

Winter Series Race Two

Early weather predictions did not look good for the second race of our winter series. A number of the predictions had gusts to 25 Kts, our trigger to cancel the day's activities. A walk along the beach early morning revealed winds lower than the predictions so the decision to review again at the briefing in front of the LIX café seemed the best option.

Three skippers and crews presented at LIX and the acting Commodore Frank Mc Mahon addressed the gathering. The OOD for the day was Geoff Mathews ably assisted by Eleanor. The course was decided as No 11, a North Westerly, keeping the Yachts along the shore of Swan Island to be out of any significant waves and close to the windward shore should the predicted 25 Kts come in.

The course was Grass Beds Start, Drapers, Grass Beds, Swan Spit, Grass Beds, Drapers, Grass Beds, and Drapers with the Grass Beds finish. A short course but the best given the proposed conditions. All yachts had the first reef in and No3 Headsails. The First start was the Second Division, Tiercel and Boomaroo making the most of the 15 Kts. Ten minutes later Sundance crossed the line hard on chasing the second division who were rounding Drapers.

Boomaroo took an early lead which she was able to maintain for the majority of the race. The wind was gusting to 27 Kts in parts of the race but well within the capacity of the three competitors. The flukey conditions as yachts approached Shortlands Bluff proved a challenge for all competitors



Tom and Boomaroo with her new top-coat of white in June at Royal Geelong



Sundance on her way to Swan Spit

By the second rounding of Drapers, Sundance had chased down the fleet and was trying to extend her lead to match her handicap. Prior to rounding Drapers, Tiercel shook out her first reef, a gutsy move to try and lessen the gap between her Boomeroo and Sundance. A couple of round-ups did not deter her and she made up ground down wind such that on handicap she was first followed by Boomaroo with Sundance a close third. See the results for the times.



Tiercel before the reef shakout

Thanks again to Geoff and Eleanor who toughed it out on anchor.

Next race Sunday the 30th of July.