

# Streaker Nationals 2008

(More images and perhaps some detail soon)



The 2008 Streaker Nationals were held at Rutland water 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August. The training day on Friday made it a 3 day event for many. Racing was held on the Saturday and Sunday. All eyes were on the weather forecast for the preceding week and unusually and unfortunately what was forecast was what was delivered – very light, OK then nothing. Nothing new there then!

Of the total 58 racers, a massive 42 competitors had pre-entered and more than half of these attended the Friday training session given by National Champion Steve Cockerill. With so little wind the session was held in the classroom and dinghy park with most time being spent unravelling the secrets of the Streaker rig. Steve persuaded us that it is not just the simple piece of extrusion as many might believe and was able to demonstrate that there are some serious tuning possibilities available.

Outstanding for this class and emphatically underlining the claim that this single hander class is going places where others can only dream of - 53% of the field was made up of sailors whose names did not appear on 2007 entry list, the great majority being newcomers (and younger newcomers at that) to the class . Simply incredible!

A great Streaker welcome met all visitors to Rutland over the weekend with 2 superb flag banners proudly, thanks to Dan Rimmer, displaying the name despite the lack of wind. That is if the sight of so many blue stripes in the dinghy park weren't enough. The AGM merged into the rest of the evening and unlike other years became a friendly discussion amongst enthusiastic Streaker sailors keen to do the best for their class. Good food was washed down by the usual stuff before the sailors went back to their respective accommodation.

Next morning, with the class measurer Alan Gillard insisting that all boats would be weighed, the many sceptics watched with amazement as up to 26 boats were efficiently weighed in one hour. The only hiccup in this production line when Michael Shuster's older hull proved too heavy for its fittings - One of them failed catastrophically just before the scales were allowed to take the full weight!

During the Saturday Ian Teasdale, builder of Rooster's boats and Ian Kelly, of spar supplier evolution sailing, took time out to support the event and meet the association members. Impressive, especially when one considers that Ian Teasdale travelled from Beer in Devon. Maybe next time they will bring boats with them to compete!

### **Racing:**

On Saturday morning a Southerly force 2 rose steadily to a force 3 which would have been idyllic except that the beat was so shifty that much of the fleet hadn't a clue which way to go however:

#### Race 1 -

With a slight starboard bias on the line and more pressure on the right of the course, it was no surprise to find the starboard end of the line highly competitive as the Streaker Fleet held themselves near the line and under control. It was Steve Cockerill who pulled the trigger the best and lead the surge out to the left. Steve took an early shift back to the right to make best of the late right shift with pressure. Adam Cockerill had made an early tactical move to the right and benefited from this increased pressure and rounded second, slightly behind Steve Cockerill. It was a closely fought race for Adam who held off the chasing pack for most of the race, despite this being his first time in a Streaker. Tom Gillard made some great gains on the downwind legs to pull back to second. Ian Jones had an amazing last lap to make the break into the top three for the first time in the race, finishing slightly in front of Matt Jenkins.

#### Race 2 -

A ten degree port bias saw a strong contingent contesting the port end of the line. Adam Cockerill won the pin with Steve Cockerill in close proximity. Despite making an early tack to the right crossing the fleet, Adam and Steve were left in the wake of those who had taken an earlier tack to the right hand side. This resulted in the fleet meeting at the windward mark. First at the mark was Ian Jones from Tom Gillard and Alan Gillard. Pressure from behind on the first run saw the leaders being caught by Steve Cockerill and Jonny Shuster. Steve Cockerill rounded the gybe mark just in front of Adam Cockerill and then took Alan Gillard and Tom Gillard to Leeward to round slightly behind Ian Jones. Ian Jones had done the box on the rest of the fleet leaving him to the left of Steve when he rounded the mark. Tom Gillard tacked to clear his wind out to the left and was loosely covered by Ian Jones on the first shift to the right. Steve ignored the first shift to the right and headed further into the stronger pressure and was rewarded with a large shift to the right with pressure which took him from a close second to a clear lead which he held to the finish from Ian Jones and Tom Gillard, Alan Gillard, Jonny Shuster and Adam Cockerill. The rest of the fleet were left lapping slowly, still trying to figure out the wind pattern.

### Race 3

A massive shift to the left on the start line saw the fleet unable to cross the line on starboard. Dave Shuster and Mike Hanes and Rob Adams made a late bid for the port end had the benefit of sailing above the fleet with speed and space and led the early charge to the right. Tom Gillard made best of the start at the port end and was able to cross the fleet before the wind went dramatically right. This left Tom, Dave Shuster and Mike Hanes well ahead of the chasing pack who were suffering from being on the left side of the course with a large right shift. It took many laps for Steve Cockerill to make it back to third, taking Mike Hanes on the last lap. Dave Shuster was quick enough to hold off Steve's last lap chase with Ian Jones taking Mike Hanes on the last reach to the finish.

Steve Cockerill's last race comeback provided the crucial point required to secure the Championship for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Sundays 2 races had to be canceled due to complete absence of wind.

At the prize giving, the most successful club was once again Sheffield Viking. First Lady helm and most improved sailor since last year went to Ruth Baker of Deben YC.

Our thanks go to the support of Noble Marine Insurance for supporting the event and Trident for providing the Virtual Skipper 5 prize. Despite the shortage of wind the Championship was one to remember both for the quality of racing, enjoyable AGM, the friendliness of competitors and the astonishing influx of new and younger competitors. RSC provided an excellent venue and skilful and well judged race management.

# Results

Rank	SailNo	Helm	Club	R1	R2	R3	Total
1st	1667	Stephen Cockerill	Stokes Bay	1	1	3	5
2nd	1661	Tom Gillard	Sheffield Viking SC	2	3	1	6
3rd	1669	Ian Jones	Dovestone SC	3	2	4	9
4th	1622	Alan Gillard	Sheffield Viking SC	5	4	7	16
5th	1645	Adam Cockerill	Emsworth Slipper SC	6	6	6	18
6th	1650	Matt Jenkins	Sheffield Viking SC	4	7	11	22
7th	1608	Chris Woodard	Deben Yacht Club	8	9	9	26
8th	1664	Jonny Shuster	Deben Yacht Club	7	5	16	28
9th	1493	Mike Hanes	Deben Yacht Club	10	16	5	31
10th	1651	Alastair Fry	Sheffield Viking SC	20	8	10	38
11th	1660	Dave Shuster	Deben Yacht Club	15	25	2	42
12th	1619	Ian Bradley	Ouse Amateur	12	23	8	43
13th	1653	David Parkinson	Ullswater SC	16	14	14	44
14th	1581	Ges Brown	Hallamshire	23	11	12	46
15th	3	Alistair Dochenty	Dovestone SC	11	12	25	48
16th	1630	Mike Rimmer	Hykeham SC	13	22	13	48
17th	1592	Ruth Baker	Deben Yacht Club	21	13	15	49
18th	1621	Chris Fry	Sheffield Viking SC	14	18	17	49
19th	1541	Nick Lovell	Ouse Amateur	9	17	26	52
20th	1657	Peter Collier	Bartley Green SC	17	24	18	59
21st	1610	Dave Cockerill	Emsworth Slipper SC	18	10	34	62
22nd	1627	John Hollis	Pennine Sailing Club	24	21	27	72
23rd	1662	Glen Wells	Bartley SC	26	19	28	73
24th	1548	Ian Whitfield	Tamworth SC	30	28	21	79
25th	1586	Peter Tyerman	Pennine Sailing Club	22	27	31	80
26th	1526	Dave Metcayle	Hornsea	32	30	23	85
27th	1625	Dave Smith	Welton	25	32	30	87
28th	1574	Allan Gilies	Blackpool & Fleetwood YC	29	26	33	88
29th	1648	Mike Moody	Hornsea	27	29	35	91
30th	1605	Wendy Jones	Dovestone SC	19	15	59 DNF	93
31st	1591	Cathie Shuster	Deben Yacht Club	38	20	43	101
32nd	1310	Stuart Hood	Hornsea	31	41	29	101
33rd	1038	Robert Adams	Deben Yacht Club	45	39	20	104
34th	1449	Geoff Town	Broxbourne SC	47	33	24	104
35th	1354	Peter Cogill	Rotherham	33	45	32	110
36th	1499	Alex Reindorp	Bewl Valey SC	35	31	45	111
37th	1640	Ian Parish	Stewartby Water Sports	39	35	42	116
38th	1556	Peter Thornley	Stewartby Water Sports	46	49	22	117
39th	1478	Jack Turnbull	Redoubt SC	41	42	38	121
40th	1641	Richard Smale	Chichester YC	59 DNF	44	19	122
41st	451	Michael Shuster	Deben Yacht Club	36	46	40	122
42nd	1620	Pierre Naude	Deben Yacht Club	28	59 DNF	37	124
43rd	1374	Chris Wright	Ripon SC	40	38	46	124
44th	1360	Roger Wallis	South Yorkshire SC	37	52	36	125
45th	1446	Matthew Whitfield	Tamworth SC	44	34	48	126
46th	1507	Barney Proud	Stewartby Water Sports Club	42	43	41	126
47th	1553	Bill Strange	Stewartby Water Sports	48	40	39	127
48th	1603	Jeremy Daniel	Downs SC	43	36	49	128
49th	1567	Alan Simmons	Lancing	59 DNF	37	44	140
50th	1547	Malcolm Clack	RYA	34	48	59 DNF	141
51st	1632	Stuart Robertson	Blackpool & Fleetwood YC	50	47	52	149
52nd	1516	Malcolm Palmer	Ripon SC	55	50	47	152
53rd	1631	Hannah Hood	Hornsea	49	54	50	153
54th	1607	John Wolsoncroft	Broxbourne SC	53	51	51	155
55th	1596	Brian Rennie	Girton SC	51	55	53	159
56th	1388	Gary Hogan	Haversham	52	56	54	162
57th	1580	Lianne Therkelson	Welton SC	54	53	59 DNC	166
58th	1576	Hugh Brazier	York Railway Institute SC	56	59 DNC	59 DNC	174