

## Stromness Sailing

Stromness SC has made changes to its main racing programme for 2013. The main Points Series runs from May to August, inclusive. There are three shorter competitions that run alongside the Points Series: the May Tankard Series; a new Summer Series in June/July; and the Commodore's Cup in August. Finally, there is the Autumn Silver Snipe Series that runs from the beginning of September until the second week in October. The Crew Series runs from May to July, inclusive.

The Summer Series is underway and the results of the first two races, held on 6 June, have been published. Despite the June/July races being part of the new Summer Series, racing on 13 June was cancelled due to strong wind and rain. Racing did take place on 20 June but it was a cold and drizzly evening with a dramatic change in the wind strength and direction part way through the first race.

*Go Faster Blue* had a very good start on the upwind leg to mark No.7 and held the lead for more than half the race. At that stage there was plenty of wind but as the boats approached the fifth mark of the course, No. 2 buoy, the wind swung round to the west and dropped. Boats were slow rounding the mark to head towards mark No. 6, on what should have been an upwind leg but was now a downwind leg. What little wind the leading boats had after rounding the mark was soon blocked by the following boats, which caught up until all the boats, except *Hassfang*, became bunched up and becalmed. Viewed against the backdrop of the workings at Coplands Dock, *No Fear* could be seen to be drifting backwards.

It was *Double Dutch* that finally picked up the slightest of zephyrs and pulled ever so slowly away to lead round mark No. 6 and go on to win the race. *Go Faster Blue* was second and *Bonxie* third. *Hassfang* was well behind the other boats and made it most of the way round the course but with last place points being equal to the DNF points then opted to take a tow from the safety boat. The skippers voted with their trollies and adjourned to the bar.

**Race 1:** 1 *Double Dutch* (Kenny Holland/Griogair Morrison), 2 *Go Faster Blue* (Pete Tipler/Thorfinn Johnston), 3 *Bonxie* (James Burgon/Lewis Burgon), 4 *Wild Goose* (Mark Taylor/Edward Johnstone), 5 *No Fear* (Neil Foubister/Glen Foubister), Rtd. *Hassfang* (Chris Moore/Harvey Dunnet)

The safety boat was manned by Johnny Robertson and Malcolm Tipler. Iso Tipler was the starter.

**by Iso Tipler**