



Cygnets Model Boat Club Maidstone

I.C. Sports Trophy, 2009 - Round 3

Thanks to Matt Mock who kindly provided the editorial:

The May round of the IC trophies started under a slightly threatening sky, which then cleared to allow warm sunshine to come through. I have said it before, but the hollow in Mote Park provides a lovely setting when other areas may be suffering.

Along with the usual team was Sean, our latest member to join. Sean was there to test some of his IC boats and did not race on the day, but looks set to get stuck in later in the season. He was also press ganged into scoring and time keeping during various races. Welcome!

The usual running order was decided, with two .12s races first, over two heats, followed by the same for the .25s. It was nice to see Eric back at the racing side of things, as he has had a rest from competing whilst he has been setting up his boats.

The first and second heats saw little action to report. Everyone managed to get round for the race duration of ten minutes without mishap, whilst the wild life paid no attention at all, as usual, from afar. They were far too busy being fed at the far end of the lake. The second heat saw Eric deciding to sit out. He was not happy with his boat set up, and became a spectator before his next race with the faster .25s. Mike also had problems with the second heat and only managed nine laps. Paul kept him company in the low scores, with a second heat total of twelve laps. The overall winner was Mick with me coming second. The accumulated lap's trophy is now getting closer too, as Mick gains about seven laps per race if we all keep going.

The next round of races was for the .25s. Two others from the club had now turned up, plus Paul's son in law. Along with Sean, this meant that we had enough spotters to enable the race to be run with all five boats on the water. A first!

Once again, as with the .12s, the racing was uneventful until the second heat. Eric always has a pitman, and this time it was me, as I do not race in the .25 races. To say we had a nightmare would be an understatement. I was also going to keep an eye on the scores. Eric's boat failed to start on time, and then stopped as soon as it hit the water. We tried to restart, bearing in mind that I had to retrieve it first, but all was lost. By the time we had decided to call it a day, the others were fifteen laps into the race. Self scoring with their spotters was going on, but there was confusion. However, with various stoppages, the main race was to be between Paul and Mick. The first heat saw Paul score thirty two laps against Micks forty. Against Mick, this was a lot to catch up. As usual there was no wild life on the course, allowing easy spotting and racing. Paul intended to do his best. Having started the race, Micks boat faltered and lost a lot of power, finally stopping. Mick decided to row out and get it in order to restart and get those much needed laps under his belt. Paul saw his chance and opens the throttle. Disaster! Paul's boat developed a fault, and ended his race having only completed twelve laps. Added to his first heat total of thirty two, he had only accumulated forty four. Meanwhile Mick had got back onto the water. The diagnosis was that his manifold had parted company with his engine. After a swift repair he was flying. Double disaster, it happened again! Once more Mick rowed out to retrieve his boat. He managed to do so and Paul thought that Mick had too much to catch up. It was close. Having completed forty laps in the first heat, Mick only managed to struggle with five this time giving a total of forty five laps over both heats. He had beaten Paul by one lap! It goes to show that all is not lost if you stop.

Roll on June.

Accumulated laps trophy 12's

	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Laurie	21	54	61					
Acu Total	21	75	136					
Mike	61	Holiday	42					
Acu Total	61	61	103					
Matt	66	74	63					
Acu Total	66	140	203					
Mick	34	82	75					
Acu Total	34	116	191					
Paul	0	63	39					
Acu Total	0	63	102					

Race wins 12s

	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Matt		Mick	Mick					

Race wins 25s

	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Mike		Paul	Mick					