



QLYC...Summer Series – Ray Maki Race 6 Sat December 22, 2012

One could not “Imagine” a closer finish!

Jingle bellsbut not for long, as the race before Xmas is always a big one and this was no exception!

There was a big gathering of sailors at briefing addressed by Commodore Jill with season’s greetings and have a good look at the “you tube” video on the front page of the website.



Captain Ian and OOD Ian (has a ring to it!), took us on the do’s and don’ts of the courses but held secret the number for the day...and with light conditions expected, the sunscreen seemed the best option!

With eleven yachts signed on and some 43 sailors ready to go....a good race could be in the offing!



On the course all yachts milled around close to Swan looking for course assigned on the board...No 7 was the go...Grass Bed to QA across to Wedge and back to Drapers Pile before returning to Grass Beds, then another lap of same before heading Wedge to Drapers to Wedge to Drapers and home to Grass Beds.



And a fluky start it was just as the wind started to rise ...Defiance, Rosie and Tiercel all drew the line together and took off!

Div 2 with Zen, Maud, Fancy and Wave Dancer seemed to have an improved wind and also set off with the bit between the teeth....

And Div 3 thought they got it right with an early start for

Sundance who quickly “U Turned” and sped back to start just behind Kinsale and Imagine.

The Div 1 boys had it easy on the first lap but started to be run down in the second lap to QA and Wedge with the top weight guys taking advantage of the increased wind strength and of course much of the course under a “reach”....



At Wedge the second time Zen had headed the fleet and was first around closely followed by Sundance a “bees d**k in front of Imagine with Defiance hard astern. Chris Laker coercing John Barry with “When are you going to tack??” forcing a close tussle at the tidal Wedge mark BUT no red pennant!

At Drapers Zen just captures the mark before Sundance takes over and Zen takes a “reef” in the more brisk conditions. And by the next mark at Wedge for the last time it is Sundance just ahead of Imagine in around 18 knots of breeze....by Drapers they are closer than “Santa to Xmas” with Chris and crew giving each other encouragement in the last leg rush to Grass Beds.

At the line it is Sundance by 8 seconds over Imagine with Kinsale third across the line. Following Kinsale was Zen, Defiance, Rosie, Wave Dancer, Maud, Fancy and Tiercel. Unfortunately Lionheart did the “infamous duck” of the Red Creek Pile instead of keeping outside and was disqualified!



On handicap it was “Imagine” for the second week as winner with Kinsale second and Rosie a close third. Only a minute between all three placegetters on handicap was excellent. Others followed in Defiance, Wave Dancer, Sundance, Zen, Maud, Fancy, and Tiercel.



Just to cap off a different race the South Channel Fort weather station reported winds as follows:

Midday – North at 4 knots

1300 – SW at 5 knots,

1400 – WSW at 5 knots,

1500 – SSW at 12 knots and,

1600 South at 15 knots.....and you thought the OOD in Swan Rescue wasn't roughed up!!



“Wayne” (alias Santa) was serious when he said we were not getting any surplus this year...and that means NO gifts or credits...! Check the hole in the budget!!

Merry Xmas to all ... and a silent gesture from the handicapper once again!!

Next Club Events –

Thursday December 27nd
CRUISE To The Start Of The Tasmania Races.

*Saturday and Sunday 29-30th
THE NEW YEAR REGATTA.*

Both Days: First start 1-30 PM, Briefing and sign-on NOON in front of the Queenscliff Harbour Office.