



QLYC.... The Real Sailing Season begins! - Sat Oct 19, 2013

And to begin the season... we have a lovely sail around the sticks for Ray Maki 1....!

At last we saw the sun and a little wind following a lacklustre winter series...but at the committee meeting earlier on Sat there was some word out that the wind was to get up strongly....and it did initially!!

As happens with the first race of the season...a small fleet actually entered....and at briefing it was the usual band of intrepids that sought out the OOD ensuring he remembered the rules after Ian and Bev had spent too much time in the northerly states under sunny skies.

But there we were with Sundance, Tiercel, Wave Dancer and a lonely Couta in Fancy to start proceedings.

Skippers gathered with crews and the Commodore acknowledged the winner of the winter crew



series Tudor Cosma amongst the crowd but tethered to John Barry for fear he may lose this up and comer's skill set to another!!

Crews were:

Sundance with John Barry Tudor Cosma, Ross Nitz, Brian Golland and Patrick Roberts,

Wave Dancer with Dave Hatton and Ross Haughton,

Tiercel with Colin Gibbs, Bob Mayne and Martin Lieberman, and lastly

Fancy with Paul Van Prooyen, Alan Chalmers and Gary Silk.

The course was Grass Beds to QA across to Wedge, to Swan Spit, Wedge, S/S, back to Grass Beds, to Wedge across to S/S, back to Grass Beds, Wedge, S/S and finish at Grass Beds. And whilst the tide was moderate on flood and the wind initially at around 15 to 18 all reefs accepted ...as the race progressed the tide turned to a nasty ebb and the wind continued to drop to around 8 to 10 knots.



Given the fleet the first division was a fizzer (no starters!) and the three smaller craft starting in Div 2 and a lonely Sundance in Div 3.

At the start it was Tiercel that got the jump on the others flying to the line whilst JB watched with interestbut Sundance's turn to start was a ripper with barely centimetres in it at the line. Nice!!



Tiercel however seemed to stall near Wedge and headed into the northerly luffing up before heading back to the mark?? Wave Dancer was making good ground ahead of Fancy. By the time Grass Beds was reached by the leader in Wave Dancer, Sundance was making good ground toward the lead.

The wind continued to abate and as it did, Wave Dancer maintained her reef but was in front of the field. By the second lap it was clear that a combination of wind and a changing tide would ensure Sundance had an opportunity to

lap competitors.

Sundance lapped Tiercel and moved to catch Fancy but on the second lap of the course Fancy pulled the pin and retired (Paul did not wish to be lapped)

Wave Dancer was passed but continued the fight but by the last lap she was struggling to make Swan Spit and slipped gracefully down in the ebb to QA in an effort to make Swan Spit.

A call from the OOD to Wave Dancer confirmed that Sundance had finished and that the two others had retired This made Dave Hatton's position a long sail home and after some thought gave the OOD the signal that she too was retiring.



In the end it was only Sundance that saw the finish flag, hooter and time on the log.

All up it was a lovely sail with conditions making the afternoon difficult and a little messy for those caught in the strong tide at the end of the field.

Oh well....sorry for all the other competitors...but as Sundance is a winner...congrats to John Barry and crew for a great day out and first win of the season.

Next Club Racing start:

Is on....

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26 - Ray Maki 2 !!

And

SUNDAY October 27 - Try Sailing !!



Note to all:

1. Courses are revised for this season and available at briefing on Saturday,
2. All club invoices have been sent to members and we would appreciate your attention to these...please advise us via the Secretary of any changes,
3. AND this Sunday we are having a Try Sailing Daywe need skippers to assist with having vessels available for crew out of the Harbour...call John Barry 0408 955 299!!