



Easter Regatta – Sun April 8, 2012

Part 2 of the 2 day Regatta



Well if there is a chance ...sailors will take it....another opportunity to race on Port Phillip Bay and enjoy a Sunday for a short race around the sticks!!

Well literally a smaller fleet presented themselves on Sunday but a total of nine yachts presented to racing during the weekend.

Struggling for race 2 and crew was "Sundance", but "Imagine" entered to represent the heavyweights.

In Division 2, "Wave Dancer" and "Maud" entered with small fry – "Drizabone" and "Tintagel" in contention.

There was also a mosquito weight division occupied by "Rambler", a Laser skippered by Tristan Cross.

At briefing the OODs - Ian and Bev plus Jennifer Gilbert were reminded that the race was to be short (and it was). The course was Grass Beds to Swan Spit across to Wedge and return to Grass Beds before a sausage to Swan Spit and finish at Grass Beds.

Right after Briefing, the breeze, sneering at the Bureau of Meteorology's prediction of 10 to 15 knots, piped up in a prolonged gust to 20.

"Wave Dancer" and "Tintagel" both graced the field well reefed but the cousta boats seemed fearless, but Imagine having twenty minutes to wait sported no sails at all.

It was a reaching start to Swan Spit.

After crossing the line as the flag was lowered, "Tintagel" was out-paced by "Drizabone". "Wave Dancer" with reefed main but with a full genoa came up fast.

"Rambler" (the mosquito) flew away into the distance to be next seen almost ashore on Swan Island, and to then... playing will-o'-the-wisp, led "Drizabone" (who had no-one else to follow) away from the turning mark at Grassbeds to around the Creek pile and return once it became obvious that the fleet was rounding at Grassbeds.Wot happened here!! Tom Fricke was flying along!!



"Tintagel" could have unfurled a couple of turns of main but didn't and was clearly lacking power in the lulls, while the full-sailed cousta boats revelled in the conditions.

"Maud" was a particularly impressive sight with a bit between her teeth, on the wind between Swan Spit and Grassbeds. The mosquito flew elsewhere looking for blood and was never sighted again!!

In the end on the day, it was "Imagine" that achieved line honours with "Maud" and "Wave Dancer" following but on handicap "Wave Dancer" took the honours ahead of "Imagine" and "Maud".

So the Easter Regatta went to "Wave Dancer" under the helm of Dave Hatton...congrats on his first big win for a slice of the gold. Congratulations Dave and crew!



Tin tagel was second and Maud a creditable third over the weekend...nice work to all crews over the two races!!

Comments:

"Jadda" was last in the Lady Skipper's which was her first race. She was given "Rosie's" handicap for that race.

As a result, "Jadda" had a slightly easier handicap than "Rosie" for the CA 6 and Easter Regatta, but deprived herself of almost certain regatta victory by going for a cruise to St Leonards on the second day.



In race one, "Rosie" and "Nellie" forgot about the tide and were set back maybe 500 metres soon after the start. "Tintagel" can turn inside a Couta boat at a mark and that's all that kept them up with "Jadda" for so long.

Presentation Night at the Lonsdale Golf Club on May 12th is rapidly approachingplease book a table early to ensure your yacht is represented



Note: for all crews "the Grub" is still on the lookout for mishapsall info gratefully received at the editors desk....with the title of "Whistleblower" to be awarded to the best informant!!!! Call the hot line Or the Commodore!

And the leader in the "Whistleblower Stakes!" is still out there watch this space!!