



# Cygnets Model Boat Club Maidstone

## I.C. Sports Trophy, 2008 - Round's 6 to 8 - The final round of the season

Thanks to Matt Mock who kindly provided the editorial and the photographs.

Well having started our I.C. race series in March, in the blink of an eye we have just had our final round of the season on Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. The usual six were there, although I could not compete in this race as the engine on my boat was losing compression the last time out and decided to give up the ghost altogether during last Saturdays testing. Not a great loss as far as the trophy was concerned, but more of that later. My disappointment was that this final round contained some of the closest and most enjoyable racing this season.

The first series of races were for the .12cc boats. This, as usual, had to be run in two heats, as we have to have scorers and spotters for each race. As the .12 races are run over two complete races this meant four starts altogether.

The first race included Mick, Paul and Mike. As usual this season, Mick set a very fast pace and it was up to the others to hang on as best they could. The race itself was fairly uneventful with no mishaps and Mick came in first having completed 32 laps. Paul was next with 27 laps and Mike ended up with 24 laps. The next race included Eric and Laurie. They had a target of 32 laps set by Mick, but were also chasing the others to knock them off second and third position. With all to go for, Eric and Laurie launched their boats. Eric set off on his warm up lap, but Laurie had launched too enthusiastically, and swamped his own boat thus cutting the engine. By the time Laurie had retrieved his boat and re-launched, Eric was seven laps ahead. Laurie came up behind Eric on lap nine, but had a lot of work to do. With only 1m 30secs to go, Laurie had lapped Eric a few times and was only two laps behind. Laurie managed to close down another half lap, but the race was over. Eric had managed to hang on and won by one lap, with the scores being 25 laps for Eric and 23 laps for Laurie meaning that Eric overtook Mike for third position after this first race. As the final position is made up from the scores from two complete races, there was more work to be done in order to hold position.

It was decided that the next race (in two heats) would be run in the same order. Mick, Paul and Mike all started well but on lap 19 Mick ran into the side of Mike and capsized his own boat. The rules state that you can row out and retrieve your boat, restart it and rejoin the race. Mick decided there was still enough time to catch up and jumped into the rowing boat. Mick did rejoin the race and made up a lot of ground, but Paul ended the race with 34 laps which proved too strong for Mick who tied second place with Mike on 30 laps. As with the first race, it was now down to Eric and Laurie to help decide who the race winner would be.

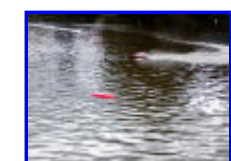
Eric and Laurie both launched successfully, but it soon became apparent that Laurie's boat was not well, as it became very slow, and then picked up spasmodically for a few laps before slowing again. On lap seven, Laurie collided with Eric's boat, but both kept going. On lap fourteen, Eric repaid the complement and again both boats managed to keep going. By lap 17, Laurie had a boat that looked as if it had lost the will to live when suddenly it picked up yet again and managed to gain ground on Eric. By now Laurie had lost too much ground, and Eric beat him again, this time by 2 laps. Despite this race, it did nothing to change the positions of the first heat, and Mick won the last .12 race of the season by 1 lap with Paul running second.

The final race was the .25s. All five took part with the most interesting part being that Mick managed to capsize his own boat twice, with no-one near him. The second time he retrieved it, starting was nearly impossible, and with little time remaining in the race, he called it a day hence the lowly score of only 7 laps. The winner of the final .25 race this season was Laurie who managed to complete 31 laps with the nearest

to him being Eric who completed 26 laps for second place.

Now down to the final scores this season and the names of those who will hold the trophy aloft at this year's AGM. In previous reports I have given scores at each round, and an accumulative score at the end. I have since learnt that the scoring is not done this way, and it is just a matter of who wins enough races. I have revamped the scores to show who has won at each month's race, with who came second just to show how close it may have been. The scores are below, but as you can see congratulations are to be given to Mick Pain who has won the .12 class, and Mike Potter who has won the .25 class.

	12's		21's		
<b>March</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mick	75	Mike	34
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Laurie	42	Laurie	33
<b>April</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	John	66	Mike	37
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paul	65	Mick	32
<b>May</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mick	71	Mike	29
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Steve W	43	Laurie/Mick	28
<b>June</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Matt	71	Mike	25
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mick	68	Laurie	20
<b>July</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mick	80	Mick	45
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mike	69	Paul	37
<b>August</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mick	88		
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mike	78		
<b>September</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mick	?	Mike	?
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mike	?	Mike	?
<b>October</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mick	62	Laurie	31
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paul	61	Eric	26



More mishaps at the last race of the season



Eric's boat launched



Nicely under way to grab first place in this heat



Mick in self destruct mode!