

2022 IOM National Championship

Lake Pegasus

14th – 16th October 2022

Race Officer's Report

There were 36 entries, and the contest was sailed using 3 heats under the current rules of SHRS. In total, 63 heats were completed over the 3 days.

Section 8.2 in the Sailing Instructions that "Rule 30.1 **will** be used after a general recall" was highlighted in the General Briefing for competitors.

14th October

With no wind and a sea breeze forecast from the East, racing was delayed until a breeze sufficient to set a fair course set in. Racing was moved to Area B at the North end of the lake and despite an initial swing toward Northeast we were able to hold the full day in this area.

The fleet was seeded for Race 1, and all races on this day were undertaken as qualifier heats. 8 races of 3 heats each were successfully completed. Starts were well executed in all heats and the only general recall occurred in the last heat of the day.

15th October

With a true NE wind already coming through, the course was set in Area A on the West side of the lake and with some adjustments, allowed fair racing for the whole day. During Race 10 skippers asked for, and received time to change rigs. B rigs were used by all skippers for the rest of the day. With winds gusting above 30Km/hr at times boat handling was well tested.

Because the forecast for the following day remained light & variable the decision was taken to race three more qualifiers and then switch to the Finals groupings. This decision was notified to all competitors before the day's racing commenced. In all we undertook the three qualifiers and five finals races during the day. With considerable gusts blasting through the skippers handled the conditions well and resolved most issues without reference to the Arbitrator or protest.

16th October

The breeze was light and variable as forecast. The decision was made to go to Area B and await the onset of a sea breeze to allow fair racing. Buoys were laid in anticipation of an Easterly breeze. Eventually a light sea breeze arrived from the East, with constant wind shifts for the remainder of racing. Five full races were achieved within the contest time limit with only one heat abandoned (and restarted) after a major wind shift right on the start. Races in all three Finals were tightly contested and the skills of the skippers reading the wind and working the shifts was a pleasure to watch.

Protests & Redress

There were two incidents which resulted in redress for the affected skipper. One was simple with clear damage after a collision disabled the yacht. The other incident went to full protest and after researching previous RC racing case history the Protest Committee also granted redress. No other protests during the weekend went beyond the Arbitration process.

Thanks & Congratulations

Firstly, congratulations to Ian Vickers on becoming the National Champion for 2022. Also, to Sean Wallis (AUS) for taking Ian right to the last race and Rick Cassels-Brown for a well-deserved third place. Congratulations to Ian Power and Robert Norris for winning the Silver & Bronze Fleets respectively.

Thank you to all the competitors who sailed with respect for the rules and each other and with skills that were a pleasure to watch.

Thank you to the Pegasus Radio Sailing Club for hosting and organising the regatta and to all the members who gave of their time fully and generously to make this event possible and to support me in running the race program.

- Paul, Lindsay and the PRSC Committee for the overall organisation of the event.
- Robbie, and Ian Lennie for boat storage overnight, and Robbie and Chris for check measuring.
- Andrew May, Aaron Duncan, and Jamie White for undertaking the arbitration role for a day each and Jono Kidson, Alan Wymer, Terry Valder all on shore, and John Rountree and Glenn Dawson by phone, for rules consultation.
- Paul & Alan for their work in the "pit" scoring, and smoothly managing the fleet board, marshalling of heats and results presentation.
- Dave, Ian, Olive, Lindsay, and Pete N. who assisted ably with the start line, finish line and many other tasks when required.
- Pete A, Kevin, Callum, Rod, and Sue B for leading the observers so deftly.
- Mike, Keith, Ron & Jono for working the rescue boat and laying the buoys, responding to the RO's demands so well, and Robbie and Mark for the second boat on standby.
- Bruce Edgar, Graham Cross & Terry Valder for providing a sounding board for the skippers and giving me valuable advice when required.



Gareth Lyne
Principal Race Officer