



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Cec Anderson Race 4 in the Series

- Sat March 1, 2014

Just when we thought it was safe to go out on the water.....!!!

The Cec Anderson Series continued with the fourth race and with a fine looking day and the breeze building during the afternoon....

At briefing, with many gathered around, both as a social occasion and the much more serious side of racing...just look at the concentration on these faces....not a word was said!!!and we welcomed back Jodi Kemp who is spending her final day in Queenscliff before jetting off for permanent work in Perth...what a way to spend a day with QLYC!

In today's race there are eight yachts and 32 participants.

Opening remarks by Commodore Jill, and then onto Steve Lee the Sailing captain, who gives the lowdown on the Maritime Weekend coming up at the end of the month and the Wooden Boat Festival next week in Geelong, when our Couta Fleet will represent us in force...



And as it turned out, we were visited by our local fishing hero in Lewis Ferrier who listened intently to Steve!

The Race info today indicated a good course, slightly modified for the start, with the use of course #7 to be followed, from a start at QA / Grass Beds to Wedge to Drapers Pile, to Grass Beds, Wedge, Drapers, Grass Beds, Wedge, Drapers and finally to Grass Beds finish.

At the start, as time ticks by, the Div 1 fleet look around and find Rosie and Drizabone pushing hard to the line in front with Indulgence tucked in behind....Rosie takes off....



With Div 2, the milling around also challenges the lads...but at the gun, it is Valentine easily getting to the line ahead of Tiercel with Wave Dancer tucked in behind...not sure what happened, but on the line it is Dave Hatton tacking to get over ... although the course taken suited!!

By Div 3 the boys are anxious...Imagine trails Sundance and then takes an early try to the line toward the Committee Boat



end and Sundance again in pursuit...but it is Chris Laker who overcooks it and must sail past the pin before returning to start... first points to JB who makes an awesome touch over the line on the

hooter...good one JB! Also heard on the bush telegraph, that a winch went foul on Imagine just before the start!!

At Wedge the first time, it is Sundance that trails Imagine, with the field strung out over the course back to Grass Beds...the wind is freshening and most yachts are overpowered...

Talk about annoying...those F111 and Airforce cronies kept buzzing the fleet in the early part of the race with the excuse that it was Point Cook Airshow...

On the second lap it is Tiercel, Drizabone, Rosie, with Indulgence and Wave Dancer struggling in the conditions with the back markers pushing hard ...



By lap three, a more freshening breeze, saw most vessels heeling badly in gusts and managing well especially approaching the Wedge Pile....off the wind and to Drapers it was easier, and certainly suited the Coutas although most made good ground. But early in the third lap, Imagine took time to retrieve a "lost crew member" from the water (believed to be "Rocket" Rod Jones), and lost some good time doing the pickup, whilst Sundance had already taken the opportunity earlier, to reef, in expectation of the change in conditions in the final part of the second lap and grabbed an advantage over Imagine.



Toward the end of the race coming up to Drapers it was Imagine overtaking Valentine whilst Sundance headed up slightly, with the rounding of Drapers, saw Drizabone overtaken by all three but Tiercel remained in front heading to Grass Beds.

At this point in the race, the tide changed from flood to ebb and as a result, the wind chopped up the waves and made OOD's uncomfortable as well as weather for the competitors.

At the end, it was Tiercel with line honours, ahead of Imagine and Sundance third. Others followed in order of Valentine, Drizabone, Rosie, Indulgence and last across the line was Wave Dancer.

On handicap it was Drizabone first, with Rosie second and third being Sundance.

Congratulations to Drizabone with Tom and Janet Fricke plus crew Sue Watson, Andrew Giles and Colin White who excelled again, with triumph in a spirited win, taking a well sailed race in some difficult conditions. Evidence is that Drizabone has won by over two minutes on corrected time and less than seven minutes across the line.



In a sequel to last week's race with Fancy colliding with the Wedge, Sundance had a problem with the motor drive shaft and had to limp into the basin under sail, (Colin Bishop would be proud of JB's efforts!). But, in an unfortunate incident, the hull was holed in the starboard stern quarter in a slight dual with Swan Rescue in the mischievous creek, and to add insult to injury, whilst attempting to dry a wet spinnaker, the wind lifted and almost hoisted two crew into the water after battering them against the life lines....ooowww!! Needless to say Sundance now joins the contenders in the Mishap Award along with Imagine, as last year's winner of the Mishap Award, also now has a few points on the board!

Wot a day sailing...any more excitement and the "Grub" will need time out of racing to recover before continuing!!



And the Grub and Commodore will be missing for a few weeks cruising Bass Strait from next Satso see you all on return before the Maritime Weekend.

Next Club Racing start: Is on....

SATURDAY Mar 8th A special trophy race for those not competing in the Wooden Boat Festival.



Note to all: Courses are revised (**BLUE SHEETS**) for this season and more will available at briefing on Saturday, available from the OOD....no excuses!!

