

Regatta report from J/24 UK Nationals 2019 in Plymouth 12th-14th July 2019

by Monica Persson on SWE4896 Team Front Runner



Swedish Team Front Runner was invited to sail the J/24 UK Nationals 2019 and so our 'J/24 Tour 2019' went on to Plymouth, UK. Our Front Runner team with Per-Hakan Persson, Hans Thulin, Anna-Karin Bergman, Monica Persson and Per Andersson met at Gatwick airport arriving from Copenhagen and Stockholm. We went with a rental car driving on the 'wrong' side of the car, on the 'wrong' side of the road, for 4 hours arriving at Burrator Lodge in the middle of Dartmoor in the middle of the night (2.30am UK time which is 3.30am Swedish time). The GPS was playing us a trick when we were almost there and made us go on the narrowest tiny little forest road down to the 'castle' by the dam. Feeling like going with a 'kamikaze' driver... but we arrived alright for a cold welcome beer. On the Friday morning we woke up to a beautiful morning with ponies in the garden and a beautiful view of Dartmoor and the surroundings of Burrator Reservoir. We were served typical full English breakfast by our host David Cooper. Then we went down to the Mount Batten Centre where registration and weighing-in was quickly accomplished and our well-prepared borrowed boat the superfast 'Jive' awaited us. After a quick preparation (taking a bucket of water out of the boat –someone tried to slow us down?!- and a minor mast-adjustment, 1 cm forward) we were ready to go out sailing.

Our first impressions was that everybody was driving on the 'wrong' side of the road, but they do sail right, and this thing about 'ebb and flood' is totally crazy (>3 m metres!!!). We were two Swedish teams participating –Team 'Front Runner' and Team 'For Fun'- and we had an absolutely lovely time. Thanks a lot for your kind hospitality David Cooper and Chris Randall.

It started with 'Champagne sailing' on the first day in Plymouth Sound outside the 'Breakwater'. The wind was stronger than the forecast said and came from the North over Mount Edgecumbe peninsula. A lot of shifty winds, but after a while you could tell the pattern was favourable to the left side, but later not all the way out into the tidal stream. Until 3 o'clock tide was going in and at 3 o'clock it was the high of the tide and it was turning to go out. Three fun races, but in the 3rd race we had some major struggle with the downhaul which got stuck in the genoa sheet so that we could not trim in the starting moment. We are not used to downhaul so this made a mess for us. Guess we started last but we managed to sail up to a 7th place in this race. We chose the right way all the race and changed side every downwind.

Saturday we sailed four fun races with good scores and on the last race, race 7, our team lived up to our name and nailed it with a good margin in front of the whole J/24 fleet of 29 boats. A lovely feeling! You could hear our team cheering as we made "the Wave" over the finish line. We won the harbour race too and had some great fun at the regatta tent at the trimming and riding the bull competitions. The simple joys of life!

On Sunday the race course had a different wind direction, from the east. Here we found a nice pattern to follow in this day's three races and we ended with two final nice 2nd places. In the last race the leader must have had a 'mushy brain' since they missed to finish and went on for a third lap. This we saw and headed directly for the goal, which was an exciting 2nd place to end the ten nice races. Once again we won the harbour race. Thanks a lot, David Cooper, for lending us your fast boat 'Jive'!

Team Front Runner made a 3rd overall with same points as 2nd. Thank you to the team and all J/24 sailors for good competition and a lovely regatta!!! We Swedish sailors had a splendid time amongst sailors and the wild ponies on Dartmoor. On our way home we even had time for a quick sightseeing at Stonehenge in the sunset. See you at the J/24 Swedish Open in August - Welcome!

Congratulations to the winners Sam Pearson and team Hustle. Thanks to Plymouth Regatta team and race organising teams for such a wonderful event. Many thanks to all 29 teams coming from UK, Sweden and Ireland making this a wonderful J/24 event.



Photos by PGC Photography with additional photos of the J24 Nationals and Plymouth Regatta available to view at <https://pgcphotography.pixieset.com>.

Results from the J/24 UK Nationals 2019:

Rank	Sail No	Name	Owner	Helm	Race <u>1</u>	Race <u>2</u>	Race <u>3</u>	Race <u>4</u>	Race <u>5</u>	Race <u>6</u>	Race <u>7</u>	Race <u>8</u>	Race <u>9</u>	Race <u>10</u>	Net Pts
1	4225	Hustle	Sam Pearson	Sam Pearson	4	7	3	2	9	2	2	5	(21)	5	39
2	4177	Chaotic	Nick Phillips	Nick Phillips	14	2	1	1	1	4	(30/DS Q)	3	17	6	49
3	SWE 4896	Front Runner (Jive)	Per-Hakan Persson	Per-Hakan Persson	(15)	6	7	5	5	9	1	12	2	2	49
4	GBR 4269	Cacoon	Dave Hale	Dave Hale	6	10	2	13	2	13	6	(20)	7	4	63
5	4248	MaJic U25	James Torr	James Torr	8	11	(24)	17	13	1	10	4	1	3	68
6	GBR 4263	Jambalaya	Joe Cross	Joe Cross	5	1	6	8	4	10	(16)	16	10	10	70
7	GBR 4271	Jawbreaker	David Cooper	David Cooper	17	4	8	3	7	11	7	15	4	(19)	76
8	GBR 4064	Legal Alien	Alan Harris-Guerrero	Alan Harris-Guerrero	11	3	4	6	(15)	5	11	14	11	11	76
9	GBR 4206	Jam Too	Austen Davies	Austen Davies	1	8	11	12	14	7	3	1	20	(23)	77
10	42	Team Impact U25	George Kennedy	George Kennedy	20	16	9	4	8	(30/DS Q)	4	18	3	15	97
11	GBR 4266	Flying Colours	William Pollock	William Pollock	7	(20)	13	10	16	17	12	13	6	14	108
12	GBR 5238	DanJerous When Wet	Mark Lewers	Mark Lewers	9	22	21	(25)	19	3	18	2	5	12	111

Rank	Sail No	Name	Owner	Helm	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Race 6	Race 7	Race 8	Race 9	Race 10	Net Pts
13	GBR 4260	Mojosi	Nick MacDonal d	Nick MacDonal d	3	9	14	(30/BFD)	11	6	22	8	30/BFD	8	111
14	4245	Matt Conyers	Matt Conyers	Matt Conyers	13	13	5	(30/BFD)	18	20	9	7	13	18	116
15	4153	Maben	Ben Maddafor d	Ben Maddafor d	16	5	12	14	3	(23)	23	21	15	21	130
16	4219	jooler	Rob Libby	Rob Libby	10	12	10	7	20	24	8	27	(30/BFD)	13	131
17	GBR 4268	Midnight Express	Sam Barker	Sam Barker	(29)	15	28	11	25	12	14	9	9	9	132
18	4270	Roger Morris	Roger Morris	Roger Morris	2	(30/DS Q)	16	19	28	14	17	10	8	20	134
19	IRL 3060	Jumpin' Jive	Mark Usher	Mark Usher	18	17	15	16	6	8	13	25	18	(29)	136
20	GBR 4100	Dinghy Shack	Sam Marshall	Sam Marshall	(25)	23	18	9	12	16	5	24	22	22	151
21	4067	Tim Octon	Tim Octon	Tim Octon	22	21	17	(30/BFD)	23	15	26	6	16	7	153
22	GBR 4241	Mr Mann	Dan Vickers	Dan Vickers	12	(30/DN S)	30/DNC	18	10	18	15	23	14	25	165
23	GBR 4236	OJ	Steve Brown	Steve Brown	21	19	22	23	21	19	19	22	12	(27)	178
24	4532	Jelignite	Finbarr Ryan	Finbarr Ryan	26	25	25	15	26	(30/BFD)	20	17	24	1	179
25	GBR 4242	Hitchhiker	Chris Randall	Chris Randall	19	14	20	24	22	25	21	11	23	(28)	179
26	SWE 5437	Andreas Olovsson	Andreas Olovsson	Andreas Olovsson	24	18	23	21	24	26	24	(29)	19	17	196
27	GBR 4251	Italian Job	John Gorman	John Gorman	23	24	19	22	(27)	21	22.7/R DG_3	19	26	24	200.7
28	4103	Jojo	Chris Lloyd	Chris Lloyd	27	(30/RE T)	26	20	17	22	25	26	25	16	204
29	GBR 4026	Sarah Jarman	Sarah Jarman	Sarah Jarman	28	26	27	26	(29)	27	27	28	27	26	242