



## **Team Saxton crowned Volvo RYA Youth Match Racing Champions 2007**

Over the glorious Bank Holiday weekend, youth sailors from across the country travelled to Weymouth to take part in the Volvo RYA Youth Match Racing Championships.

Nine teams battled in the light winds and managed to complete the first seven flights on Saturday afternoon, after teams had been delayed until 1300 waiting for the sea breeze to build.

Teams arrived early on Sunday morning to a constant five knots and were sent on the water for a 0930 start. After completing the first round robin, race organisers started the second round robin, however as the wind died shortly after 1500, and the sea breeze failed to increase, or become consistent, racing was cancelled for the day.

This meant that with only one day left to potentially finish the final 11 flights and the predicted light winds, the second round robin was abandoned. The results from the first round robin took the top six teams led by Shaw, Saxton, Terry, Brearey, Stephens and Hall.

Monday arrived with stronger winds than predicted at 0900, when crews were rigging the J80s.

Teams Shaw and Saxton both won their places in the finals by winning their semi's 2-0. Shaw lost the first match after being unable to release a riding turn on the jib sheet and was forced to retire from the race. The second match, was hard fought in the pre-start, with Saxton leading off the line and covering Shaw all the way up the beat. Shaw was unable to catch up in the dying wind, allowing Saxton to gain a 2-0 win.

Event Director, John Burgoine commented, "For many of the sailors this was their first experience of match racing, so we hope that they had a positive experience and learnt a lot. I hope to see them all either next year or in some of the upcoming qualifiers."

### **Results:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ben Saxton, Tim Saxton, Kate MacGregor, Pete Perera, Catherine Alton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Andrew Shaw, George Yeoman, Tom Hodgkinson, Rachel Williamson, Dan Schieber
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Scott Terry, Tom Davidson, Kate Allam, James Pipe, Thomas Gillard

- 4<sup>th</sup> Sam Brearey, Tom Taylor, Pete Irwin, Nick Curwin, Chris Profitt  
5<sup>th</sup> Guy Stephens, Nick Wilkinson, Rory Spriggs, Theo Hoole, Tom Altmann  
6<sup>th</sup> Greg Hall, Pete Sands, Phil Derry, Henry Fletcher, Ben Tredar  
7<sup>th</sup> Stephen Tiernan, Sophie Pearson, Harri Lawrence, Tom Pampiglione,  
Catherine Bruce  
8<sup>th</sup> Mark Lees, Shane Terry, Sam Garforth, Ed Kitt, Sam Cobb  
9<sup>th</sup> Anna Mackenzie, Jasmine Fairley, Alice Rook, Sophie Morton, Emma  
Houlihan

### **About the Volvo RYA Keelboat Programme**

The Volvo RYA Keelboat Programme is an exciting initiative set up to provide training, coaching and grants to a small but select number of young talented sailors who in turn will be pivotal to future British keelboat projects. It aims to encourage young sailors and windsurfers, at the grass roots level, to stay in the sport and learn to compete.

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*Sponsor John Merricks sailing in the Round Island Race, raising money for the*

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