



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Winter Series – Race 2

- Sunday July 3, 2016

A challenging race and hair of the dog after “Don’s Party”!!

Sunday’s “post election blues” were literally ‘blown away’ with a great race in gusty and blustery conditions off Queenscliff when our attention was turned to outdoors rather than bullying phone calls from our purported leaders looking for sympathy!

Our briefing outside Lix Café in the harbour saw a solid team of sailors chatting to skippers and signing on to crew sheets was typical of these cooler races with heavier than normal clothing the order of the day.

John Barry addressed the gathering and thanked those who had ventured to the working bee yesterday at the club and the works being undertaken.

Club Captain Brian outlined the weather and course for the day in No.3 with a north westerly wind around 15 knots. Crew participating were reminded of the challenge of the winter series and their ability to get points on various vessels to win in the overall aggregate.

We welcomed a couple of new faces to crew in Amanda and Joshua on Sundance with others from previous winter race one.

Jill as OOD attempted to engage her second in charge “Meg” to assist but at the last minute she backed out, with barking, resembling “I don’t do boats”.

Skippers were reminded of no spinnakers.

Signed on skippers were Doug Curlewis - Kinsale3, John Barry – Sundance, Dave Hatton – Wave Dancer and Colin Gibbs – Tiercel.

The course was Grass Beds to Drapers, Wedge, QA, Wedge, QA, Grass Beds, Drapers, Wedge, QA and finish at Grass Beds...around 10.08 Nm in length.

With three divisions, first start at 11.30 with Div 1 and Wave Dancer was out alone but quickly to the line and headed down to Drapers Pile.

With Div 2 it was a different story with Doug in Kinsale3 pushing up Tiercel under command of Colin before getting a head start by only a few seconds.



In the interim Sundance opted for reduced sail in the conditions and put a tuck in the main, allowing some improved handling.



With Div3 coming quickly it was the stalwart Sundance and John Barry that threw herself at the line a few seconds late, but determined to make up the distance in the end. We have to admit that the gusty conditions were looking ominous as John tried that new No 2 jib sail from Hobart...remember that number "6137" people!



Wave Dancer was sailing well up front, on the course, but Kinsale3 was making very good time and although Wave Dancer held on, she was continually under the pump as Doug and crew persisted with the rundown.

The first leg was, Start to Drapers and over to Wedge and with this downwind leg being a stabiliser before a windward leg over to QA the first time.

Dave and Ross in Wave Dancer made an error of judgement and rounded QA to Starboard and whilst making Wedge saw this (or were tipped off!) rounded up and ducked around port this time....umm!



Wave Dancer with Dave and Ross continued to lead into the second leg but were reeled down in the second pass toward QA and were in second spot as they approached Grass Beds having made the trip to Wedge the second time.

Kinsale3 was noticed to have reduced sail with furling part of her jib in the changing conditions although seemingly not really affecting her speed...

Although the margins between the four contenders were being reduced during the middle of the race Sundance as back marker had only just made up ground on Wave Dancer and Tiercel.

Rounding QA for the second time and heading down toward Draper Pile it was Kinsale3 holding a few hundred metres to Sundance as she passed Wave Dancer who had lost ground coming from Wedge.

Tiercel was a beam of Sundance past QA and Sundance fought hard against the gusts from the west to north west in her efforts on this leg.

Rounding Drapers it was a good run to Wedge for the last time with Kinsale3 and Doug holding a slim lead with not much change in speed between the two.

At Wedge it was a rounding to windward making life a little difficult for all vessels in the gusts which at time had over 22 knots and possibly higher with whitecaps all over.

During this last leg we noticed the OOD was missing, possibly attending to the needs of first mate 'Nutmeg' and avoiding the turbulence of sitting on the line during the testy conditions.

To QA to last time it was Sundance just behind Kinsale3 with Tiercel not far astern of the two and Wave Dancer still in the race.

As Sundance was about to overhaul Kinsale3 whilst she crosses the path of Sundance...JB calls "Starboard" and resorts to "ducking" under Kinsale3...Doug waves and thanks JB for his gesture...THUS forgiving Kinsale3 of a "red flag!"



Sundance overtook Kinsale3 and the lead making the finish just over a minute ahead of Kinsale3 with Tiercel a good third over the line by eight minutes and Wave Dancer fourth with another seven minutes in arrears.

Our apologies for the drinks at the Espy post race when we announced an incorrect result of the handicaps with some apparent finger trouble with the calculator!!

On handicap, it turns out, Kinsale3 wins the second race of the series on corrected time by under a minute from Tiercel with Sundance third, some three minutes behind and lastly Wave Dancer another four minutes behind.

Well done to all in an enjoyable second winter race and blustery conditions making for some running adjustments from start to finish.

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



Thanks to the efforts and support provided by our OOD Jill Golland standing alone and managing the race extremely well in the weather....plus taking the photographs....well done!

**Next Club Racing start: Is on....
SUNDAY July 24th with 3rd 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 2 Winter 2016 are:
2 Points – Andrew,
4 Points – Martin,
8 Points – Frank, Finn, Brian and Garry with,
9 Points – Alison.**