



QLYC....Summer Series – Ray Maki (Supplementary) Race Sat January 5, 2013

“Christabelle” can only “Imagine”!

Well, here we are into another year of yachting spectacular racing on Port Phillip Bay.



The arrival of many skippers and crew at briefing was a certain suggestion of a powerful fleet to face the starter to begin 2013.



Commodore Jill addressed the briefing, wishing everyone a great sailing season and a pleasant day on the bay, followed by Captain Ian Curtis as backup OOD with Jennifer for the race to set the scene for an ebb tide with south to south westerly winds 15 to 20 knots using course No 6 of the series.

Ian implored the skippers to be aware of the sailing

instructions including the appropriate rounding of marks and local impediments to racing in this area.

Before that start there was plenty of activity with all yachts seemingly intent on a quick and brisk start from Grass Beds heading downwind to Swan Spit across to Wedge Pile before returning to Grass Beds, and this was to be maintained for 3 laps to finish at Grass Beds.



Eleven yachts and forty six sailors over three divisions was a handful for the starter but managed very well as the starts proved to be more staggered than the times allocated.

In Div 1 we saw our Treasurer up the ante with his “new” Endeavour 24 “Indulgence” and more crew to supplement “his new year diet” on the rail!

The spirited start was a good view as Div 2 got away with most of the fleet in this category but we did see Fancy with Paul VP making a stall to compete with Div 3.

Div 3 saw Imagine (last week’s first race winner), over Sundance (Second race winner last week) and Kinsale taking a close third over the start line.

On the first lap of course, at the front of the field Drizabone competed well with Wave Dancer, Christabelle, Maud and Zen.



Behind the fleet, Imagine was still making life difficult for Sundance, with a tactical move by Kinsale after Swan Spit, to try and use the ebb tide not advancing their position.

As the wind gusted around the course and particularly around Wedge Pile and on the second lap, Chris and the boys on Imagine decided to have a prawn fishing expedition but quickly recovered it after a shackle dropped to the deck alerting them to a danger!!

Imagine now led the fleet from Sundance, Kinsale and Zen working hard with Christabelle doing well and Chinon challenging every move.

The “Grub” has heard there was much finger pointing aboard Chinon on lap two when mysteriously a spinnaker pole disappeared overboard Could be points for the “Mishap Award” here!!

However despite the loss of the use of the spinnaker, Imagine maintained their lead into and around lap three of the course. Having shredded their number two headsail last week actually assisted them with having to use a No 3 in the gusty and choppy conditions.



Indulgence whilst maintaining the rear guard action trailing the fleet did get a bonus with the choppy water cleaning most of their deck of our friendly shag deposits!

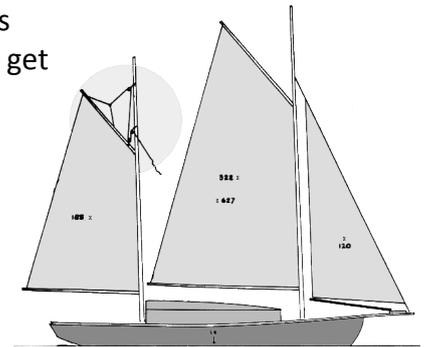
On the last lap and coming home Imagine took a well-earned position to gain line honours ahead of Sundance and Kinsale third.

Steve Lee and Chinon unfortunately took a dive on the last mark to finish with a DSQ/DNF!



On Handicap however it was Imagine taking the double from a fast finishing and cleanly sailed race by Christabelle from hard fought third in Drizabone.

Congratulations to Chris, Gus and crew on working well to get the win.



Next Club Event –

**will be Saturday next 12/1/2013, for the
MUD ISLANDS PASSAGE RACE.**

...Please note BRIEFING 11-00 AM, FIRST START 12-30 PM.

