

### **Despite early calm the annual three race day at Frostbites was a success**

On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November competitors arrived at Frostbites to be greeted with a flat calm. However, following a five minute delay racing commenced at 11.00am with a westerly breeze which gradually increased during the day to provide quite reasonable sailing conditions for the 6 boats entered.

In the first race, Race Officer Graham King set an upstream course providing a beat to the top port-hand mark followed by a broad reach/run back past the clubhouse to the lower, starboard-hand mark. Sam Woodcock sailing B20 "Kelpie" crewed by Sam Archer made his usual start putting him in a commanding position in the lead which he maintained throughout the three lap race. Initially close behind was Danny Tyrrell sailing B53 "Twinkle" and crewed by Bruce Thompson followed by Geoff Coulthard in B71 "Wild Duck" crewed by Geoff Evans. Woodcock gradually extended his lead and crossed the finish line in first place after 40 minutes. Tyrrell finished in second some 6 minutes later and Coulthard third 3 minutes after that. On handicap the positions remained the same.

With an increase in the breeze the top mark was put a little further upstream and the number of laps increased to four. This race followed the same pattern but with a bit of a lull occurring King reduced the race to two and a half laps finishing on the downstream leg. Woodcock finished in a creditable 27 minutes plus a bit and Tyrrell came in second a full 5 minutes behind and Geoff Evans, this time taking over the helm of "Wild Duck" and crewed by Geoff Coulthard, was third coming in 4 minutes behind Tyrrell. On handicap, Evans dropped to fourth, third place going to Mike Readhead sailing his Enterprise and crewed by Jess Readhead.

The third race started immediately, same course and this time all four laps were sailed. This three race event qualifies for the Clabburn trophy, first sailed for in 1967. Results are taken from the best two races out of three. Woodcock, having won the first two races, didn't need to do more and he handed the helm over to his crew Sam Archer who promptly set off in the lead, followed again by Tyrrell and this time Coulthard. After 32 minutes Archer finished first, followed by Tyrrell in second, 3 minutes later and Coulthard third, 4 minutes after that. Those were the overall positions at the end of the day and Woodcock won the Clabburn Trophy.