

Hobie Cats let out to play

Conditions test sailors in the Royal Channel Islands Yacht Club's Connex Spring Regatta

Page 44

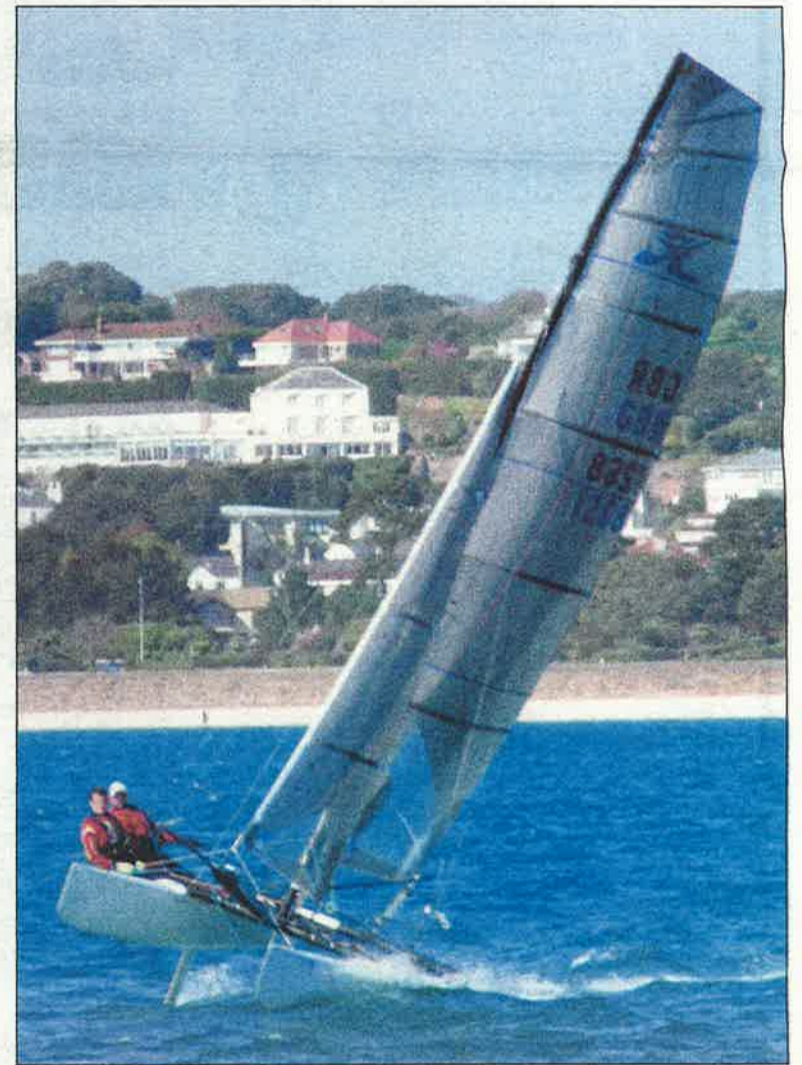


SPORT



Left: Jackana and crew on the way to an IRC Class One victory

Below: Darren Stower guided Cross-eyed Moose to victory in Sunday's Formula 18 catamaran race



Smooth run for Wildcat

IT was very much a tale of extremely different days at the Royal Channel Islands Yacht Club's recent Connex Spring Regatta.

On day one, in sunny conditions with barely a ripple or hint of breeze, the cruiser classes were called off. However, later in the day with barely five knots of southeasterly breeze, a much diminished fast dinghy fleet was sent out to the start.

Laser sailor Martin Speller's Liquid Logic took the win relegating wife Heather sailing her Streaker, Flasher, to second by 11 seconds. Wins also went to Harry Moisan, sailing his Optimist in the junior dinghy fleet, Gordon Burgis' Hobie 16 Pure Energy, in the open sport catamaran class, and Mike Jackson's Charity in the dayboat class.

The major highlight of the day

New Hobie cat the star of the Connex Spring Regatta, despite poor conditions on Day One

was the first appearance of a Hobie Wildcat, racing to victory in the eight-strong Formula 18 class with Toby Orpin at the helm.

On Sunday fresh gusts greeted competitors and David Jones' First 34.7, Jackana, beat Nigel Coxshall's ILC30 Toybox for the IRC class one wins. Jeff Speller's Farr 727, 2Farr, narrowly beat Team Genie's Farr 727 Genie on countback overall with Helen Barker's Arbitrator third.

In the committee boat B fleet, Ben Jones won the dayboat class sailing his Cornish Coble, Baloo, beating

Mike Harrison's La Rocque OD, Jigsaw, in two of the three races.

The seven-strong open sport-catamaran class provided some very consistent results with Gordon Burgis' Hobie 16, Pure Energy, winning all three races, Grant Neale's iCAT taking three seconds, and Luc Richard's Ches la Vie three thirds.

Darren Stower's Hobie Tiger, Cross-eyed Moose, dominated the F18 class with two wins to the Wildcat's one, the two boats finishing just one point apart for the day but Wildcat clinching the overall result.

David Carter's Knot-a-Clew took third in all three races. The F18s certainly brought considerable spectacle and excitement to the event, promising much for the emerging class.

In the open dinghy class, Heather Speller's Flasher turned the tables on husband Martin's Laser winning all three races. Laura-Jane Carter's Laser Radial, Deely Bopper, was third overall with two third places.

Harry Moisan's Optimist Ooh La La ended the day first overall, having won two races to Lily Carter's Optimist's Funki Fly's one, both otherwise coming second to finish the day just one point apart. George Moisan's Topper, Topsy Turvy, was third overall.

Principal results: **Saturday - Dayboat:** 1, Charity, Mike Jackson. **Open Sport catamaran:** 1, Pure Energy, Gordon Burgis; 2, iCAT, Grant Neale; 3, Double Trouble, Jeremy Smith. **Formula 18 sport catamaran:**

1, Wildcat, Toby Orpin; 2, Twodegreensnorth, James Read; 3, 1667, Bern Garnham. **Class 7 Open Dinghy:** 1, Liquid Logic, Martin Speller; 2, Flasher, Heather Speller. **Class 8 Open Dinghy:** 1, Ooh La La! Harry Moisan; 2, Red Rocket, Dylan Griffiths; 3, Topsy Turvy, George Moisan.

Sunday, IRC Sportsboat: 1, The Dog's!, Allen Brown & Ptnrs. **Class 1 IRC cruiser/racer:** 1, Jackana, David Jones; 2, Toybox, Nigel Coxshall; 3, Jubilee-G, Werner Toporis. **Class 2 IRC cruiser/racer:** 1, 2Farr, Jeff Speller; 2, Genie, Charles Perkins; 3, Arbitrator, Helen Barker. **Dayboat:** 1, Baloo, Ben Jones; 2, Jigsaw, Mike Harrison. **Open sport/catamaran:** 1, Pure Energy, Burgis; 2, iCAT, Neale; 3, Ches la Vie, Luc Richard. **Formula 18:** 1, Cross-eyed Moose, Darren Stower; 2, Wildcat, Orpin; 3, Knot-a-Clew, David Carter. **Class 7:** 1, Flasher, Heather Speller; 2, Liquid Logic, Martin Speller; 3, Deely Bopper, Laura-Jane Carter. **Class 8:** 1, Ooh La La! Harry Moisan; 2, Funki Fly, Lily Carter; 3, Topsy Turvy, George Moisan.

Full results on www.rciyc.je.