



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Winter Series – Race 1

- Sun June 12, 2016

A great day for our first Winter Race after a few weeks under the covers!!

This Sunday turned out perfectly for the club with the high centred over or near us for our first winter race of the season after a poor Saturday.

...but what a day it turned out to be with perfect overcast conditions for a race around the bay outside Queenscliff.

Our winter briefing area outside of Lix's Café in the harbour was a reunion and welcoming of a few new faces to our racing program....Russ with a couple of lads in Tony and Ian, Tom and Alison with Steve, Doug with Mike and Charles along with Daniel crewing for John.

John Barry opened the briefing with some details on recent goings at the club including the improvements to the shed before handing the briefing to Club Captain Brian, for a quick overview and details of the race under a westerly light breeze and course #5 of the set club courses.

Skippers were reminded of no spinnakers and the crew based competition.

Signed on skippers were Doug Curlewis - Kinsale3, John Barry – Sundance, Boomaroo – Tom Hinton, Nellie – Russ Watson and Colin Gibbs – Tiercel.



OOD for the day again was Jill Golland and apprentice in Susie Alderson...thanks girls so all was well on the water with Swan positioning herself in deep water at Grass Beds.

The course was Grass Beds to Drapers, Wedge, Grass Beds, Wedge, Grass Beds, Drapers, Wedge and finish at Grass Beds...around 10.6 Nm in length.

With three divisions, first start at 11.30 with Div 1 and Nellie was a lone soldier that set quickly to the line and headed down to Drapers Mark.

With Div 2 it was a different story with Boomaroo heading from the committee boat end and Kinsale3 from the pin end...close as it was by seconds at the line with Kinsale3 marginally ahead and Tiercel following both by 30 metres.

The battle between the two in Boomaroo and Kinsale3 continued up the course with little between them.

With Div3 it was again a lonely Sundance that took to the line a few seconds late but determined to make up the distance to the front markers.

Kinsale3 was making good time over Boomaroo with a slow but consistent lengthening the distant on the field whilst making ground on Nellie our first division starter and leader into the first leg as they approached Grass Beds having made the first lap in front.



A quick trip to Wedge and return in the second leg saw Nellie relinquish her lead with Kinsale3 making ground continually against the second division yachts in Boomaroo and Tiercel.

Sundance, from behind, had made ground on Boomaroo and Tiercel in the second leg and was pacing well against Kinsale3 although not making significant advance to take first place.

Tiercel was carrying a beautiful jib and with only two crew making well against the Boomaroo with four on board. (Martin attested to being a little weary at the end of the race!!)

Sundance with only a No3 up front needed more horsepower to give the flighty Kinsale3 a challenge.

The breeze although fairly consistent from the south west lightened on the third lap of the course and a struggle ensued as competitors struggled with headsails and shifting conditions.

The windward legs were proving a healthy part of the race with Boomaroo staying out toward the centre of the course and the others making a deep plunge toward the shore before tacking to Grass Beds.

Tom in Boomaroo miscalculated a cunning plan by John on Sundance and approaching a good "starboard call", took evasive action too early and lost some ground, passing behind JB, who then tacked over Boomaroo, making Tom see the error of being kind!



At the finish it was Kinsale3 with Doug Curlewis a clear line honours ahead of Sundance with John Barry and third in Tiercel whilst fourth position was taken by Boomaroo with Tom and Alison and finally Nellie with Russ Watson.



And just to prove a point, on handicap, Kinsale3 was a clear winner on the day sailing consistently and no errors to just over a minute win over Colin Gibbs on Tiercel ahead of Nellie with Russ Watson in Nellie third. Others followed in Boomaroo with Sundance a stone motherless last!

The first three place getters were only a smidgen under five minutes apart on corrected time.

Well done to all in an enjoyable first winter race and good conditions making for comfortable racing.



On the results, the crew championship is wide open, with the crew of Kinsale3 in first positions and others similarly following....remember to change yachts for crew participation and gaining (or losing) points on each race.

And our thanks to the efforts and support provided by our OOD's Jill and Susie....well done!

**Next Club Racing start: Is on....
SUNDAY July 3rd with 2nd race of the Winter Series**

Remember this is Crew Contested Racing – so crew get on the winning yacht!! (paid up Club members only!)



Meet at the harbour outside Lix's Café at 10am ...coffee or breakfast before if you are inclined.....

The Crew points after Race 1 Winter 2016 are:

- 1 Point – Andrew,**
- 2 Points – Martin,**
- 3 Points – Garry,**
- 4 Points – Alison,**
- 5 Points – Frank, Finn and Brian**

