



QLYC Irwin Trophy Race Sat March 9 2013.

“Kinsale Returns!”



Race day dawned warm and sunny with a fresh and gusty easterly breeze. By briefing time, the breeze was puffing away at a good fifteen knots plus from NNE

Club Captain Ian Curtis and OOD Jennifer Gilbert briefed.

The crews of *Zen*, *Christabelle*, *Imagine*, *Rosie*, *Fancy*, *Drizabone*, and *Indulgence* were delighted to see the cheerful face of Doug Curlewis at briefing, meaning his ship, *Kinsale* had returned from the wilder shores of wherever.

Once again, we enjoyed a white board briefing, because the new courses were awaiting the imprimatur of the sailing committee. Jennifer's course was **Grassbeds (start), No. 3 West Channel, Swan Spit, Grassbeds, No. 3, Grassbeds, No. 3, Swan Spit, Grassbeds, No. 3, Grassbeds (finish)**. All to Port. Or, visually, a triangle, a sausage, a triangle, a sausage.



In Division One *Indulgence* just managed to cross the line in front of *Drizabone* (seen above) and *Rosie*. Without the strengthening ebb, the boats would have been just free of hard on the wind on the course to **No. 3**, and *Indulgence* maintained the lead for a few hundred metres until the wind decided that the morning's blowing was enough work for one day. As the wind dropped, *Drizabone* and *Rosie* drew ahead. At **No. 3**, *Indulgence* had two close encounters with that **pile** before over-coming the tide on a third attempt. *Rosie* allowed a several hundred metre gap between herself and **No. 3** and was thereafter unable to make up the lost distance.



Among the Division Two Boats, *Zen* found the lightening breeze to her advantage and drew away from *Fancy* (above) and *Christabelle*.

The two Division Three vessels, *Imagine* and *Kinsale* started after *Imagine* had had to deal with two furry stowaways hiding under the sail cover. With foaming bow waves they ploughed through the fleet together until *Imagine*, in a frenzy of excitement at overtaking *Rosie* and *Indulgence*, hurled a winch handle overboard and had to retrace her wake.



Kinsale kept the lead and finished nine minutes in front of *Imagine*, arousing a suspicion that the wilder shores included a secret training camp. *Zen* (below) came third thirty six minutes later, costing Frank McMahan on *Swan* a flathead because he put his line down to take *Zen's* time.



The picture above shows how the breeze had lightened and the sea calmed by four o'clock. The light conditions left the rest of the fleet struggling against a strong ebb to complete the course. *Christabelle* and *Drizabone* (the only Division One vessel to do so) succeeded, but *Fancy, Rosie,* and *Indulgence* were declared **DNF**.



Lady Bay (above), an elegant vessel but phantom competitor, completed the course as well.

After the usual bout of handicapping magic, the corrected result was (in order) *Kinsale , Imagine, Zen, Drizabone,* and *Christabelle*.

Thank you to our race officers Jennifer Gilbert and Frank MacMahon, and to Jennifer Gilbert for photographs.

Sign up for the Maritime Weekend. This can be done on the Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club's web-site. Easy!

The Next Club Event is Race 5 of the CEC ANDERSON SERIES. 16/3/2013.