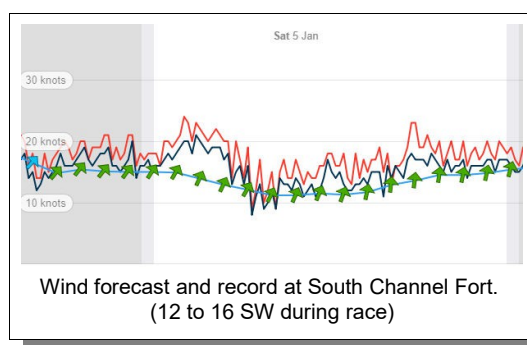


## Channels Race 5<sup>th</sup> January 2019

The weather Gods were kind for our first race of 2019 – wind (knots) in mid-teens, SW with moderate temperature and sky overcast bordering sunny. An early (10.00) briefing saw 7 vessels present for the Channels Race with a further vessel from QCYC anticipated to join on the water. Prior to race briefing, condolences were expressed to the Lee family following loss of Ian. The start



Two club captains and crews, at briefing.

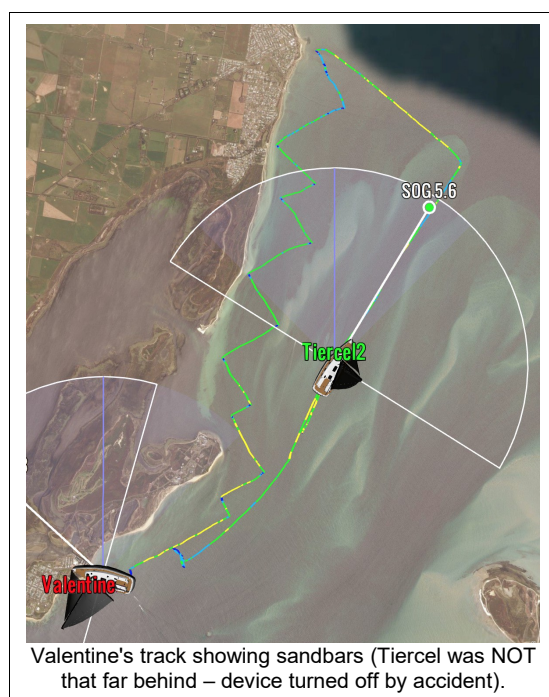


Drizabone (Valentine in background)

With the wind forecast to increase during the afternoon, some crews were debating which sails to carry and in Tiercel's case this resulted in the first (race) outing of the "heavy storm spinnaker". With varying success all kites came out of their bags on the long downwind (and down-tide) leg from near QA to the West Channel Pile. With the tide behind them, the division 1 boats (Drizabone, Warrior and Rosie) were well on their way by the time Div 2 and 3 boats got within reach, in the vicinity of or beyond that turning

time had been set at noon to allow a couple of hours sailing with the flood into the bay with change of tide about 2 p.m. The race was run concurrently with the final race of QCYC's Queenscliff Cup. OODs were Mike Phelan, (Club Captain of QCYC) and John Barry (owing to Sundance being unfortunately without a propeller).

Signed on and fronting up to the downwind start were Imagine, Boomaroo, Valentine, Tiercel, Warrior, Drizabone and Rosie. Joining them for the last race of the Queenscliff Cup was Dreamcatcher.





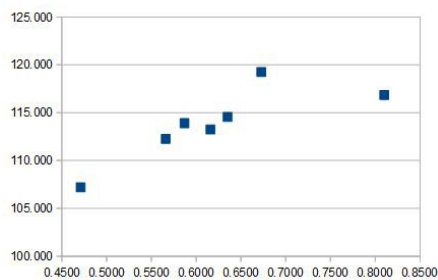
Valentine quicker with kite than Tiercel at the start.

mark. Most vessels had the sense to drop their spinnakers before the turn but Tiercel held on a bit long, hoping to carry it on a beam reach but losing faith as the wind got up.

Then a brisk reach as far as the red pile off St Leonards before a long slog back down the Coles Channel to to finish near QA. Rosie, at the tail end of the fleet, then had the advantage of a more favourable tide for the home stretch.



The fleet on the long beat homewards.



Corrected time vs handicaps. Good tides favour the slower boats.

Over the line the order was Imagine, (Dreamcatcher but in Queenscliff Cup only), Boomaroo, Valentine, Tiercel, Warrior, Drizabone, and Rosie. The handicap results again proved the point, like the Mud Island race, that races designed around favourable tides will favour the low-handicap boats. But it's swings and roundabouts, they will cop it when the tides are contrary. For this race the placings on handicap were: Rosie, Drizabone, Tiercel, Warrior, Valentine, Imagine and Boomaroo.



Rosie, winner on the day - persistence rewarded.

Post-race calculations and celebrations of this race and The Queenscliff Cup were held in the QCYC bar owing to the collaborative nature of the day.