

Day 1

“Its never like this here”.... and the 15 competitors from across the country and volunteers for the third leg of the IOM Classic Series were not complaining as they were met at Winstones Lake at Otaki on Saturday morning.

A perfect A breeze from the WSW allowed for 10 – yes 10! – almost perfect races to be held before lunch was called. After a well deserved break, and a shift in the wind to the west – a further 8 races were held.

The racing was sensational to watch – with many of the fleet showing great speed, and a really high level of camaraderie and adherence to the rules. The starts were just as hotly contested, with more than one general recall, more than enough OCS calls. The threat of the dreaded Black Flag soon reminded people that “in order to finish – first you must start!”

After 18 races and a breeze that was as tired as the sailors – the fleet called it a day and headed off to watch the All Blacks finally win.

Day 2

“Its never like this here”... well – it was. With a breeze from the NE, the challenge of setting a course led to a very grumpy RO, but thankfully a very understanding fleet. While the breeze tried to settle down, the cool temperature and occasional (very heavy) down pour meant it was “hurry up and wait”.

The fleet sorted themselves out some informal racing around the pond, but accepted it was definitely not worthy of counting for the series.

So at just after 1pm – all gathered and decided enough was enough – and an early prizegiving was held and the visitors (11 out of the 15 sailors) hit the road.

Well done to all the sailors. The [results](#) show just how competitive the fleet is. It was great also to see the races within races.

Finally a huge thanks to the Volunteers who helped make this another ‘classic’ event.

Cheers for having me

Paul Davies aka PJD

The RO