

THURSDAY

Rapidly becoming a classic Fed Week with another wonderful day on the water, Series A had 10-14 knots from 250° and while swinging considerably it stayed around the mean.

A massive beat first from Thorney to Mark 1 near Calvert gave competitors a conundrum whether to choose East Head or the Thorney shore, the majority opting for East Head. The 49er of Jonny C and James Yearsley came home with a handsome lead but it was the Musto skiff of Andrew Gould which won on corrected time.

Events 2 to 6 were given a triangle, sausage, triangle course with exciting reaches. The fireballs had another great tussle and were led home by Martyn Lewis and Fraser Hemmings. In the fast handicap it was the International Canoes who flew round the first lap but stalled on the downwind leg when the wind dropped below 10 knots for a short period, but when it picked up again they flew round the final lap to take the first 4 places on corrected time, led in by Glen Truswell. The FF's saw Hamish and Andrew Streeter take their 4th bullet of the week. The only fleet to be shortened was the Devotti/Aero9 which was done when it looked like the wind was dropping. Matt Walker won his 3rd race of the week, and therefore winner overall, although there is still the Itchenor Plate to race for tomorrow. In the RS 200s Tom and Emma Morris secured the week with their third win.

Series B similarly saw excellent sailing. With the wind averaging 12 knots, the Race Officer opted for the longer A4 course. Again, the reaches were tremendous fun, with some very busy mark roundings. Four days into the regatta and some of the Feva crews looked a little tired, especially 5044, Jess Charlsworth and Jemima Holden who prior to the very final mark rounding, with only a short beat to the finish, managed to capsize, not just once but twice, before finally rounding the leeward mark. However, they remained determined to finish, with very broad smiles. In the Solo fleet Finlay Dickinson finally secured the week with his third bullet after a day sailing in the Asymmetric handicap on Wednesday.

C series enjoyed the similar breeze over the West Mud at 10-15 knots! This allowed the Slow Handicap fleet a competitive start with close racing up the first beat, but as on previous days the Topper and Tera Pro began to build a good lead which was improved with a leg to MRSC for the furthest mark which took its toll on the Scows time wise. Tamsin Holt in the Topper had another win and the Tera Pro with Ollie Bradshaw was second by minutes on corrected time. The Tera sports had very close racing with 3 different winners today, Ben Ripley had another win with Alex Sydenham and Toby Field also being winners today, a close series with some close racing, last race tomorrow to see who gets the top spot!

The Elites on Series D had their last two races with no 44 losing their kite on Race 5 whilst No 67 was caught OCS on Race 6, but still managed to sail through the fleet and take line honours. Tomorrow looks to be interesting with lighter winds forecast.

Robert Macdonald