

RSYC Poole Bar Double 2019 – Race Report

The first race of the Double Handed Passage Series was from Royal Thames near Calshot to Lymington via the green Poole Bar No 1 buoy. The forecast was for a SSW F4-5 with some sunny spells, meaning a fun, fast but not too physical day.

As class 4 got under way it was apparent that the wind would be at least F5 and sixes would be waiting for them at the headlands. Class 2 followed six minutes later, followed by class 3 and then finally class 1, six minutes after class 3 and around 30 minutes before the tide was due to run west with the fleet.

By Yarmouth the ebb was in full flow, classes 1 and 3 had sailed through classes 2 & 4 and from here most took the decision to head to the north of the shingles after passing Hurst.

The passage across Poole Bay was fast, but lumpy with the occasional gust of 25 knots. First to round the Poole Buoy was the JPK 1080 Kamanche Eve II, followed closely by Jago and Azygos of class 1. The leaders of the other classes were much clearer with Meow, Mint Julep and Mandarin leading class 2, 3 & 4 respectively at this stage.

The trip back to Lymington was mostly a straightforward broad to a beam reach in 22-30 knots of true wind. Meow, of course, flew their kite all the way home and won class 2 by a country mile on corrected time. Kamanchie Eve was unable to pull out a sufficient lead on the trip back and had to settle for fourth on handicap behind Jago, Azygos and Mostly Harmless in class 1. Class 3 gave the Dufour 382 Mint Julep her first Double Handed win and Mandarin's outstanding windward performance to Poole ensured that only disaster could prevent them taking the win in class 4.

The winners of the IRC classes will receive a Spinlock Deckvest at the Double Handed Prizing Giving. We hope to see you at Gins for this in October.

Thanks go to our race partner Spinlock for generously donating the prizes. Other high quality Spinlock goodies will be awarded to the winners of each class for the Weymouth Double (subject to min number of finishers) which is the weekend of July 13th-14th.