

# Noble Marine Supernova Travellers at Bowmoor Sailing Club

## 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018

Report by Chris Hobbs – Supernova Fleet Captain at Bowmoor

32 Supernovas entered the Noble Marine-sponsored Supernova Travellers Open at Bowmoor SC – 17 had expert training on gybing and rules clarification the previous day at the Class training day. It was good to see such a strong turnout in pleasant sunny conditions with a light and shifty south easterly.

After bacon rolls and breakfast tea, Tom Whittingham, the race officer for the day, set a course with a variety of windward legs and some long reaches from a Committee boat start. Two back to back races in the morning gave tight battles throughout the fleet. In R1 after a clean start, boats constantly changed positions as the wind fluctuated in direction and strength. It was Cliff Milliner who eventually established a lead and went onto to win with fellow Cotswold sailor Gavin Young 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mike Gibson ('Mr Consistent' from Bartley) in 3<sup>rd</sup> followed by fellow Bartley sailor and Class Chairman Chris Hawley 4<sup>th</sup>, and Comet Trio National Champion Bob Horlock (Exe) in 5<sup>th</sup>.

Race 2 got underway with a very similar feel apart from this time top spot went to Alex Horlock (2017 National Champion) from Exe SC and Mike Gibson (Bartley) taking 2<sup>nd</sup> with Gavin Young from Cotswold SC 3<sup>rd</sup>. Race 1 leader Cliff Milliner made a 6<sup>th</sup> place. At the end of Race 2, six sailors could theoretically take top prize, so all to play for.

This was the last Open after 40 years that the Bowmoor 'Pat and Stan galley' was going to service (due to retirement) so we all enjoyed a 'last supper lunch'. Race Officer Tom reset the course as the wind shifted Southerly (still shifty though). At the front an epic tussle between Gavin Young and Cliff Milliner finally gave Gavin his 1<sup>st</sup>, Cliff 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Steve Hawley (Bartley) 3<sup>rd</sup>, followed by Mike Gibson 4<sup>th</sup> and Alex Horlock 5<sup>th</sup>.

Overall results

1<sup>st</sup> - Gavin Young (Cotswold SC)

2<sup>nd</sup> - Cliff Milliner (Cotswold SC)

3<sup>rd</sup> - Mike Gibson (Bartley SC)

1<sup>st</sup> Lady - Ellen Clancy (Cotswold SC) also finishing 11th overall

1<sup>st</sup> Veteran – Bob Horlock (Exe SC)

Many thanks to Tom Whittington and all his duty team at Bowmoor SC