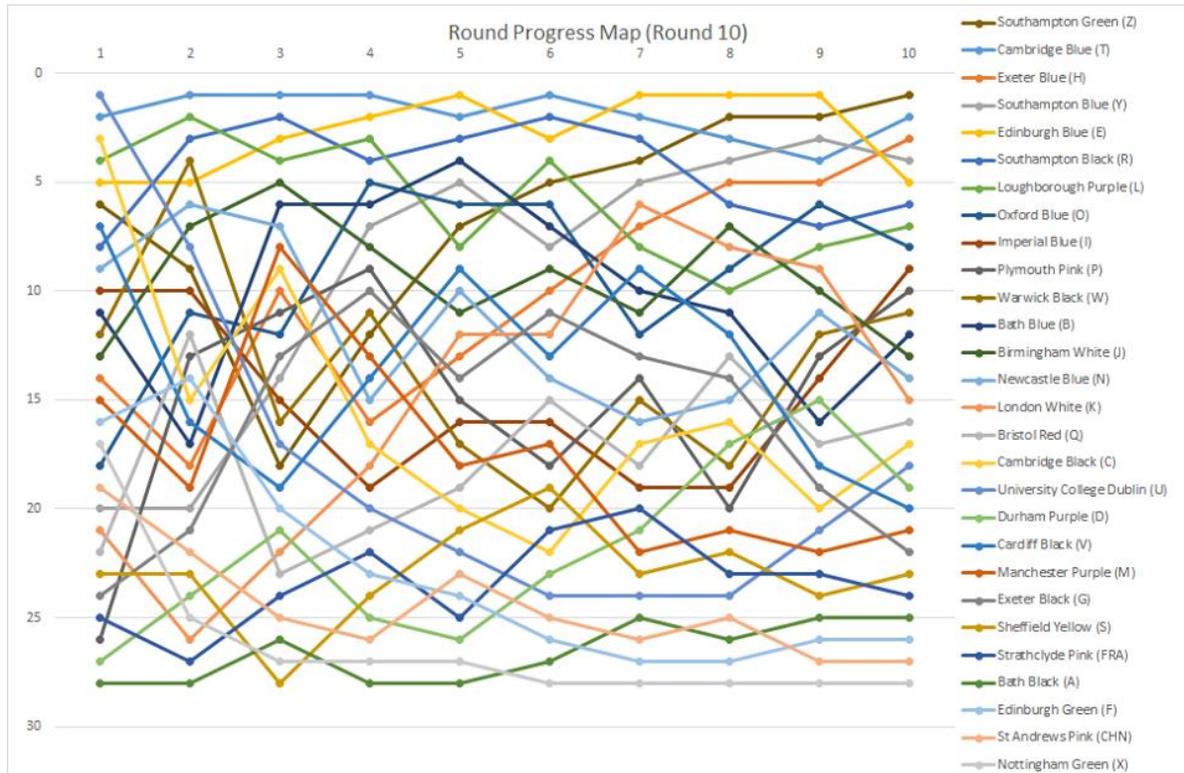


Report for Day 2 of BUSA Team Racing Finals – 10th of April 2019



A start caught by Francis Treherne-Pollock

Edinburgh were upbeat at the beginning of the day, and interviewed about comments made on Angus's bailer, told Mark Trap "it's not size that matters". They're the funniest team by popular opinion.



A Napier Riley Graph after Round 10 shows that team racing happens in zigzags and not straight lines – a sport for the unpredictable

First races saw everything change. Some beautiful sailing and some beastly starts turned the tables totally. Commentators limbered up by chatting through the first few races, which saw everything change... Edinburgh lost – they didn't know why - and had soon dropped to fourth rather than first place. Southampton Green ran the show by mid-morning. When asked what their secret was in an interview with the commentators, they replied “stick to the basics first” – the Team Wessex captain was put on the spot and asked to name the five essentials, which he managed neatly after an initial “oh god...”

At 11.a.m. no capsizes had happened yet but Cambridge black had “mentally turtled”. They're among the teams planning on putting into action a 'bounce back' strategy, described by Cardiff as “You do really horrendously...until no one expects anything, then you surprise them all and bounce back.”



Cambridge Black, psychological capsizers, who voted themselves the funniest team. Photo Credit to Francis Treherne-Pollock



Manchester in action, credits to Francis Treherne-Pollock

International Jury Niall McCleod told us that his favourite rule was Number 18 – much to the frustration of his interviewer, who had been steering him towards a certain number, that popular 69 which hasn't yet been broken.

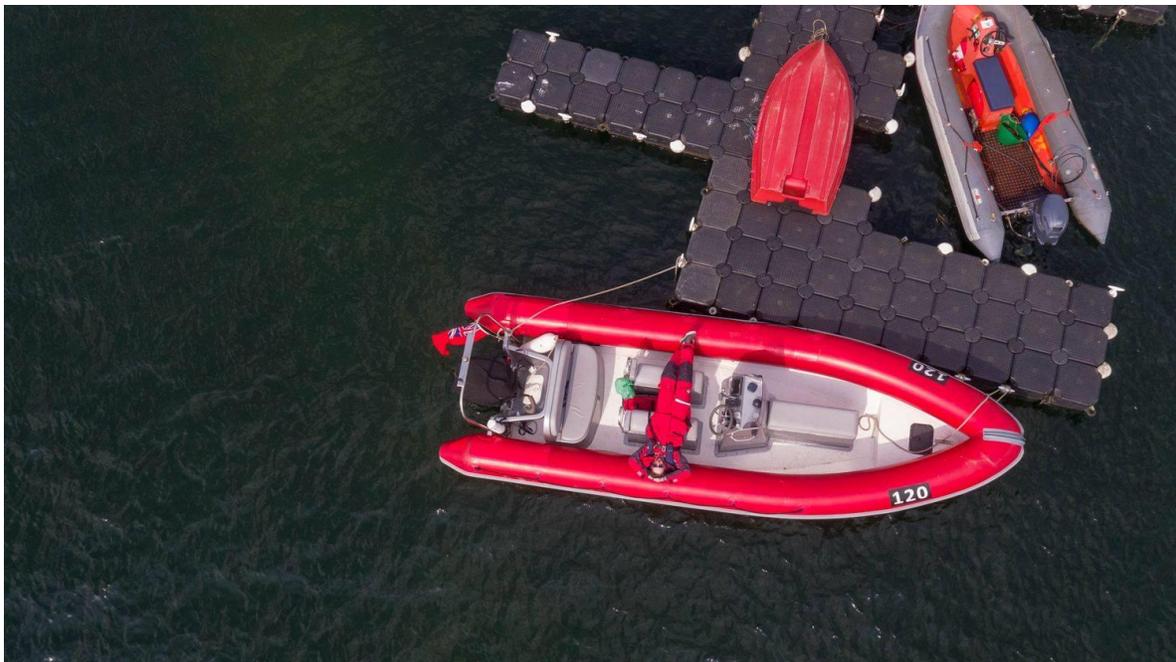
Emily Robb, current Event Director of BUCS/BUSA finals, told us at just gone 10 o'clock that “it's going well so far – don't want to speak too soon but we're just into 120 races and still going strong.” Asked about her view for the future of BUSA, she began telling the reporter about new restructures to the BUSA committee and their hard work but was called away to deal with a broken boat – the future will have to wait. On getting involved in BUSA, she said “there are opportunities everywhere – we're always welcoming, whether that's people who've done a lot of sailing before but haven't done a lot of organising, or people who just want to get involved.” Volunteers are busy today, but occasionally enjoy an “aimless mosey” to watch the races, as the Damage Officer put it.

The sun came out and winds picked up by midday – that's what Warwick were hoping for, and Cardiff too, though even without yesterday's grimness “it's still better than Wales.” Race 169 was between two of the favourites, and things got interesting as Exeter Blue won against Cambridge Blue in a smooth 2-3-5.



More from Andrew Donald's pet drone. When asked if flying it was as fun as it looked, he said no – "you're always scared of crashing it."

Races got more exciting throughout the afternoon, with protests, breakages and even a black flag (later written off) in a particularly chaotic 'mosh pit' (anonymous) of a race, which involved some entanglement with a buoy. The Race Officers, divine justice squadron of BUSA along with the Umpires, were busy as jury deciding the fates of all teams who filled out protest forms – tricky, being fair, as "You can never keep everyone happy."



Things may be gusty and hectic for competitors dealing with shifts around the island in the middle of the lake, building human pyramids and hiding from grandparents on the sidelines – but, for the RIB guys, life's a breeze. Photo credit to Andrew Donald again

Race 195 saw Manchester win against Strathclyde despite a gorgeous capsize – Manchester are another of the teams who were going for the bounce-back strategy, and they're among the bounciest. Asked to sum up how competitions like this are constantly surprising, Phillip quipped "It's not over til it's over."

The sidelines were full of sunbathing teams, with grandparents and dogs making up extra audience.

Standings by the end of the day had Exeter Blue in first with 14 wins, Southampton green in second and Cambridge Blue in a cool third place. Exeter's Murray Hampshire, who previously asked the media team to "come back when we've won some more races", and promised he'd say something good when we did, told us "Lovely weather." Keep it simple.

Races came to a close at 238, and were summed up by PRO Robyn Fitzgerald "...there are many adjectives to describe today...but we've managed to find a pretty happy medium considering the nonsensical winds."



Exeter Blue, credit to Tom Martin

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BUSA Media:

News, videos and photos are being posted on the FB Event page -

<https://www.facebook.com/BUCStrChamps2019> - @BUSAStrChamps2019

on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BUSASAILING> - @BUSASAILING

and on Instagram: @BUSAMedia.

Results are updated live on ksail: <http://events.ksail.co.uk/2019/BUSAFinals/RaceResults.html>

The official Championship page is at: <https://busa.co.uk/championships/bucs-team-racing-championship-2019> BUSA Media: <https://www.facebook.com/BUSAMedia/>