

Laser Performance UK National and Open Laser Championships, Mount Batten Centre, Plymouth, 21–28 July 2018

Supported by Tideway Investment Partners LLP and Phoenix Marine

Day six reports by Arthur Brown, James Foster and Tom Pollard

After no sailing on day five (Thursday), all the sailors awoke to a bit of rain and not a lot of wind for the last day of the Nationals. Anyway, everyone was still excited to get out on the water.

4.7

The final day of a brilliant regatta! We started with a rainy and foggy morning, but soon the breeze filled in from the southeast. The tide played a massive part in the last race, allowing the sailors who were in more tide to take the lead. As the tide changed during the second beat, the right-hand side payed, allowing Lorcan Knowles, who had a bad first beat, to work his way back up the fleet. In the end, Race 9, was won by Josh Morgan, while Theo Gumbley was second and Keelin Greene was third. The Race Officer then attempted to start Race 10, but unfortunately, due to a lack of wind, this race had to be abandoned.

Overall, Lorcan Knowles is the new 4.7 National Champion. James Foster came second and Finley Dickinson was third.

Radial

After a half an hour wait for the D flag, the fleet launched into a building breeze. Race 9 had a fairly square line. About 50 per cent of the fleet went left and the others went right. However, there was more pressure on the left which is where the winners of the first beat came from. Arthur Brown and Steph Wingeatt rounded first and second respectively. On the second beat, the right seemed to pay which saw Mila Monaghan and Angus Kemp make gains, but still Arthur Brown and Steph Wingeatt were leading. On the downwind, and with the wind slowly dying, Steph Wingeatt made gains to take a well-deserved win.

The breeze sadly dropped before the last race which put an end to a fun and well-organized regatta.

After a highly consistent week, George Povall is the new Radial National Champion. Over the nine Radial races, her final score of eight points put her well ahead of second placed Jon Emmett on 23 points and third-placed Alexandre Kowalski on 49 points.

Standard

In the conditions, the Standard fleet were the only fleet to manage two races on Friday. Joe Mullan won the first race and Ben Flower the second.

Overall, Sam Whaley won the Standard fleet with a series score of 15 points. Joe Mullan was in second on 19 points, with Dan Whiteley just behind in third on 21 points.

Overall

All in all, it was a great week; both on and off the water. Thanks must go to the Race Committee, the Race Office and all at the Mount Batten Centre for their hard work in making the event such a success. As well as new National Champions, the event also saw a change at the top of the UKLA with Ken Falcon handing over the Chairman's baton to Rob Cage at the AGM. The UKLA were extremely fortunate in having Ken at the helm and thank him for all his efforts in this role over the years.