

Stromness Sailing

We just managed to scrape together enough sailors for three boats and hold two more races of the Autumn Snipe Series on Sunday, 30 September. The wind was from the south west, fairly strong and gusty, producing some of the best, or at least the most challenging, sailing of the season.

Both races were sailed over course No. 6 with two laps each race. Racing was close at the start of each race but by the second mark of the course *Go Quickly Red* had fallen a little behind, having made a repeated unsuccessful tactical decision about how best to lay the mark, leaving *Hassfang* and *Bonxie* to battle it out for first and second places. *Go Quickly Red* did make up some ground on the beats in the second race but hopes of passing *Bonxie* were lost when the skipper ended up sitting in the bottom of the boat after a tack. This left *Bonxie* clear to chase but it was *Hassfang* that came through to win both races. *Hassfang* even managed to get up on the plane on the downwind leg from No.1 to No. 6. The full results were:

Races 1 and 2: 1 *Hassfang* (Chris Moore and Thorfinn Johnston), 2 *Bonxie* (James Burgon and Donnie Hall), 3 *Go Quickly Red* (Malcolm Tipler and Paula Hemsley).

Andrew Clouston skippered the safety boat, *Happy Hunter*, and Iso Tipler was the race starter.

Weather and sailors permitting, the final races of the series will take place on Sunday, 7 October with racing starting at 2.30 pm.

Iso Tipler