

HARKEN® ONE DESIGN REGATTA – LARGS SC 12TH TO 13TH JUNE



photos by Hilary Connolly

What an event - Fantastic Weather! Great Courses! Well Run Races! Over 60 boats in 4 classes

Largs Sailing Club excelled themselves, over the 12th & 13th of June, with a fantastic event sponsored by HARKEN - their first major regatta of the year - the HARKEN ONE DESIGN REGATTA, a brand new event to Scotland for Musto Skiffs, D-Zeros, RS400's and 29ers.

21 Musto Skiffs, 21 D-Zeros, 13 RS400's and 5 29ers entered for the event showing just how keen people are to get back to competitive racing after a very extended COVID break.

Day One - Saturday 12th

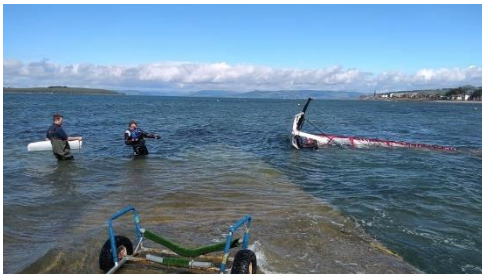
After a slightly bleak and damp start to the day the weather cleared to deliver a sunny day with a brisk 14-16kts winds from the west, which can be challenging with winds coming over the Isle of Cumbrae; but the brave race officer, Chris Nichols, and his team of mark layers made what turned to be a great decision to set long courses across the Largs Channel and risking getting fairly close to the island shore, with three fleets doing longer windward leeward courses and the pesky d-zeros being sent off to play slightly to the south on their own semi-quad courses. The wind held, giving shifty but great racing. The beats were probably 0.8nm but boy did they feel longer and three or more laps tested early season fitness! Four races were sailed but luckily our kind RO let us off with two shorter races in races 3 & 4. Racing was really tight in all the fleets magnifying the effect of missed shifts and dodgy mark roundings.

	Musto Skiffs	D-Zeros	RS 400	29er
R1	Hilton, Shelley, Wilson	Baillie, Ritchie, Briggs jnr,	Sims, Gay, McLellan	Coombs, Purves, Robertson
R2	Trotter, Schooling, Shelley	Baillie, Ritchie, Thomas	Sims, Gay, Robertson	Coombs, Robertson, Purves
R3	Trotter, Shelley, Keegan	Baillie, Ritchie, Briggs jnr	Sims, McLellan, Taylor	Coombs, Purves, Robertson
R4	Greensmith, Shelley, Hurter	Dado, Baillie, Latimer	McLellan, Lunn, Taylor	Purves, Robertson, Coombs

Day Two – Sunday 13th

A sunny warm day dawned to reveal a shift of wind into the south with signs that things might be getting more spirited. Whilst it was predominantly wind with tide all day the waves were also starting to build – it turned out to be a day for the heroes.

Rising early for a 10.30 start, some of the more enthusiastic partyers were beginning to realise this might be a taxing day and boy was it! The race team were kind in repeating the slightly shortened courses of the latter part of the previous days racing, but that was small compensation for what was to come. The wind built throughout the day from 16/18kts rising through the races to top out at 28kts and maybe more on the eastern side of the channel where the waves grew to a metre plus to give some seriously entertaining downwind legs for the D-Zeros and big blasts mid-channel for the asymmetric boats. The Musto Skiffs hitting speeds around 20kts! A day for the brave and BIG stories of the waves that didn't get away. In the warmer weather (18/20 °C) it seems swimming was popular too! Chris Nicol's benevolent side shone through when he decided to call it a day after three races and send the fleets home for a bit of TLC, Burgers and Beer. Thanks Chris, the RO's team, shore crew and the fantastic hardworking mark layers.



The final test of the day was for the errant “Slipway Catchers” , whilst a little decorum was instilled by the “guard rib/ flight controller” the Musto's were keen to continue their Kamikaze ways with hi-speed, maybe not so controlled landings more akin to a landing on the “flat tops of WW11” than a considered slipway approach

“Maverick that's a negative the coast is not clear! OK catch this rope and we'll pull you in and grab your “bits” as they float by! Very classy!

	Musto Skiffs	D-Zeros	RS 400	29er
R5	Hilton, Trotter, Shelley	Ritchie, Hutchinson, Bassett	Sims, Taylor, Robertson	Purves, Coombs, Robertson
R6	Hurter, Keegan, Hilton	Ritchie, Baillie, Hutchinson	Sims, Gay, Taylor	Purves, Robertson, Forrest
R7	Trotter, Shelley, Trotter	Ritchie, Baillie, Thomas	Sims, Gay, Marshall	Robertson, Forrest, Purves
Overall	Jono Shelley, Dan Trotter, Jamie Hilton	Niel Ritchie (count back), Ian Baillie, Gabrielle Dado	Sims/Lunn, Gay/Henderson, Taylor/Williamson	Purves/Bull, Coombs/ Carr, Robertson/ Farmer

http://www.largssc.co.uk/sites/default/files/Sailwave%20results%20for%20Largs%20SC%20-%20One%20Design%20Regatta%202021%20at%20Largs%20Sailing%20Club%202021_1.htm

A huge thanks go to event sponsor HARKEN and Largs SC, DZero.co.uk, Stuart Brewing, Hyde Sails and Bosuns Table for supporting and producing such a fantastic weekend of sailing and socialising - Bosuns ... the post race double stack burgers were life savers straight after racing!

Congratulations to the winners :

Jono Shelley – Musto Skiff – Largs SC

Niel Ritchie – D-Zero – Aberdeen and Stonehaven SC

Michael Sims & Mark Lunn – RS 400 – Carsington SC

Roo Purves & Oliver Bull, 29er , East Lothian Yacht Club

The next big events for Largs Sailing Club is the **29er Nationals** on 24th – 30th July, followed by the **RSK D-Zero Nationals** 20th-22nd August and the **Largs Regatta** on 28th August.