

High turnout at Frostbites despite forecast

On Sunday there was a decent south-westerly breeze with frequent gusts making for a good beat and run over the course.

In the first race from the slightly longer "A" start line 11 Norfolk Dinghies made for a congested upstream start, nevertheless everybody made a clean getaway and three boats made very good starts namely Sam Woodcock in B20 "Kelpie" crewed by Sam Archer, Stephen Ellingham in B30 "Willa" crewed by Shirley Hagger and Wendy Bush in B54 "Coot" crewed by Ray Johnson. After just five minutes Woodcock came back down past the clubhouse leading followed two minutes later by Ellingham and Bush. Woodcock finished the first round in 11 minutes with Ellingham 2 minutes behind but in third place came Danny Tyrrell in B53 "Twinkle" crewed by Bruce Thompson having passed Bush. With Woodcock still in the lead as he passed the clubhouse heading downstream for the second time there was a collision between Tyrrell and Sue Grief sailing B47 "Brambling" and crewed by Pat Woodcock resulting in Tyrrell retiring. At the end of the second round Woodcock had increased his lead whilst Bush and Ellingham tussled in the beat up from the lower mark. The 4 lap course was shortened to 3 and after 36 minutes Woodcock finished first but Bush reduced his lead to just over a minute finishing second with Ellingham a minute later in third. On handicap Ellingham was first, Bush remained as second and in third place was Paul Armitage sailing B60 "Jane" crewed by Karen Armitage.

The second race was contested by 9 Norfolk Dinghies for the Breydon Challenge Cup, first sailed for in 1937 for races from the then Reedham base to Breydon Water and return but awarded now to the winner of a race to the Norwich Power Station (now dismantled) and back. Ray Johnson now helming B54 "Coot" and crewed by Wendy Bush got away well with a useful lead over Sam Archer now helming B20 "Kelpie" crewed by Sam Woodcock at the start of the long beat up the "new cut". David Yapp sailing B15 "Wee Simby" and crewed by visitor Phil Delf recovered after a poor start and made his way through the fleet into third place. Archer managed to overhaul Johnson just before the top mark and led the lively run back to the clubhouse with Johnson only 26 seconds behind and Yapp a further 2 minutes adrift in third place.