

## Wraysbury Lake Sailing Club Optimist Open Meeting

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2006

Despite the growing anticipation of England's first World Cup match, 68 sailors - from as far a field as Bristol, arrived in bright sunshine to compete at Wraysbury Lake, demonstrating the continued growth of the class. The field was split with 26 competing in the Main fleet and an amazing (and perhaps daunting) 42 in the Regatta fleet.

Principle race Officer Phil Taylor set an interesting course which allowed the competitors to explore all areas of the lake, and the warm sunshine and a steady Force 3 to 4 breeze providing ideal conditions. Tim Gratton (Hayling Island) got off to a promising start winning race one in the main fleet in a closely contested finish from Oliver Cooper (Wraysbury Lake). However in race two, Aaron Smith (Papercourt) dominated the fleet to win the second race from Oliver. In the Regatta fleet, the gusting wind proved too much for several less experienced competitors, however Anne Loes Boers (Papercourt) sailed to confident victory in front of Thomas O'Leary (Queensmead). The second race was won by Xavier Morrison (Papercourt).

After lunch (and the start of the football....) a further two races saw the winners of race two in each fleet dominate, each winning races three and four decisively - Aaron Smith taking the main fleet trophy, with Oliver Cooper in second place on his home water, whilst Xavier Morrison triumphed in the Regatta Fleet with Anne Loes Boers in runner up spot. Prizes, which were kindly donated by the Dinghy Store, Datchet, were presented by Ben Cooper Chairman of IOCA and Vice Commodore of Wraysbury.

