

2025 MYA Scottish District DF65 Championship and Greenock MY&PBC DF65 Open Regatta

Report by John Taylor

Greenock MY&PBC hosted two events over the weekend of the 13th and 14th September. On Saturday was the 2025 MYA Scottish District DF65 Championship and on Sunday was the Greenock DF65 Open Regatta.

2025 MYA Scottish District DF65 Championship

Fourteen skippers from the Scottish District and one from south of the border entered the event. Despite the rain and a strong west south west wind racing began with the skippers choosing to use the A+ Rig. However, at times the wind gusts would cause the boats to nose dive out of control on the running leg of the course. During the morning session, both Simon Thomson and Robert Rooney had made good starts leading up to lunchtime. Meantime, John Taylor was handling the weather conditions well, sailing consistently and won 5 out of 8 races up to lunchtime.

After lunch the wind had swung round to the South West so the Race Officer moved the course to the top end of the Dam and racing began again. During the afternoon session Ian Marshall began to find form as he put together a series of impressive scores, which rapidly started to close the gap amongst the leading skippers.

After 16 races and with the rain pouring down, and after consulting the skippers, Richard Rowan (the RO) was happy to end the event. The 3 discards became an important factor to the overall results after some very close racing. Finishing in 3rd place, Ian Marshall who was improving as the day progressed. Runner up in 2nd place, Simon Thomson who performed consistently well to keep the pressure on during the whole regatta. Winning by a small margin of 3 points was John Taylor who was declared the 2025 MYA Scottish District DF65 Champion.

Sunday 14th - Greenock MY&PBC DF65 Open Regatta

Sunday saw 12 skippers return to the lakeside. This time the weather conditions which were completely the opposite from the previous day -little or no wind at times but at least the rain had paused for a period. After a short delay there was just about enough wind to start racing. In the morning session, Derek Priestley started very strongly winning 4 out of 8 races. Simon Thomson was the best of the rest in the fleet sailing as consistently as possible in the light and variable wind conditions.

The afternoon session was much of the same, Derek Priestley by this time was out on his own even recording 3 wins in a row showing his dominance to win the regatta. Simon Thomson finished a credible 2nd place again (and was the most consistent skipper over the weekend's racing). In 3rd place, was John Taylor. This was a day when skippers just accept sometimes things don't go your way at times and therefore just enjoy the racing with friends.

Thanks goes to Richard Rowan and the Race Team, for a wonderful weekend and the social evening was fantastic.