

2019 Scottish District IOM Wooden Hull Championship
Kinghorn Loch, 14th September 2019

Kinghorn Radio Sailing Club were again pleased to host the Scottish International One Metre (IOM) wooden Hull championship.

Thirteen yachts from seven Scottish clubs arrived at Kinghorn on the 14th September to find that the helmsmen had to contend with a blustery, force 4 to 5 strong westerly wind. Even with no. 2 rigs competitors found it hard to cope with these demanding conditions as skilful boat handling abilities were required on all points of sailing in order to avoid spectacular broaching manoeuvres. The race officer laid well positioned marks to ensure that the racing provided a fair test of boat handling skills, together with a start line that ensured a true test of starting skills.

After a morning series of 9 high speed races the leading five boats established a clear advantage over the other competitors. In the afternoon slightly reduced wind speed encouraged skippers to change to no 1 rigs. This change was however brief (2 races) as the high wind speed returned. In these conditions, not surprisingly, the number of yachts was reduced by gear failure, collisions and competitor tiredness taking their toll.

As sailing drew to a close the final positions were still in doubt, with the last races to prove crucial. Finally after seventeen exciting races, first place and the Quaich, go to Ian Dundas from Aberdeen, with his Corbie 5, narrowly ahead of Tayside's Brian Summers and his own designed Buzz III, then last years winner Steve Taylor a close third.

High speed racing in the strong winds caused the inevitable collisions, but good discipline, skippers' quick reactions and communication, ensured a good atmosphere throughout the fleet and an enjoyable day for both competitors and spectators.

My sincere thanks to the skippers, the competitors and race team for a successful event.

Sandy Mackay