

DARING PRIZEGIVING 3.12.12

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For 2012 strong winds dominated and, apart from a gloriously sunny Cowes Classics Week, it was not a summer for wearing shorts and t-shirts. There were 82 races in the season and all except the Ladies Race formed part of the Season's Points. A total of 24 boats competed during the season and 13 had more than 30 starts. Unfortunately 2012 started badly with 6 boats damaged in the storm on 29th April and some of which did not then race for two months.

The first trophy to present tonight is the **50th Anniversary Decanters**. It is awarded at the discretion of the Committee and this year it goes to the winner of the last race of the season Lavinia Perry in Dreamer.

The **Clare Lallow Trophy** is awarded to the best overall result in the Season's Points but never managing to win a race. This was hotly contested this year and just 7 points behind was Peter Scott in Derring Do but the winner lying 4th overall for the season was Streak helmed by Hamish Janson, George Dibben and myself.

There were 7 races in April and October and the clear winner of the **Bitter Ends Cup** was Finesse owned by David Christie and helmed by John Mulcahy.

Finesse also won the **Elliot Trophy** by winning the Monday race of Cowes Week. That trophy was presented by the Royal London and is kept at the Club.

On the Sunday of Cowes Week it was great to see one of the oldest boats in the fleet show that she can still win races. Winning the **Tom Thornycroft Challenge Cup** was Audax owned by Mike Bilbo and Roger Marwood and helmed by Steve Sleight.

The last Saturday of Cowes Week saw five boats over the line at the start including two who finished in front of Dolphin helmed by David Gower who wins the **Lloyds Bank Trophy**.

The **Demon Bowl** is awarded to the most improved young sailor and the Committee was unanimous in its nomination of Lizzy Fox who crews for her father on Diamond. Lizzy is unfortunately not able to attend and the trophy was presented to Mike at the AGM earlier.

Unfortunately Giles and Jane Peckham are away in Thailand competing in the Kings Cup but Dauntless is represented by Milo Carver and Richard Romer-Lee who are here tonight to collect their magnificent hoard of trophies. We start with the July series. There are 20 races in July, more than any other month, and the winner of the **Dabchick Cup** was Dauntless.

6 of those races in July occurred over one weekend competing for the **Stug Perry Challenge Cup**. Just clinching the trophy ahead of Defender was Dauntless.

9 days later also in July was the Cowes Classics Week. There were 8 races including a rather exhausting four on Thursday and we had the enjoyment of sailing the same courses as two 12 metre yachts. The easy winner of the **Metre Regatta Trophy** was Dauntless.

She also wins the **Loup Garou Trophy** which was presented at the Cowes Classics Week prizegiving.

Turning to Cowes Week there were 23 entrants and Dauntless was in blistering form. For the first Saturday in very rough conditions in the West Solent she won the **AW Barlow Challenge Cup**. I am pleased that this year we are able to present this here in London, as it has not been seen for many years.

Then on the Tuesday Dauntless won the **Jack Raymond Challenge Trophy**

And on Thursday the **Royal Cowes Town Regatta Challenge Cup**

And on Friday the **Basil de Ferranti Challenge Cup**.

The overall winner of Cowes Week receives the **Nick Adlington Memorial Trophy**. Lying in 4th was Finesse with 32 points, in 3rd Dynamite with 30 points, in 2nd Defender with 24 points and the clear winner with 15 points Dauntless.

The end of August Bank Holiday Daring Regatta saw us competing for the **Patrick and Elsie Egan Trophy** which for the second year has been in Cowes rather than in East Wight. Sadly it was poorly attended but with six 1sts out of 7 races was Dauntless.

The Royal London's Solent Series being their nine races with shoreline starts was a tight battle between Defender and Dauntless with just one point between them. Dauntless came on top winning the **CT Cayley Cup**, which is always kept at the Royal London.

The **Cory Cup** run by the Royal Thames has some unusual rules and sadly only three boats correctly complied with those rules. The winner was Richard Acland sailing under the flag of Seaview Yacht Club.

The **Ladies Race** occurred on a lovely morning in August. There were four entrants with Lizzy Fox in Diamond 4th, Emily Snagge in Darling 3rd and Jane Lofts helming a Daring for the first time in her life in Streak 2nd, but the winner (despite some friendly sabotage) was Jane Peckham, winning it for the 6th time.

The last two years we have tried to encourage Youth Helms with their own series within the other series. Unfortunately this was poorly attended in 2012 but the winning boat in the Youth Helm series was Dauntless.

Equal first of the Youth Helms were Hugo French, Sophie French, Hugo Peckham and Tara Gillespie, but sadly none of them is here tonight.

The Ian Mackinnon Cup is awarded for the May series and is the first of the Trophies to be collected by Dynamite.

The Halmatic Bell is awarded for the September series and, once again leaving Defender in 2nd, the clear winner was Dynamite.

The Squadron Solent Series winner collects the **Hugh Burnham Memorial Trophy** and that again was Dynamite.

I have already mentioned that Dynamite was 3rd in Cowes Week and this means that she wins the **Division Belle Trophy** for three or more helming in that series. Those three helms being Anthony Balme, Andrew Collins, Doug Harckham, David Stride and Douglas Winton.

Dynamite won the **Chevrons Cup** for the Household Division Yacht Club's race in July.

Finally, Dynamite receives the **Ratsey & Laphorn Trophy** for the most improved yacht, having competed in a minimum of 30 races in both 2011 and 2012. Improving her points from 223 to 131. Well done Dynamite.

The **Cowes Keelboat Championship** consisted of 21 committee boat starts and there are porcelain dishes for the 1st three boats. Double Knot was third, Dynamite was second, but the emphatic winner was Defender.

Defender was mainly helmed by Jeremy Preston. Snapping at the heels in most races, she had a very impressive 54 flags out of 69 races. Once again she won the **June Decanters** having achieved 12 flags including 8 firsts in 13 races for the June Series.

The John Dibben Memorial Trophy was competed over the Queens Diamond Jubilee weekend in early June and winning four out of four races was Defender.

A new trophy awarded in 2011 was the **Darling Trophy** for the yacht entering the most races. In 3rd place was Streak with 60 starts (admittedly under the alias of Dashing and Dreamer which had been chartered while Streak was being repaired at the beginning of the season), 2nd was Dynamite with 65 starts and the easy winner with 69 starts, that is missing only 12 races all season, was Defender.

Another new Trophy for 2011 was the **Vision Trophy** awarded for the best Season's Points for a pre-2009 boat. This was won by Defender.

Finally, the award for the Season's Points is the **Daring Class Challenge Bowl**. In 3rd with 131 points was Dynamite, 2nd with 102 points Dauntless and 1st with 82 points and winning it for the 5th time in 7 years is Defender.

I would just like to report that the **Williams Freeman Cup** was not awarded this year as the Wednesday race for Cowes Week was cancelled due to too much wind.

Also there was no winner of the **Novice Helmsman's Cup** in that there were no entrants on that day.

Although there are no prizes presented tonight for some of the following events, I would like to record the winner of the **Spring Challenge** in April which was Damsel and for each club running the **Solent Series** the winners were:

- Dynamite for the Cowes Corinthian;
- Decoy for the Royal Thames;
- Finesse for the Royal Corinthian; there are also 3 glasses for each of Defiant in 2nd and Dreamer in 3rd, and
- Finally for the Island Sailing Club, there are glasses to present to the first three boats: in 3rd was Derring Do, 2nd Decoy and 1st Dynamite.

The final trophy to award is the **Dropped 'Ollock**. This is awarded each year for the most amusing racing incident and is nominated by last year's winner and I will now hand over the microphone to our Admiral Robin Aisher.

While racing from Gurnard towards Ryde Pier one afternoon, a conversation was overheard on another Daring as it approached the Shrape. The helm asked: is there any water? To which one of the crew replied: yes and promptly passed a bottle of water to him and within 10 yards Finesse was firmly aground on the Shrape! The Dropped 'Ollock is therefore awarded to David Christie and I can finally get rid of this trophy!

David Christie responded by saying that it is a huge honour to receive this trophy from the only person to sink a Daring in front of the RYS, nonetheless the story is not entirely true.....

Note: Prizes were presented by the Class Captain's wife, Mrs. Elisabeth Dancey. Script prepared and read by Malcolm Lofts (Hon. Secretary) at Royal Thames Yacht Club Prizegiving on Monday 3rd December 2012.