at the windward mark, followed by Team Lewis and Mettam/Phillips. Poor gybes by the Pyes and Mettam/Phillips allowed Team Lewis to overtake the Pyes and pull away to take their 4th bullet of the week. Behind them Mettam/Phillips got through the Pyes on the 3rd beat whilst Ally and Harry Jones continued their consistent week with their second 5th of the day to keep them in 4th overall.

In the Silver fleet Hannah and Nick Smith led in 13th overall but were likely to drop Tuesday when

they will have to use both discards for Hannah to pick up her A-Level results! In the Bronze fleet Matthew and Thomas Donaldson (4022) lead in 19th overall after a consistent performance in the day's tricky conditions with a 17th and a 15th.

The first discard now kicked in, but the second would not take effect until 9 races had been sailed. Team Lewis must have been praying to the wind gods to enable enough races to be sailed to lose their second OCS. With 3 races to go, it was all still to play for in all 3 fleets.

In the evening an excellent quiz was followed by the second night of the National Fireworks Championships.

#### **Day 5 - Thursday - Races 8 & 9**

##### **Mettam and Phillips retain title**

The formula for the series winner was simple with 3 races to go. Martyn and Daniel Lewis needed 5 points or less from 3 races, and Sam Mettam & Geoff Phillips needed to put 3 boats in between them in one race. The light North-Easterly wind should have allowed for 2 races.

In Race 8, Richard & Harrison Pye led to the windward mark followed by Team Lewis and Tracy Amos & Brian Mumford (3692), with a strong tide setting down the course, it paid to stay high on the

first reach. Unfortunately the leaders were caught out by the wind dropping as they hit the main channel and were left having to tack for the mark. Amos/Mumford played the mark perfectly to take the lead. Mettam/Phillips sailed through down the second reach followed by Dave Butler & Andy Yates (4035) and Team Lewis who took advantage of the new pressure. Up the second beat Team Lewis hit the left hand corner whilst a right-hand shift allowed Richard and Katheryn Byne to sail into second place.

Mettam/Phillips held their lead to the finish followed by the Bynes and Butler/Yates. With Team Lewis finishing 8th, Mettam/Phillips retained their title. The wind switched off after the top 20 had finished meaning a lot of the sailors in the Silver and Bronze fleets were timed out.

The wind filled in again but didn't last for long enough to allow Race 9, so the 2nd discard didn't take effect. Races 9 and 10 were scheduled for the final day, Friday.

## Day 6 - Friday - Races 9 & 10

### Sunshine at last

A light sea breeze of 6 to 8 knots greeted the fleet for the final day of the Miracle National Championships. After 2 postponed starts racing got away under the first black flag of the week with tide pushing the fleet over the line. In Race 9, Brian Jones and John Green took advantage of the committee boat end and favoured right hand side of the course to lead at the windward mark followed by Martyn & Daniel Lewis, Ally & Harry Jones and Richard & Katie Byne. The Jones went high on the first reach to take second place but then went low on the second reach with Jones/Green going high. Team Lewis sailed down the middle and into the lead, which they held to the end followed by the Jones and the Bynes.

In Race 10, Tracy Amos and Brian Mumford were caught out by the black flag, whilst a lot of the fleet were almost caught out by the rapid turnaround between races! Jones/Green started well again and went right to follow Team Lewis to the windward mark. Team Lewis then sailed clear to secure their second place overall in the championship despite almost being caught out on the final run by 2 towing powerboats! The Jones came second and the Bynes 3rd.

In the Silver fleet, Hannah Smith, fresh (or not after 2 hours sleep!) from her A-Level results of 2 A\*s and an A, finished 4th in Race 9 and capsized in Race 10, but still managed to win the Silver Fleet despite missing an entire day.

In the Bronze Fleet Sam Donaldson, sailing with David Rowlands, beat his brother Matt by just 4 points to win the Bronze fleet trophy.



*More photos below*



*Photos: Gillan Gibson*