

# Japanese Sailing Exchange Programme



We have the first day today in the Youth Nationals.

Day 1 was blown out with 50 knot winds from the South. Today we had 15knots increasing to 25knots from the North and it was C-O-L- D COLD...

After four races George is leading with a 2,1,2,2. Josh is second with a 1,2,1,4 the first Japanese boy is in third with a 3,4,5,1 and Rachel is in fourth with 4,3,3,3. She is also first female by four places.

So far we have not done much else apart from eat, sail and meeting with the Japanese sailors and coaches. It is there Youth selection trials but they have also run it as a training clinic as well. All competitors are staying at the same hotel.

Tomorrow is the final day the weather forecast is for lighter winds from the North. We will be heading to our next destination (Hamana-Lake) tomorrow night after racing and then spending a day in Kyoto before starting the next regatta.

I hope to get some results out before we leave  
Cheers Clifton

---

Sailing was delayed today due to lack of wind. Finally at 12:30 with a 14:00 deadline race 5 got underway.

George was over early and had to return. He was forced to the wrong side trying to clear his air and was not looking to good at the first mark. Rachel after a well sailed beat rounded in second with Josh 3 places back in 5<sup>th</sup>. By the bottom mark Rachel had closed the gap to be right behind 1<sup>st</sup> and would convincingly go onto win the race. Josh pulled up to third and George had a massive comeback to finish in 4<sup>th</sup>.

Overall results were Josh winning on 7 points. George second with 7 points. Rachel third (and 1<sup>st</sup> Female) with 10 points. The first Japanese boy was 4<sup>th</sup> with 13 points and the first Japanese Female was 7<sup>th</sup> with 27 points.

Tonight we had some real Japanese cuisine. I was lucky as I got food and entertainment. The entertainment was watching the three of them trying to eat raw fish and shellfish and deciding whether the green stuff was eatable and whether or not to eat the smoked eel with or without the skin.

Tomorrow we are going to Kyoto to do touristy stuff before we go to Hamana Lake to sail in the Sea Hopper regatta. Should be interesting.

Cheers  
Clifton