

flying fifteen Mallorca

17 November – Y Series 2 – Pollensa

For various reasons, only three boats were able to race the second in the series. Although the forecast was sunny, it rained. Not enough to keep our intrepid souls off the water. Start was between a Sail and Surf boat and one of their buoys, a short windward leg, then around Formentor island. The legs back were fun, with bigger than usual waves giving us a great surf downwind. *Stormtrooper* won both races, *Spanish Fly* had two seconds, with *Dragonfly* completing the trio.

1	ESP 4058	<i>Stormtrooper</i>	David Miles / Corinne Miles	2
2	ESP 3825	<i>Spanish Fly</i>	John Leaf / Jonas Gomes	4
3	ESP 3600	<i>Dragonfly</i>	Michael Beecken (solo!)	6

24 November – Liguilla de Invierno 2 – Pollensa

We had eight boats for this second in the RCNPP series, easily outnumbering the cruisers. As the flying fifteens were all ready to go, we were sent off first, and completed the short windward leg before the cruisers left the line. *Stormtrooper* rounded first, with *fuego fatuo* close behind. The second leg was to a buoy which we had been told would be off Bon Aire, so *fuego* set off down towards windy corner, planning to pick up the wind, gybe and come in fast to take the lead. Unfortunately, when the buoy became visible, it was well to the east of Bon Aire, so *Puffin* and *Wight Flyer*, both of whom had gybed shortly after the top mark, were now well ahead with *Stormtrooper* third. The next leg was a long fetch, with no change in positions to the finish.

1	GBR 3724	<i>Puffin</i>	James Waugh / Ben Carwardine
2	ESP 3728	<i>Wight Flyer</i>	Stephen Parry / Philip Parry
3	ESP 4058	<i>Stormtrooper</i>	David Miles / Corinne Miles

1 December – Y Series 3 – Pollensa

For the final day of the series, we went back to the triangle-sausage courses, with three races to be sailed. The line was set with a noticeable pin end and port tack bias, but the fleet elected to start on starboard, sailing down the line until Gertrude sounded the start. *Puffin* had got into a tricky position to leeward of *fuego fatuo* and some others and gybed out to start on port – making it look as though they'd planned it all along. *Wight flyer* quickly followed them off to what should have been the favoured side of the course. However, coming to the top mark, it was *Speedy Gonzales* who slotted in first ahead of them. *Fuego* was fourth, but deft spinnaker work took them to second by the end of the triangle. They held this up the next beat, ahead of the "twenties" (3724 and 3728) in third and fourth. On the final run, they passed *Speedy* to take the win by a foredeck.

Race 2 again saw the fleet split into three pairs, the *twenties*, *Speedy* & *fuego*, and *Dragonfly* & *ffugue*. This time *fuego* planned a port tack start, but it wasn't

a well-kept secret, and almost everyone else did the same, with some narrow misses on the line. *Fuego* came out of this worst, in a solid sixth place. They recovered two places on the triangle but couldn't break past the *twenties* to challenge *Speedy*. This meant they had a good view of the photo finish between those two, with *Puffin* taking second by a breath from *Wight Flyer*.

In the final race of the series, the *twenties* went left, whilst *Speedy* and *fuego* went right. This time, the left side paid off, and there was no catching the pair. *Speedy* fended off *fuego* on the downwind legs, and we both watched another photo finish, this time in favour of *Wight Flyer*. So, for the day's racing, we had:

1	ESP 3804	<i>Speedy Gonzales</i>	Michael Clough / Tom Kemp	6
2	GBR 3724	<i>Puffin</i>	James Waugh / Ben Carwardine	7
3	ESP 3728	<i>Wight Flyer</i>	Stephen Parry / Philip Parry	9

However, for the series it was a different matter; *fuego* also had 9 points on the day, neither *Wight Flyer* nor *fuego* had sailed the second day from which they each carried 18 DNC points, and had been close after the first. All the arithmetic done, *fuego* took the series by one point.

Y Series results – 8 races:

1	ESP 3577	<i>fuego fatuo</i>	John Walker / Stephen Babbage	33
2	ESP 3728	<i>Wight Flyer</i>	Stephen Parry / Philip Parry	34
3	ESP 3825	<i>Spanish Fly</i>	John Leaf / Jonny Fullerton & Jonas Gomes	37

The day closed as the sun went down, with some welcome cans from Dragonfly's cool box!

Next up

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