

Ray Maki 3 28 October 2017

A perfect day for a sail and despite a few cancellations for other reasons, six vessels signed on: Kinsale3, Imagine, Sundance, her determined skipper making a welcome return despite his serious illness, Wavedancer (back after months in engine hospital), Tintagel, and Tiercel.

After very brief comments from Captain and Commodore and some crew re-arrangements to accommodate all who wanted to sail, crews dispersed to boats with a promise of a course to be chosen on the water by our OODs, Ian and Jock Lee. With Course number 6 designated, in a reasonably steady southerly wind of around 10 to 15 kn, all competitors arrived at the line at the appointed times and started either reasonably or



Flying start for Kinsale3 ahead of Tiercel

brilliantly. Div 1 vessels (Wavedancer and Tintagel) got away without incident. In Div 2, Kinsale3 shot off to an early lead but had some troubles later along the way. Beating south to Pope's Eye beacon, some vessels elected to go on port tack fairly well towards the Heads, others, figuring some ebb was still happening, made for the deeper water as quickly as possible on starboard. Approaching Popes Eye Beacon for the first time, most vessels converged, apart from Imagine which had edged ahead, but was still astern of the two Div 1 boats.



3 Divisions meet - Sundance, Kinsale3 and Wavedancer approaching Popes Eye Beacon.

Despite a reasonably fresh breeze some kites flew on the broad reach from Popes Eye Pile to Wedge, with a gybe

necessary for the next leg to Grass Beds. Tiercel survived a kite wrapped around the forestay at the gybe, prompting a conservative drop well in advance of Grass Beds.



Imagine powers past Tiercel towards the Wedge.

Then it was round the course again as far as the Wedge, with the leg to Swan Spit and back before the final dash for the line. Imagine held the lead ahead of Sundance; Tiercel just managed to overtake Tintagel between SS and Wedge, then, on the last leg towards the finish line, crept past Wavedancer.

On handicap it was Tiercel, Imagine, Wavedancer, Tintagel, Kinsale3, and Sundance. Just goes to show even the best can have a bad day and a cleaner hull plus preferred conditions can turn the tables. Drinks and nibbles at the Clubhouse rounded off a good day despite some dramas during or after the race.



Sundance on the way home



Welcome return for Wavedancer

Thanks to our race officers Ian and Jock Lee.

The next race will be for **The Channels Trophy**, one of the great passage races on the QLYC Inc. calendar.

Briefing at 11.00 AM. First start 12.30 PM.

