



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Winter Series – Race 4

- Sunday August 14, 2016

Again the club picks the weather beautifully for a race on Port Phillip Bay....Well done Hughie!

Winter Series racing continued this week with race 4 in the series.

At the harbour outside Lix Café it was the stalwarts of QLYC racing who met for briefing a quiet chat before proceedings began in earnest!

Sunday this week promised light winds essentially with West to South West, calm seas and sunshine. Indeed this is the sort of weather we ordered.

Gathering in the harbour this week were skippers of the five competing yachts in John Barry in Sundance, Dave Hatton in Wave Dancer, Colin Gibbs in Tiercel, Tom Hinton in Boomaroo and the yacht to beat in Kinsale3 with Doug Curlewis as skipper.

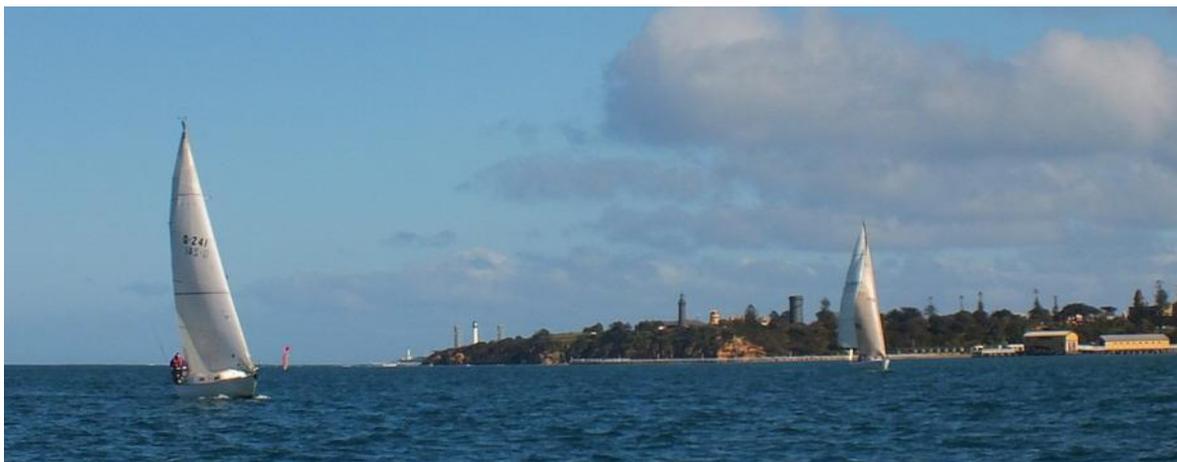
Our crews along with our trusty OOD's, this week being Jill Golland accompanied by apprentice Liz Fletcher for the day.

John Barry, Acting Commodore, again gave everyone an update on club matters including sad news with Honorary Life Member Alan Holmes losing wife Val, who passed away unexpectedly in the past week plus youngest member Finn Moate losing his Mum to cancer a couple of weeks ago. John passed to Club Captain Brian for the briefing on the course etc. and welcoming everyone to the day's event.

It was decided on course #5 which was a course from Grass Beds to Drapers, Wedge, Grass Beds, Wedge, Grass Beds to Drapers, Wedge and finally to Grass Beds finish.

With us this week was new member Darryl Saunders sailing on Sundance together with Amanda Wike as a visitor also on Sundance.

On the course the OOD's started with a laying a decent line and getting the yachts to this line for the start of each of the three divisions...only to be beaten by the tide after Div 1 start...but it did give a few seconds advantage to latter divisions! Start time was 11.30 and all participants were champing at the bit!



Div1 with Wave Dancer were away on time and at Div2 start Boomaroo and Kinsale3 with Tiercel got it pretty right zipping up toward Drapers with a nice lift in the breeze. Kinsale3 was a little over powered but settled as the influence of Queenscliff's headland put a slight damper on the wind.



By Div3 it was the lonely Sundance who came from the south to round Swan for her start and took off after the leaders which at this point saw Wave Dancer well past the Drapers Mark and heading down to Wedge.

By the time Sundance reached Drapers it was the leader in Wave Dancer almost on the next mark.

Wave Dancer seemed to have a real grip on the race as she powered toward Grass Beds after rounding Wedge and Kinsale3 had well and truly put some distance between herself and Boomaroo, just ahead of Tiercel and Sundance some distance behind them and chasing.

The tacking between Wedge and Grass Beds showed a difference in the tactics with both Tiercel and Boomaroo, with them using the current, tacking early, whilst Kinsale3 took a deeper line and minimised the tacks although in reduced current.

Around Grass Beds it remained a soldier's course whilst the distance between the leader and Sundance slowly shortened.

From Grass Beds it was a return to Wedge, although this downwind leg with the breeze moving between west and south west, had crew on their toes moving headsails to gain all advantage possible.



Again at Wedge Wave Dancer was making "hay while the sun shone" and maintaining an advantage ahead of Kinsale3 who was slowly pegging her back.

At this stage Sundance was almost on Boomaroo who had also dropped behind Tiercel who had rounded Wedge some hundred metres ahead.

Off to Grass Beds with similar conditions and some gusts under heavy cloud above the course saw differences in speed between competitors with alternate tacks being taken.

One Grass Beds was rounded it was off to Drapers Pile before heading to the finish line and Wave Dancer was caught along this leg and Kinsale3 took hold of the lead although Wave Dancer did not waver in her quest to maintain touch with the flying Kinsale3.

Sundance had gathered up Boomaroo at Wedge and took Tiercel in her stride making toward Grass Beds whilst attempting to gain some ground on Kinsale3 and Wave Dancer up front.

Around Drapers Pile and the fleet headed back to finish at Grass Beds with Kinsale3 making better on her lead ahead of Wave Dancer by two minutes to finish first with line honours.



Sundance finished third, some three minutes astern of Wave Dancer whilst Tiercel finished fourth only a minute ahead of Boomaroo trailing the field.

Interestingly, all five yachts across three divisions with up to twenty minutes difference in starting time, finished with only nine minutes from first to last!

On handicap it was Wave Dancer which took a blinder of a race winning by just over a minute to second place Kinsale3, whilst third position was taken by Tiercel only 5 seconds behind on corrected time!

Boomaroo was fourth with Sundance coming home last.

Congratulations to Dave Hatton on a great win and to crewman Martin who now takes the lead in the crew championship on 10 points ahead of Andrew on 11, Frank on 14, Wendy on 16, Finn on 18 and lastly Garry on 20.





**Next Club Racing start: Is on....
SUNDAY September 4th with the 5th and last race of the
Winter Series!**

**Again --- 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 4 Winter 2016 are:

**10 Points – Martin,
11 Points – Andrew,
13 Points – Frank,
14 Points - Wendy,
16 Points – Brian,
17 Points – Alice,
18 Points – Finn and
20 Points – Garry.
21 points plus are Jim, Jennifer and Trish.**

