



## Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

### Winter Series – Final Race 5

- Sunday September 4, 2016

### **The last race in the series is what winter racing is all about!!**

Winter Series racing finishes this week with race 5 in the series.

Again outside Lix Café it was many of the usual skippers and crew drawing on last race experiences and juggling options for crewing on today's race.

Today was the last chance for crew to jump on board another yacht to enhance their chances of getting some lower points in an effort to move up the ladder of places....providing they choose the correct and winning vessel!!

Sunday this week promised light to moderate winds essentially with West to South West, relatively calm seas but not much sunshine!!

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

The word was out that Tom and Alison had made a special trip to Brighton during the week to have Boomaroo scrubbed which could have some others a little nervous with anticipation.

Our trusty OOD's this week were Jim Barrow (now Vice Commodore), accompanied by Ross Haughton (who doubled as club photographer), with Jill going out initially to give the boys some confidence and encouragement.....

Jill Golland back in the seat as Commodore welcomed everyone and gave a quick update on the recent AGM and welcomed visitors for the sail today. Jill passed to Club Captain Brian for the briefing on the course etc.

Again 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.

On the course the OOD's laid the usual decent line and went about getting the yachts to this line for the start of each of the three divisions... Start time was 11.30 and all participants were ready and waiting around the area of Swan with her three OOD's!

At Div1 it was Wave Dancer who without seemingly good reason was way down the course at start time and ended up just over 3 minutes shy of start time....not a good look. Dave just had a bad day!

With Div2 start, Kinsale3 was almost on the line at the time start, with Tiercel close behind, rather than alongside, when things could have been difficult given the course and wind....Tiercel took the cautious approach just ahead of Boomaroo who was acting cautiously. (We think cagey was the word!)



Kinsale3 raced past the Creek Pile and headed confidently down to Drapers but Boomaroo sitting on her tail as the Drapers mark came up.



Tiercel was languishing a little behind but maintaining the distance....but Wave Dancer was almost flying to maintain a lead up front of the fleet.

Rounding Drapers Div2's first was Kinsale3 and heading downwind to Wedge, it was Boomaroo which went more starboard with Tiercel taking a middle road although Kinsale3 took the port line showing better pace by the time Wedge was reached.

Div3 in Sundance had just started at this point and was before the Creek pile.

It was Kinsale3 first around Wedge with Boomaroo behind and Tiercel within a short head behind.

At this stage Sundance had well rounded Drapers and was also down the track toward Wedge.

Across to Grass Beds and Div2 had different tacks which did seem to make a difference with Boomaroo appearing to hassle for the lead as the fleet headed now back to Wedge.



With the wind shifting around but still gusting toward 18 knots Boomaroo shot to the front closely followed by Kinsale3 which seemed to be moving between a full and slightly furled headsail dependant on conditions.



Tiercel was following but maintaining ground as third to the three up front vessels.

From here it was a run to Drapers again and gusting up putting some pressure on the larger mainsails but the angle past Grass Beds made it almost a breeze to maintain a straight line toward Drapers Pile...

Boomaroo had now taken a good lead and Tom was enjoying his day in the sun (so to speak!) whilst increasing his lead on second place Kinsale3 under Doug's hand with Wave Dancer still just managing to hold Tiercel behind.



From here it was out to Wedge before turning to finish at Grass Beds.

The breeze lightened significantly but was only short lived for most of the fleet after Drapers and almost downwind for the journey....Sundance had made up and continued to gain ground in this last part of the race but it seemed apparent that this was not Sundance's day!

From Wedge to homeward it was Boomaroo making a good run ahead of Kinsale3 but after tacking to make Grass Beds it was Tiercel that came alongside Wave Dancer with Wendy on the helm, making her adventures aboard Tiercel seem far distant.

Wendy strengthened her grip on the helm as Tiercel came up to her and the activities of crew Dave Hatton seemed intent on pulling all stops out as both vessels vied for the line.

Boomaroo had finished well clear of Kinsale3 by over 6 minutes and it was a further 4 minutes to Wave Dancer who held on to finish third ahead of Tiercel BUT only one second behind in fourth place.





Sundance in a lacklustre performance on the day was a further minute behind Tiercel. In fact on the day Sundance had only nine minutes on the ten divisional minutes she started on.

However on handicap it was Tiercel that took the honours on the day finishing ahead of Boomaroo in second by a minute from third in Wave Dancer just over a minute further afield.

Fourth place went to Kinsale3 a mere 7 seconds behind third place with Sundance fifth and last over the line a handicapped 11 minutes behind her.



Congratulations to Colin Gibbs again for a good win by Tiercel, giving crew person Martin Liebermann a one pointer to finish the crew based competition off nicely as overall winner on 11 points.

..... Second place went to Andrew Carkeek on 15, Wendy Duncan and Brian Golland came in third with 17 points, Frank McMahon on 18, Finn Moate on 25 and lastly Garry Sutton on 27.

Special thanks go to the Skippers and owners of competing vessels for taking the time to assist with this competition and they are:

- Boomaroo – Tom Hinton and Alison Roberts-Wray
- Nellie – Russ Watson,
- Kinsale3 – Doug Curlewis,
- Sundance – John Barry,
- Tiercel – Colin Gibbs and
- Wave Dancer – Dave Hatton.



**Presentation night for Winter Series has been brought forward to this Sat night (10/9/16) at the Espy Hotel, Queenscliff 6.30pm....please notify the Commodore via [glyc@bigpond.com](mailto:glyc@bigpond.com) ASAP.**

**The new season starts with Opening Day at the Club House on Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at Noon...**

PS: On a lighter note we have had an early entry in the “Mishap Award” with Sundance crew member Brent Willing...yes he lives in NZ...flicked his expensive electronic car keys overboard on the mooring before racing began when quickly dragging his jacket out of his bag ....”Plop!” Sorry Brent!!



PPS: Thanks also to Ross Haughton for assisting with pics for this report...much appreciated.