

14 October 2017 Ray Maki 1

Saturday dawned fine and sunny with light southerly winds forecast and largely delivered. Captain Steve and Commodore Colin welcomed skippers and crews of 6 vessels – Boomaroo, Imagine, Kinsale3, Tintagel, and Valentine. Particular joy was expressed for the return of Tintagel, offset by distress at the absence of Sundance. It was agreed a course would be chosen on the water by OOD Ian, Bev, and Jock, accompanied by Jennifer. A bold choice was made of course 4 (down to the Parks inner buoy) in expectation of a spinnaker run to overcome an ebb tide.



PICTURE: The Swan crew hard at work during a previous race.

Tintagel (2 on board), lonely in Div 1 made a late start after a slow getaway from harbour. In Div 2, Tiercel (5 on board) was over the line early and with Valentine (with 3 on-board) close behind Kinsale3 (with 3 on-board), Tiercel had to do a 360 to return to the line. Boomaroo (5 on-board) got away with no problem.

The wind allowed a single (port) tack all the way to Parks inner. Imagine soon overtook Tiercel on the first leg. Some of us, still expecting a spinnaker run back, got all prepared but round the buoy it was clearly not to be, rather more of a close reach for most of the way as the sneaky weather gods twisted the breeze more towards the East. Later as the course curved following Drapers and the Creek Mark, kites flew and were held in a fairly shy reach with light winds up to Swan Spit. At this stage at least one Div 2 boat was saying, “Why can’t we catch up with Tintagel?”

It just goes to show that hulls of dense composite material can go fast when freshly cleaned and anti-fouled.



PICTURE: The view from Tintagel on the way to Swan Spit.

Back to Grass Beds and with Tiercel literally miles behind the rest of the fleet, the Shorten Course Flag was flying on Swan: continue to Drapers and back to to an early finish at Grassbeds. Over the line it was Imagine, Kinsale3, Boomaroo, Valentine, Tintagel and Tiercel. On handicap (following the usual miscalculation on paper while chips and beers vanished) it was Tintagel, Kinsale3, Boomaroo, Imagine, Valentine and Tiercel.



PICTURE: A spinnaker foul up costs Valentine a few hundred metres.



PICTURE: The top performer: Kinsale 3 in a much earlier race.

*Next week (21/10/17) there is an early start; briefing at 9-30 AM,
first start 11-00 AM.*

*After the race it's Opening Day at the Club 4-00 PM. Finger
food provided.*

BYO BBQ tea later.



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