

Irwin Trophy & Ray Maki 4 10-12-2016

The day began with a light drizzle and an overcast sky. The early predictions suggested light winds of around 10 kts. The forecast at 1200 suggested heavier winds during the race to about 20kts.

Briefing was well attended with eight yachts keen to sail, they being Imagine, Tiercel, Boomaroo, Rosie, Nellie, Kinsale 3, Sundance and Valentine. Acting Commodore Frank McMahon welcomed everyone and advised that, like the Grinch, he had cancelled Christmas. Sorry, I mean he cancelled the proposed Christmas activity on the 16th, in favour of a club sailing / paddling day on the 26th. This will also include the watching of the start of the Sydney to Hobart Race on our new 60inch TV. Activities will begin at 1000hrs with high tide at 1200hrs. Bring down your relatives and enjoy a relaxed day at the club, BYO everything, the club will provide the Hot Plate to reheat your chrissey left overs or your festive snags or more identifiable meat choices.

The acting Club Captain (jb) advised the gathering of the events and outcome of the previous race (a comprehensive report to be posted on the web shortly). Ian Lee (OOD) presented the race brief noting the course would be posted on the committee boat and for competitors to call on ch 72vhf with crew numbers, but not during any of the 3 start sequences.

The course for the day was No 11, Grass beds start, Crk mark, Drapers, Grass beds, Swan Spit, Grass beds, Crk mark, Drapers, Crk mark, Drapers, Grass beds to finish. A short course but a great windward return event perfect for the conditions.

1330hrs saw a competitive start to Div 1 with Rosie crossing the line first with Nellie in hot pursuit. The Div 2 start was just as competitive, Kinsale 3 leading a close procession of the starters. Div 3, whilst only having two yachts, is always a competitive affair, Imagine and Sundance being closely matched for speed and manoeuvrability. By the first mark Sundance had achieved a narrow lead on Imagine which it maintained throughout the race.



Doug Curlewis in Kinsale 3 was putting in a blinder, quickly overtaking the Div 1 yachts and throwing down the challenge to the rest of the fleet to “catch me if you can”. The two cousta boats Nelie and Rose were having a great race between them selves.



Rosie on her way back from Drapers Pile

The expected increase in the wind failed to eventuate and whilst there were 15 to 20 degree wind shifts along with lulls the wind speed did not exceed 12 kts for the race

The conditions allowed for the setting of spinnakers. Opportunity is often accompanied with challenges, there being a wine glass on Valentine and the sideways hoisting of the spinnaker on Kinsale. Both of these foibles were quickly corrected and the yachts settled down to racing.

The course was fairly short being only some 6 odd nautical miles, but provided an opportunity for our crews to hone their skills as we have not had that much racing this year.



Nellie with the wind on her stern quarter.



Winners are grinners

Provisional results were announced at the hot chips and debrief at the Yacht Club.

On review the official results are:

Rosie first

Kinsale 3 second

Sundance third

Followed by Valentine, Nellie, Imagine, and Tiercel.

Boomaroo did not finish

The difference between the fleet was 9 minutes on corrected time.

Results are posted on our web site and we can be followed on face book.

Our thanks once again to Ian, Bev and Jock our stalwert OOD's.