



## QLYC....Summer Series – Ray Maki Race 1 October 20, 2012

### The first of many good races this season... .....Line up Skippers!!

The day dawned bright and ready .... A few good starters attended briefing at the harbour and with hopes high our Commodore Jill and Sailing Captain Ian addressed the gathered throng!!

Jill opened proceedings with a welcome and call to arms for the new season, a refurbished club house and the grand opening day on Sunday with a BBQ etc.

The Club Captain selected Course 4, which comprised one leg into Lonsdale Bight, then several legs in waters between Drapers Pile and Swan Spit.



In the absence of sufficient crew for Swan Rescue, the Start/Finish was moved to the end of the main Queenscliff Pier.

A slow go for the first 90 mins – but the wind did pick up considerably late in the afternoon, causing the sign on sheet to escape the Jennifer clipboard and blow away across the waters at the end of the Pier!

Only 2 boats had finished at that stage and fortunately she could recall their times.

Yes...the wind speed – was 2 to 5 knots at the start, 10 knots after 90 mins, falling to less than 5 knots from approx. 4.30. The wind direction was initially SW, turning South after 90 mins with a moderate sea.

At the start Kinsale & Sundance were away first. With light wind and working against the tide they finally made it to Drapers and were on their

way into the Bight.

Wave Dancer started about 5 min late but sailing close to shore made up some time to the Bluff and the Point.

However Rosie, Tiercel and Lionheart were well back and started 10-15 min late, a disadvantage which persisted throughout the afternoon.

Once around the Bluff the three leading boats were able to gradually head across Lonsdale Bight toward the Inner Parks mark, making several tacks on the way. Wave Dancer kept inshore for much of the Bight leg and caught up some distance.

Meanwhile, the remaining boats struggled on valiantly. Viewed from the Bullring car park, Rosie's sails emerged around the Bluff only to be swept backwards by the tide and disappear from sight!!

At this stage, the leading boats were approaching the Parks buoy.



The OOD watch returned to the end of the Pier from where Rosie, Tiercel and Lionheart could be seen earnestly maintaining the effort to round into Lonsdale Bight.

Eventually Rosie retired around 1500 hrs.

With a wind swing to the South and increased speed to near 10 knots Tiercel and Lionheart finally took off around the Bluff at this time and sought the Parks mark. Sundance took advantage of the wind change to re-enter Queenscliff waters and smartly continue up to Swan Spit.

Kinsale, with magenta kite aloft, appeared around the Bluff 10-15 minutes after Sundance and proceeded splendidly northwards.

The race was shortened after the next rounding of Drapers Pile and finished at the Pier.

Sundance took line honours followed 20 minutes later by Kinsale.

Wave Dancer finished about 17 minutes afterwards.

The OOD watch for the remaining 2 boats continued, however Tiercel retired when abreast of the Creek mark and Lionheart, although about 10 minutes behind Tiercel, continued the course up to Swan Spit. But the wind then abated to less than 5 knots.



The race time limit had expired before Lionheart could complete the last leg; therefore 3 boats are recorded as finishing the race.

After two hours of racing and with the shortened course Sundance came in at 15:29:49, followed by Kinsale at 15:50:02 and finally Wave Dancer at 16:07:40.

Rosie and Tiercel had retired and Lionheart was a DNF after 1700 hrs rule (Patrick did radio in at around 1705 and said he would continue, take own time and advise)



Well a first up win to Sundance makes for good handicapping and with only 3 three tenths of a minute off the winner Dave Hatton in Wave Dancer must consider his chances very good for the season.

Kinsale has a little time to catch but should be in the final numbers. Well done to all in somewhat trying conditions.

Thanks especially to the OOD in Jennifer Gilbert and her making good on the day.

**Remember:** Next week we see the Queenscliff to Geelong race under the auspice of Geelong Trailable YC ....with hopefully a night sail home after completing the course.

Keel boats have a longer course than trailables and smaller craft so.... it should be an interesting day!!

