

# British Universities' Sailing Association (BUSA)

## 2012 Team Racing Qualifiers

4 – 5 February, 2012



University Team Racing at the BUSA Qualifiers at Royal Forth YC © James Harris (SUSA)

### 36 British Universities compete in freezing conditions to qualify for Team Racing Nationals

#### In brief:

470 student sailors took to the water last weekend, in 79 teams representing 36 British Universities, to compete in the Qualifiers for the BUCS/BUSA Team Racing Championships 2012. The teams competed in 5 'area' groupings, the Scottish Universities (SUSA) at Royal Forth YC, the Northern at West Kirby SC, the Midlands at Draycote SC, the Southern/Central group at Spinnaker SC and the Western at Chew Valley SC. For the Scottish Universities, this formed the third of a series of three league weekends.

Teams battled in arctic conditions with frozen lakes and boats! BUSA are extremely proud of all who took part in organised and these events and is grateful that the race teams and all the volunteers did such a great job, producing a high standard of racing and fair results, in such tricky conditions.



...and no gloves!  
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(that's Nigel Vick Photos btw)



...catering skills learnt in a ski chalet?  
© Alice Meaden (SUSA)



...believed to be posing as a high-powered Results Secretary, but we are forewarning any sasunnachs planning to do the playoffs north of the border!  
© Alice Meaden (SUSA)

The aim of the racing was to identify 22 teams who will automatically proceed to the Finals to be held from 7 – 9 April at West Kirby SC and to identify a further 17 Teams that will compete in Playoffs on 3 - 4 March at Bardowie Loch, north of Glasgow, with a view to a further eight teams being selected to compete in the Finals.

The final two places for the finals will be decided shortly with the winner of the BUSA Ladies Championships taking place on the 10/11 March at Spinnaker SC and the top Irish team from their national championships.

Bids to host the 2013 events are now being requested; for further details, please contact Jess Beecher – [Jessica.Beecher@rya.org.uk](mailto:Jessica.Beecher@rya.org.uk).



The Southern-Central group Team Racing Qualifiers at Spinnaker SC  
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## Full area reports:

### Midlands

**Tom Ripley** writes: All 13 teams turned up in good time for registration, with Warwick teams arriving early to prepare the thoroughly frozen boats for a 9.30 start. However, due to the extremely cold, and therefore icy, conditions, the first start was delayed by nearly an hour as we found problems readying the Rigiflexes. Our main issue though was in fact that, since all attending universities were entering multiple teams, there was a distinct lack of non-competing helpers. These were namely the two on-the-water start and finish boat officials I had ensured we would at least have from Warwick.

With incredible commitment from the race officials, umpires and club bosuns, we were able to get racing well underway by 10.30 and ran almost continuously until just after 15.45. An almost perfect team racing breeze meant that an excellent race rate was achieved, rolling the three fleets with minimal pauses. Plaudits must go to all teams here, none of whom were late to a single change-over, despite there being very little prompting all day. With the exception of one injury and some minor collisions, there was little to slow the schedule; umpires and race officials bravely remained on the water with few breaks with the aim of completing the event in a single day. The bosuns did their best to ply them with hot drinks! A seriously commendable effort from all.

The only recurring problem was the freezing of thicker main sheets, which stopped the helms being able to release downwind. Whilst keeping boats racing, or at least on the water, we were able to replace the most problematic of these and only one redress was requested. In fact, this was never sailed as the boat that had requested it was black flagged during the race! As a result, we had just 78 races to complete, all of which we managed on the Saturday. Teams then helped



with de-rigging and left as soon as possible, hoping to avoid the treacherous travel conditions promised by the forecast (snow was already beginning to fall by 3pm).

Congratulations to the four direct qualifying teams: Warwick Blue, Cambridge Pink, Loughborough Orange and Nottingham Pink, as well as to Birmingham Blue and Cambridge Yellow, who made the Playoffs.

Massive thanks must go to my brave helpers, Paddy and Astrid, Draycote Sailing Club and the two bosuns there, who did a fantastic job and were happy to open early to accommodate our schedule. Special thanks must also go to all four umpires, Ed, Jack, Carol and Jon, not only for their dedication, but for their skilful handling of the event, considering the importance of the calls made, there was minimal dispute. Finally, I'd like to thank the teams for their excellent cooperation and sporting attitude throughout the day.

Results of the Midlands qualifier:		
1	Warwick Blue	Nathan Ackroyd, Camilla Holloway; Hermione Stanley, Amber Brown; Ben Treloar, Lucy Preston
2	Cambridge Pink	Fiona Hampshire, Honor Fell; Josh Flack, Milly Stephens; Will Kalderon, Dawn Wilkinson
3	Loughborough Orange	James Wilson, Sam Edlin; Ali Lucas, Holly Pavey; Dan Stokes, Vicky Styles
4	Nottingham Pink	Andrew Gill, Joanna Powell; Patrick Liddicoat, Maia Caiger-Smith; Lara Cator, James Beer
5	Birmingham Blue	James Rosser, Pip Jefferis; Will Burgess, Alex Campbell; Amy Yeoman, Pippa Mitchell
6	Cambridge Yellow	Sarah Hugher, Thomas Bobby; Lilly Carlisle, Tim Palmer; Arthur Henderson, Francine Counsell
7	Warwick Red	James Leonard, Tamsyn Green; Ben Mackley, Hannah Kitcher; Jeremy Judge, Joel Russell
8	Warwick White	Tom Gross, Millie Craker-Horton; Ishan Abeysekera, Will Omerod; Will Smyth, Emily Heath
9	Cambridge Green	Alice Kent, Rosie Finlinson; Alice Ghareeb, Felix Danczak; Michel Schammer, Christine Viney
10	Birmingham Red	Siobhan Orr, Sophie Brooks; Callum Bright, Abigail Griffiths; Claire Narborough, Maxi Kussatz
11	Loughborough Black	George Talboys, Natalie Mesingham; Jonny Olin, Pete Goodyear; Stephen Lloyd, Alex Peck
12	Nottingham Blue	Jonathan Leeding, Sophie Quiney; Sarah Dallimore, Ralph Johnson; Rachel Lennox, Simon Mills
13	Nottingham Red	Alexander Gill, Archie Cochrane; Oliver Davey, Alexandra Hussey; Peter Hamment, Chloe Shillito

## Northern

**Tessa Hamer** reports: 17 uni teams descended on West Kirby Sailing Club this weekend for the BUSA Northern Qualifiers. Saturday was challenging for all, with very strong winds and freezing temperatures. This led to plenty of exciting sailing, whether it was keeping the umpires on their toes with fast-paced team racing, or dodging capsized fireflies. The WKSC galley team did an excellent job keeping everyone in hot soup and tea, while crews were heard discussing tactics to stop hands freezing solid. Thanks to prompt repairs of any boat damage, we were able to keep racing all day and complete over half the round-robin, leaving Durham Blue and Liverpool Pink tied on 100% wins overnight, with plenty of teams still in the mix for qualifying positions. The tough day took its toll, and it was a brave few who stayed on at the club for the disco; accommodation in members' houses in West Kirby was welcomed as a warm bed wasn't far away.

Sunday brought kinder winds (and less ice) as everyone was on the water for 9am. More tactical racing was seen as sailors used wind shifts to their advantage leading to close racing all round, with umpires commenting on the high standard of sailing in general. The breeze steadily increased until the round robin was finally completed by 3pm. Massive thanks must go to all the West Kirby helpers on start/finish boats, changeover RIBs, course management, the galley team and all those who hosted students. Thanks also go to the team of umpires and race officers who made the weekend such a success.

Results of the Northern qualifier:		
1	Liverpool Pink	Sarah Moulder, Mike Entwistle; Milly Pudney, Tessa Hamer; Will Shepherd, Jenny Kasper

2	Durham Blue	Ed Harrison, Amber Prout; Ed Fox, Lindsey Cook; Tom Quigley, Kate Stanley
3	Durham Purple	Robyn Smith, Ed Thomas; Henry Maxfield, Thea Crawshaw; Tom Barker, Becky Wallbank
4	Leeds Red	Joe Williams, Rachael Moodie; Owain Matthews, Alexa Soar; Joshua Cripps, Phoebe Eaton
5	Newcastle Red	Richard Welch, Doug Beattie; Dan Gaines-Burill, Becky Chard; Alistair Mitchell, Harriet Myles
6	Durham Red	Riley Clarke, James Buckley; Ben Dawkes, Nick Cooney; Ian Cook, Andrew Jobling
7	Lancaster Red	Sam Robinson, Morgan Bromhead; Hannah Mitchell, Ben Cowey; Ben Monks, Matt Jackson
8	Manchester Purple	Tom Key, Cianna O'Brein; Richard Hague, Alison Grennan; Chris McLaughlin, Eve Williams
9	Sheffield Black	Andy Hibberd, Karen Baldwin; Joe Howell, Hannah Crossley; Matt Berry, Lynette Davies
10	Newcastle Blue	Pete Chamberlain, Brittney Mackinlay; Edward Bates, Sophie Carr; Chris Woods, Kate McCraith
11	Liverpool Purple	Phil Sutton, Kathryn Gill; Andy Sayer, Tim Carpenter; Ben Baker, Jess Findlay
12	Newcastle White	Kat Law, Jamie Bridgefoot; Matt Lis, Sophie Herbert; Vincent Pietersz, Georgie Debenham
13	York Yellow	Dan Pingstone, Grace Redhead; Radheeka Jirasinha, Charles Williams; Matt Goacher, Jo Bradley
14	Manchester Yellow	Max Ligema, Nicola Griffiths; Will McGregor, Emily-Jayne Brook; Harry Farley, Andrew Hawkes
15	Sheffield Hallam White	Lawrence Killham, Ed Badger; Jacob Ainsworth, Kayleigh Roberts; Alex Harris, Emma Southwell
16	Liverpool Orange	Mia MacAdorey, Anthony Grieveson; Tom Tarr, Sam Firth; Archie Nicholson, Tom Blachford
17	Sheffield Yellow	Amy Bower, Emily Stainthorpe; Sarah Bell, Beren Shoreman; Andy Vagg, Lucy Greaves

### Scottish Universities (SUSA)

**Niall McLeod**, SUSA Team Racing Co-ordinator, writes: The BUSA team racing qualifier weekend was open to the top eight teams decided by the previous two (SUSA) league weekends, and racing commenced on a blank slate. The conditions did not look promising on Saturday morning, looking out at Granton Harbour: it was cold and miserable, with persistent rain and a shifty, gusty wind. After an hour spent laying and re-laying the course, and with a constantly building breeze, SUSA still managed to get most of the way through the first round robin, despite a few capsizes.



The Qualifiers, looking across the Firth to the Kingdom of Fife © James Harris (SUSA)

Thankfully the breeze was consistent and the weather more promising on Sunday, making it easier to work through the race schedule. The second round robin then followed straight on from

the first. At the end of a day of some close racing, we had our final results for the 2011-12 SUSA Leagues and the BUSA Qualifiers:

Edinburgh Blue, Strathclyde Blue and Glasgow Black qualify for the BUCS/BUSA Team Racing Championship Finals, whilst Dundee Red and Glasgow Yellow qualify for the BUCS/BUSA Team Racing Championship Playoffs for one last chance to qualify for the Finals.



Team Racing in Granton Harbour, Edinburgh © James Harris

As for the SUSA teams who were not successful in making the qualifier after the first two leagues, they were offered a weekend of training by coaches Callum Calder and Alex Ekström that ran at the same time, elsewhere in Granton Harbour. Aberdeen Silver, Dundee Black, Edinburgh Red, Glasgow Red and St Andrews enjoyed a weekend of general boat handling, speed and team racing rules coaching, and all came away feeling that they'd learned lots.

Thanks to the Royal Forth Yacht Club for the use of their facilities and assistance of their members, to the umpires, coaches and helpers, and to Edinburgh University for hosting.

Results of the Scottish qualifier:		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Edinburgh Blue	Will Mayes, Fiona McFarlane; James Logan, Hannah Robertson; John Beardon, Ruth Cannel-Whiteley
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Strathclyde Blue	Niall McLeod, Rachel Stevenson; Ben Howett, Natalie Cameron; Bertrand Martin-Laval, Paula Kellett
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Glasgow Black	Moray Clark, Scott Johnson; Neil Cody, Louise Cameron; Kenneth Lainy, Alex Erjaudet
4 <sup>th</sup>	Dundee Red	Magnus Popplewell, Peter Munnoch; Rona Young, Hannah Beattie; Conor Simms, Hannah Shields
5 <sup>th</sup>	Glasgow Yellow	Anna Dobson, Holly Clement; Susie Edmond, Nancy Simpson; Henry Viljanen, Katharina Loeckinger
6 <sup>th</sup>	Edinburgh White	Malcolm Stocks, Ruth Thomson; Laura Prentice, Laura Huton; Ben Gibson, Helen Williams
7 <sup>th</sup>	Strathclyde Yellow	Andrew Cooper, Amy Romaniuk; Jack Evans, Drew Airlie; Theo Hoole, Ailsa Anderson
8 <sup>th</sup>	Aberdeen Gold	Corey Fast, Johanna Wallin; Hannah Garvin, Heather Prince; Hugh Johnson, Laurence Kibblewhite

### Southern Central

**Ed Morris** writes: Wessex Sailing Club played host to the South-Central BUCS BUSA Qualifier this weekend at Spinnaker Sailing Club, Ringwood. Seventeen teams from across Southern England, fought through freezing conditions to assemble at Blashford Lake, for a round-robin tournament, in order to book a place at subsequent competitions within the championships. Competition looked to be intense, with no fewer than six teams boasting previous medal holders, as well as Solent Black, the current Oxford Top-Gun Champions.





The Qualifiers at Spinnaker SC © NV Photo [www.photoboxgallery.com/NVPhoto](http://www.photoboxgallery.com/NVPhoto)

The extremely cold conditions overnight meant that the lake had iced over and that boats were frozen solid. Whilst the Spinnaker Bosuns broke the ice with the more robust motor launches, students used copious amounts of de-icer and hot water to free the boats. By 1330 sailing was possible and racing got underway in earnest; two and half hours of sailing was achieved, until the freezing conditions meant that sailing was stopped at race 40. Whilst there was wind and light, the lake was refreezing, and it was impossible to continue racing as the lake froze around the Fireflies. By the end of Saturday, Solent Black, Southampton Magenta and Southampton Turquoise were all undefeated, with Oxford Blue chasing hard behind. With over 90 races to be run on Sunday, the PRO, Martin Smethers, scheduled a 0900 warning signal for the next morning.

Overnight a sprinkling of snow made travel trickier for all those involved. However, 16 teams managed to make it to Spinnaker on time. Unfortunately, Reading were unable to get their minibus moving in the snow and had to withdraw. The first warning signal was at 0910, and racing continued with few breaks for around three and a half hours. Whilst sailing started in around 10 knots of breeze, the wind slowly died all day and by 1300 racing was postponed for an hour, with 104 races run. After an hour, it was clear the wind was not coming back and racing was abandoned.



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By this point the top four teams had all met, and Southampton Turquoise had cemented themselves as clear winners; clinical, fast sailing, saw them finish the event without a loss.

Further down the order, Oxford Blue finished 2<sup>nd</sup>; by sailing a conservative regatta, they had notched up nine race wins and were awarded a half race win for an indefinitely postponed re sail. Close behind them, Southampton Magenta and Solent Black were tied on wins, but with Solent beating their compatriots in their match, they took third place. The final direct qualifying spot went to Portsmouth White, who caused a few upsets including beating their local rivals Solent Black. They finished the event with 8 wins from 11 races. Four playoff places were awarded at the event [in accordance with the NoR]; these went to Southampton Lilac, Oxford White, London Purple and Oxford Red.



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Overall the event was a success; tricky conditions did little to deter the Qualifier from running smoothly. Huge thanks must go to the Wessex/Spinnaker team that was headed up by BUSA Southern Rep, Billie Quinlan, as well as all the other helpers from Southampton University and the race officials from Spinnaker Sailing Club.

Results of the South Central qualifier:		
1	Southampton Turquoise	Andy Shaw, Pippa Horne; Ed Morris, Katie Restall; Ed Males, Sarah Elliot
2	Oxford Blue	Phil Derry, Ben Rahemtulla; Guy Stephens, Jon Turnbull; Chris Young, Kathryn Twemlow
3	Solent Black	Matt Reid, Lizzie Norton; Rob Gullan, Carla Sheldon; Christian Townrow, Sophie Pearson
4	Southampton Magenta	Sarah Hickman, Simon Foskett; Louis McVeigh Whittaker, Billie Quinlan; Jordan Saints, Rosie Sibthorp
5	Portsmouth White	Daniel Henderson, Grace Woolsworth; Edward Impey, Gina Vince, Oliver Herve, Hattie Pailter
6	Southampton Lilac	Lawrence Walters, Jess Blich; Oliver Short, Alice Trevail; Will Goldsmith, Lucy Santini
7	Oxford White	Georgia Trapp, Alison Hinds; Claire Lasko, Luke Samuel; Ben Gratton, Ed Scallaw
8	Southampton Indigo	James Hayward, Tim Lysell; Ed Langford, Will Jones; Richard Cumpstey, Tommy Freeman
9	London Purple	Wiley Wakeman, Steph Mella; Claire Dallimore, Annie Brogden; Jack Sheldrake, Rosie Potter
10	Oxford Red	Christian Butcher, Noah Evans Harding; Thomas Steavenson, Charlotte Rapson; Sgairé Strawbridge, Will Summers
11	Portsmouth Purple	Liam Gardner, George Hand; Edward Gibbons, Jess Earney; Tim Carter, Chris Rust
12	Solent White	Robert Henderson, Flo Dillon; Chris Tiernan, Alice Courage; Harry Stewart, Luke Lazell
13	Imperial Blue	Fiona Wall, Claire Trant; Chris O'Donnell, Sean Linsdall; Martin Hauge, Henley Leong
14	Brunel Blue	James Thomas, Sam Parkinson; Hannes Ramoser, Daniella Barnett; Andrew Jack, Diana Merciz

15	Bournemouth Blue	Daniel Druce, Fiona Edwards; Ben Green, Sarah Foord; Callum Jones, Philip Greensmith
16	Bournemouth Purple	Kristian Elliot, Tian Boyce; Paul Grattage, Elsie Griffin; Carl Kierulf, Jessica Marais
17	Reading Purple	Lucian Stone, Louis Mayes; Tom Marks, James Clayton; Sara Jackson, Rob Quicke

## Western

Jon Napier reports from Chew Valley Lake: A frozen lake and no wind greeted the 17 teams at the BUSA Western Qualifier. Attempts to break up the ice hit problems as the broken ice almost instantly refroze. Eventually, the wind picked up, and the ice pack broke apart enough to lay a course and get racing going.

Racing eventually got underway and on Saturday the Qualifier completed 54 races. The wind was initially good, but soon the snow and rain came and the pressure dropped away. A damaged Firefly saw one of the flights drop out while a spare boat was rigged, and these races were re-sailed on Sunday morning. Racing was also hampered by the capsize of the finish boat, leaving two very cold finish officers (who were both fine after a warm shower)!

Sunday dawned to no wind (but no ice!). After three hours, there was a stable light wind to begin racing and another 16 races were completed before it died away. With every team having raced at least half of their races, the decision was made to end the event and rank teams on percentage wins.

Congratulations go to Bristol, Swansea, Bath and Exeter who qualify direct to the Finals (two teams in Bristol's case). Plymouth, Exeter, UWE and Cardiff will need to head off to Scotland for the Playoffs in a month's time to try and win a place at the Finals.

A massive thank you to Chew Valley SC and UWE for hosting the event, to all the helpers on the start boat, finish boat and on shore, and to Bristol and Bath for loaning their boats for the event. Special thanks go to Andy Pinkham for organising the event and to Richard, Penny, Alan and Tricia for umpiring.

Results of the Western qualifier:		
1	Bristol Red	Charlie Poyner, Katherine Marsden; Charlie Makepeace, Immi Palmer; Henry Forward, James Duncalfe
2	Swansea Black	Imogen Stanley, Ollie McSoley; Dyfrig Mon, Julie Webster; Tom Walker, Ben Ashley
3	Bristol White	Phil Sparks, Poppy Maxwell; Mary Fenton-Jones, Louisa Gryspeerdt; James Grant, Celina Love
4	Bath White	Peter Sexton, Marianthe Evangelidis; Sam Collingwood, Alex Mathews; Lawrence Gibbons, Emily McEachern
5	Exeter Blue	Jason Saints, Sophie Knight; Matt Rainback, Freya Adams; Harrison Hodgkins, Lucy Goff
6	Plymouth Pink	Dan Wray, Lynn Billowes; Piers Strong, Eeve Allen; Johnny House, Maya Gill-Taylor
7	Exeter Red	Angus Mayhew, Matt Pakutikos; Emma Derby, Izzy Quicke; Nic Jones, Krista Chapman
8	UWE Purple	Andy Pinkham, Emma Best; Miles Blaver-Mann, Jill Darling; Ben Longstaff, Fred Williams
9	Cardiff Red	Dom Breen-Turner, Iona Taylor; Rory Jones, Hatti Black; Becky Diamond, Andrew Smith
10	Plymouth Red	Ben Wallis, Beth Durley; Liam Arrowsmith, Neil Marshall; Emlyn Davies, Alex Steele
11	Cardiff Black	Jo Lucas, Milly Beighton; Matthew Holbourn, Emily Wiltshire; George Wilson, Georgie Andrews
12	Plymouth Green	Sandy Macpherson, Erica Knapp; Lewis Kneale, David Dill; Oscar McVeigh, Katie Sellar
13	Bath Yellow	Emma Houlihan, Rosie Stevenson; Peter Alton, Harriet Orr; Tom Parsons, Henry Wood
14	Bristol Blue	Oli Nainby-Luxmoore, Matt Davey; Ed Burrows, Chris Spencer; Oliver Porter, Lizzie Ellis/Amy Cleaves
15	Exeter Yellow	Toby Collinson, Louise Latham; Matt Bete, Jess Over; Tom Briphy, Alice Butler
16	Swansea White	Patrick Ratcliffe, George Nelson; Dave Ashworth, Jamie Whiteley; Max Robison, Kathryn McEwen
17	Bristol Green	Hugo French, Sophie Williams; Oliver James, Ben Gorman; Sam Rolls, Amy Heward



Key:

Qualify for Finals	Qualify for Playoffs
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Scottish team racers do it with a smile....at their first league at Bardowie Loch © Alice Meaden

ENDS

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