



Lady Skippers Race

- January 14, 2012

The ladies were out in force...and in charge!



This was a first for QLYC, with all the ladies coming out ...so to speak...to take over from the usual male skipper dominated racing at QLYC.

The week had been unpleasant and after a couple of days of some of the coldest for many years, the race day was to be overcast and pleasant if not a little gusty with winds around 15 knots.

At briefing Commodore Jill sought all skippers to maintain the rage and strike a blow out there!



Sailing Captain Ian Curtis and OOD's Brian Golland and Jennifer Gilbert took the occasion

seriously to provide a good open course and provide some good sights for those around the bight between Lonsdale and Queenscliff.

The course set was from Grass Beds to Pope's Eye Pile (south channel) down to the outer marine park buoy off

Lonsdale then to the inner buoy before turning for home via Drapers Pile and QA back to Grass Beds finish! With a good SE wind and some gust at the start around 20 or more knots the start proved challenging for some, too much for

our Commodore at the helm of Maud, who required the assistance of regular Skipper Peter Crofts!



Only two divisions started... with Div 1 having a good clean start with Rosie, Defiance, Jadda and Tintagel taking a quick run.



Jadda messed with Tintagel and ended tacking twice across the start line.

Div 2 was a little more mixed with Maud getting an advantage having Jill the Commodore at the helm, hitting the line perfectly followed by Chinon, Zen and Wave Dancer taking a fist to the shore whilst Maud ran out toward Pope's early.

The fleet was quickly across the bay and encountered some mist toward the mark before tacking to reach along the shore of Point Nepean and crossing the rip toward Lonsdale and the Bight marks.



Defiance with Barb at the helm, shot out in front like a bullet taking a commanding lead ahead of Rosie and Zen who was making good ground. Wave Dancer with Jodie and Jadda with Jade trailed the fleet at this point and really never got into the action!



At the top buoy it was Defiance well ahead by some 300 metres to the mid fleet of Rosie (only males onboard here), Zen, Chinon and Tintagel. For those on the shore and on the hill under the Queenscliff lighthouses it was a great sight with the fleet coming down the Bight with all lady skippers looking to round the corner to pass Drapers for home.

At the finish it was Defiance well across the line and behold line honours also turned into Handicap Honours with a 3 and a half minute lead. Nice one Barb and solid congratulations to Defiance!

Second on handicap was Rosie with Maud third but....no extra points here as both lacked lady skippers! Tintagel, Chinon, Zen, Wave Dancer and Jadda followed the fleet home!

On CBH handicap it was Chinon followed by Zen second.

AND the picture of the day for most relaxed crew member goes to Frank McMahon on Wave Dancer, seen here reclining in the 'chardonay' seatenjoying the ride while Jodie and Dave do all the work!! Good work Frank!!



More pictures of the action of the day with some active but significant ones off Point Lonsdale Light with our winner Defiance!!

And to the rightwho else but standing on tip toes as always...yes it is Steve Lee and crew!





A nice shot of Defiance as she negotiates the waters inside the rip on her way to the top rounding marker buoy at Lonsdale.



And lastly a great and typical shot of our fleet as they pass along the coast of Queenscliff village beside the old pier and lifeboat shed.