

IOCA Draycote Open Meeting and Selections.



Team HISC Gold fleet moved en masse up to Draycote for the weekend for the first major meet of the year. Team Coach Ross Harvey kicked things off with a briefing and rigging session. Once afloat we found the shelter from the club diminished and the breeze increased as we sailed down the lake to the starting area. There were 2 fleets, Main and Regatta with the former, splitting into 2 flights and taking the East of the lake. Straight in with Flag U the PRO got a good start away with the wind increasing throughout the race. Platon Khodykin managed an 11th and Rachel Elms, one of our youngest sailors, a well deserved 16th. The breeze dropped a bit for the next race favouring light wind lover Finn Ramus who managed to square away an 11th, with Ella Jones slotted in a 13th.

Race 3 again saw both Rachal and Platon posting solid teen placings.

Saturday night saw Team HISC take over the bar and restaurant of the local Premier Inn where pool matches were played and parents stayed up a little later than they should have.





Day 2 saw the breeze coming from all directions at all strengths, the conditions proved tough to master for some while Ella, Rachel and Platon all delivered in at least one of the 3 completed races. The huge amounts of starting practice that the kids have done over the winter was starting to pay off at this event with some blinding trigger pulls from Amila Kent and Isla Hill and a once in a lifetime port flyer from Platon making the rest of the fleet feeling a little embarrassed.

The final scores on the doors saw Platon Finishing 24th, Rachel Elms 35th and Ella 36th, excellent results in a very competitive national level fleet. On the back of the final results all the HISC team were invited to the selection trials in Weymouth at the end of April and Rachel and Finn were selected to represent the Junior British Team at the Irish nationals in the summer.

The Oppi Fleet at HISC continues to go from strength to strength and these results are a tribute to how hard the Gold fleet have worked over the winter. We have a lot of young sailors coming through the ranks now and we look forward to great things in the future.

