

**PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TO:** All Media  
**FROM:** Becci Eplett at J-UK  
**SUBJECT:** J/80s at the Warsash Spring Championships - Stephen Chiverton Reports  
**DATE:** 21.04.08

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The first weekend of the Raymarine Warsash Spring Championship saw two days that were as alike as chalk and cheese. Saturday was forecast to be wet and breezy and did not fail to live up to its billing. Twelve boats braved the weather and the first race was held in a breezy twenty knot North Easterly with rain adding to the chill.

A port biased line for the first race had most heading towards the shore in the West going tide. *Rose and Thistle* (Marcus Stone) was one of those making a good start with *Bjorn Slippy* (Julian Bates) showing well at the windward mark. *Boats.com* (Ian Atkins) carved out a good lead which was to be a feature of the races on the Saturday. Unfortunately *Bjorn Slippy's* great upwind speed was not matched by their down wind ability not keeping the boat under the rig costing them dearly. Not timing a spinnaker drop with the gusts cost *Just Chilling* (Stephen Chiverton) a second place with Liz Savage helming *Savage Sailing* took a good second with *Just Chilling* third, only just pipping *Jamari* (Simon Read) by dint of a starboard tack approach to the line.

The second race was held in slightly less wind and was notable for *Jamari's* speed downwind without a kite which combined with some blistering upwind speed saw them take a good third place behind *Boats.com* and *Savage Sailing*.

The third race was held again in still lighter breeze and although the first two places were the same *Jevan* (Rob and Jonathon Fox) this time coming through to take third but not without a tussle with *Just Do It* (Terry Palmer) and *Bjorn Slippy*.

The fourth race I think found everybody pleased that it was the final race of the day although it had at least stopped raining. *Boats.com* and *Savage Sailing* both got away but very close racing with *Joker Wild* (Mike Livingstone) and *Strumpet* (Andy Phelps) both showing until *Just Chilling* managed to get into third by the finish. Getting the mark rounding right allowed some boats to make gains, though failure meant big losses when everyone was so close.

The wind holding steady helped the race committee but to get four good length races in by 2.30 (ish) was a great achievement and there was remarkably little hanging around between races.

Sunday saw some fresh faces and some absentees from the day before but thirteen boats was a good turnout. The weather was much kinder with sun! The downside was that the conditions were much more difficult with big shifts and changes in wind strength. The first race was aborted just before the start with a huge shift not that the fleet noted everybody having set off and it was not until boats had gone round a new windward mark that the penny dropped!

At the second attempt a port biased line saw an individual recall but the fleet away, *Savage Sailing* with Chris Savage back on the stick got a good lead but with *Loudwater* (Charles Somerset) showing strongly to finish strongly with *Boats.com* not having the second day all their own way in third.

**ENDS**

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