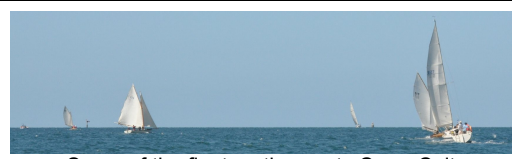


Lady Skippers Trophy, 19th January 2019

A beautiful day on and by the water for the annual race for the Lady Skippers' Trophy, though winds were on the robust side for vessels requiring lots of muscle power. It was wonderful to see 9 boats signing on, although Warrior's intention was to go for a sail rather than compete in accordance with "Lady Skipper" conditions. A reasonably steady southerly, around 15 knots (though locally above this) saw the choice of course 7 but slightly modified to reduce the number of legs from Popes Eye beacon fighting a strong ebb.



Some of the fleet on the run to Swan Spit



Ferry-baiting off Queenscliff



Boomaroo

Another modification was to stagger the starts at 5 minute intervals to reduce the panic on the starting line.



Sundance overhauls a reefed Tintagel.

Fronting up to the start (and competing Lady Skippers where applicable) were Imagine (Margot Farman), Sundance (Jill Golland), Boomaroo (Alison Roberts-Wray), Valentine (Sarah McMaster assisted by daughter Tika), Tiercel (Wendy Duncan), Warrior, Drizabone (Sue Watson), Tintagel (Eleanor Bishop) and Maud (Jan Worthington).

Without the usual hands on the helm, and in brisk conditions, some boats opted for reduced sail but others held on to their maximum area, though some of those were thankful for the "no spinnaker" rule. Dramas, if any, were kept "in house" despite some close racing, and it had some of the feel of a sternchaser as the vessels came together in the latter part of the race.



Welcome return for Maud



Imagine overtakes Valentine

Over the line the order was: Sundance, Imagine, Drizabone, Maud, Warrior (but not 'competing'), Valentine, Tiercel, Boomaroo, and Tintagel – though the staggered start and the occasional anomaly distorts any comparative value in this order. With Imagine's spinnaker confined to its bag and Sundance just off the slip, their handicaps put Sundance first and Imagine last, the remainder of the order being Valentine second, followed by (Warrior), Tiercel, Maud, Drizabone, Tintagel, and Boomaroo.



Tiercel



Fine evening for a BBQ

No immediate gathering at the Clubhouse, as a BBQ was held in the evening, with a good time had by all. Congratulations to Jill for winning her "own" trophy and thanks to Jennifer Gilbert, Ian McKenzie and Andy Doolan for OOD duties on Swan. Photos by Andy Doolan and the Commodore (having time off the helm).