



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Ray Maki Race 3, Sat January 21, 2017

A great day for a race whilst the "Festival of Sails" in Geelong meanders the Bay!!

It turned out a good day for racing with QLYC and the usual crews and skippers attended to briefing at Midday as always.

Sundance and crew were missing as skipper John Barry took on the FOS with regulars plus another five members of Bellerive Yacht Club from Hobart as experienced hands, including BYC Commodore Graeme 'Manny' Mansfield.

Our Commodore Jill took on a dutiful task of taking over briefing and the days racing as OOD, also given we had lost Ian and Bev Lee to the FOS as officials.

Jill briefed with assistance from Steve Lee and a consensus of skippers to sail course 6, so the plan was hatched for a race day in excellent breezes.

Course 6 was from Grass Beds to Pope's Eye Pile, to Wedge, Grass Beds, PEP again, Wedge, Swan Spit, Wedge and finally a finish at Grass Beds.

At the start, it was as usual, Div1 that got away with Drizabone and the long missing Maud as leaders in the field and heading off into the ether ahead of Div2 with Valentine, Boomaroo and Tiercel following.... Imagine as the lone starter in Div3 looked a lonely chase boat back in the field.

The field took toward PE and could be seen in the distance before returning to GB via the Wedge.

And at Grass Beds it was Valentine under spinnaker followed by Boomaroo and Drizabone within 100 metres of each other....

Behind them and making ground was Imagine under spinnaker from Tiercel flying her blue and white striped spinnaker which resisted dropping making for some very interesting manoeuvres after rounding the mark!

Crew wrestled the spinnaker aboard with the head halyard and doing its best to strangle the headsail!

At this point it was a mystery surrounding the whereabouts of Maud who had disappeared from view.



Tiercel, finally having sorted out the crew and accessories, resumed the course to PE only to find herself close to an incoming and approaching fast ferry who showed little mercy, leaving Tiercel and skipper/crew hobby horsing in her wake!!

OOD Jill radioed the absent and not to be seen Maud to ask if she was on course and the answer in return from the skipper was "don't know the answer to that question!"

Approaching Wedge for the second time it was Boomaroo in the lead with Imagine and skipper Chris Laker in hot pursuit ahead of Valentine and Steve Lee.



Coming up to Swan Spit it was Imagine with Maud (who had missed a leg of course), with Boomaroo and Valentine ahead and some distance back was Drizabone ahead of Tiercel back in control of her spinnaker. Valentine caught Maud before rounding Swan Spit, so the three lead boats became Imagine then Boomaroo and Valentine running 3rd.

The final leg Wedge to the finish line was hard fought, with Imagine and Valentine under spinnaker but Boomaroo managing to hold her own.

Imagine took line honours and it was almost a photo finish with Valentine just getting Boomaroo on the line by 4 seconds!!

4th home was Maud ahead of Drizabone and lastly Tiercel.

The difference between line honours and the last was only 23 minutes but on handicap it was a difference of less than 10 minutes between finishes, first to last.



Congratulations go to Drizabone on handicap ahead of Valentine with Imagine a close third. Others followed in Boomaroo and Tiercel with a DSQ or DSQ to Maud having missed a mark to make her time a little on the improve.

PS:

John Barry and Sundance crew scored well in the Festival of Sail with a final of 9th in the series of races of 28 entered which just goes to prove A fine mixture of crew worked hard over four days improving with every raceCongrats to all and especially the lads from Bellerive Yacht Club who flew in to give us a lift....Manny with Stephen, Paul, Guy and Jacob! Well done all.



Next Club Racing start: Is on....

SAT January Jan 28th with the Lady Skippers Race

We will meet at the club house following the race which will include announcements!

Meet at the harbour outside the QHPL Shed.....at Noon.

Note to all: A number of Skippers are looking for Crew and if you would like to be part of our unique racing in this part of the Bay ...call us or email via the website ...or contact us via "Facebook"

