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## Peroni Summer Saturday Series 2018, Races 1 & 2

It was a bright afternoon on Saturday, the 2nd of June 2018, as the Hebe Haven Yacht Club's committee boat set up windward / leeward courses in Port Shelter for the inaugural races of the Peroni Summer Saturday Series 2018. The series comprises eight races over five weeks with six geometric and two island races, concluding on Saturday, the 28th of July 2018.

The five IRC boats and seven Sportsboats were given three laps of their windward / leeward with the windward mark set at 0.9nm for the first race reduced to 0.8nm for the second. The eight boats in HKPN and three J-80s and 12 Dragons completed two laps of their shorter course of 0.8nm, reduced 0.7nm to the windward mark for their second race.

As the race officer, Ben Chong, and his team set up the course, the wind was blowing 12 to 15 knots but, by the 1400 start, it had eased to a steady eight knots for the rest of the afternoon.

Everyone initially played it safe with no one OCS (for a change) although there was some sloppy crew work, particularly in dropping kites (in all divisions), partly excusable being the first race in series.

In the first race for the Dragons, Nattigheid stalled at the top mark, causing Elfje on the inside to hit the mark but it exonerated itself with a 360.

In the second race, after the first lap Arcturus led the IRC fleet ahead of Outrageous, whilst Hotwired continued its domination of the Sportsboats.

In the Dragon Class, Celines won the start and retained its lead throughout the race to finish with two bullets. 2nd and 3rd places were shared by Wudi and Zephyr in Race 1 and and vice versa in Race 2.

Arcturus and Moll took 1st and 2nd places in both races with Moll just beaten by 37 seconds in the second race. It should have been a win for Moll in the last race had it not been for a poor gybe on the downwind leg and having to sail further to round the windward mark on the last lap. This was after the Magic 25, Fly By Wire, snared the mark and dragged it out of position. Outrageous and RB shared the honours for 3rd in Race 1 and 2 respectively.





In Sportsboats, Hotwired, Gnarwhal and Ricochet finished 1, 2 and 3 in both races.

Kiasu took line honours in HKPN in Race 1 but it was only good enough for 2nd on handicap, missing out by 10 seconds. The honours went to LoTech with Zam-Zammah 3rd. Zam-Zammah repeated its 3rd place in Race 2 with Bits & Pieces taking line honours and 2nd on corrected behind Amaze by just 13 seconds.

Jelik 7 comfortably won both J-80 races with Jive taking 2nd in Race 1 ahead of Jelik 6. Their positions were reversed in the second race.

All went remarkably smoothly on the day with ideal conditions to kick off the series for the 35 entries. The Peroni beer was welcomed by the thirsty sailors at the awards function back at the Garden Bar. The series continues with an islands race on Saturday, the 16th of June 2018.



