



Ces Anderson Race 1 – Sat, January 8, 2011

Hello again to all our sailors one and all....

It was predicted to be a turbulent weather day..... and it was....

The build up to our first of the Ces Anderson Series was hot with gusty conditions to 15knots...

Briefing held by Captain Steve Lee provided a scene of relative calm building up to a late change for the race.

Only three starters decided to go out in Kinsale, Tintagel and Chinon. Steve had been in the water for the past 24 hours and was revved up well before the event canvassing crew and looking to whip the others!!



The race course was effectively a sausage course between Grass Beds and Swan Spit with the second leg taking in Wedge allowing the OOD (Ian and Bev Lee) to shorten whenever the conditions turned against our club rule of 25 knots.

By race start the light souwesterly came in and with three starts from 1.30pm Tintagel got away closely followed by Chinon in second Division.

The weather had already freshened to near 20 knots and in third division we had two starters in "Kinsale" and "Yachtmaster" as contenders taking up the back mark.

The OOD took the situation in hand, spoke to Captain Steve (Steve declaring that a race finish would be good before Chinon was finished! Literally!!).....the OOD declared a shortened course at the end of this first lap terminating the race at Grass Beds...luckily seeing that already gusts of 25 plus were pushing the smaller Chinon to the edge....



Young Doug Curlewis requested the OOD for permission to continue in another lap around Wedge and took off with Yachtmaster close on hand.

As Kinsale returned to Grass Beds, Yachtmaster had already seen the deteriorating weather and decided to "pull the pin" on the return to Swan Spit.

Colin Bishop and Ian Curtis in Tintagel had fought a good race as they usually do when conditions harden up....taking good times on the day...they finished at 2.17 after a 1.30 start Steve Lee and crew took second with a 2.30 finish and of course the bigger yachts did the additional lap finishing later.

After finishing, while attempting to drop the main, Chinon performed some amazing acrobatics because of a jib aback....

Tintagel was certainly well-washed: even Ian Curtis, who usually stays dry at the helm because the crew nobly intercepting all the spray, got fairly wet.



On returning to shore in the dinghy Geoffrey Matthews slipped on the rubber matting at the dinghy racks and went right under!! Sorry Geoffrey!!



By 3pm all had packed up and returned to their moorings safe and sound. Not a good day but satisfying in that a race is a race and well done to those who competed!! (and completed!!)

As the shot of weather conditions shows at South Channel Fort the old Port Phillip Bay lived up to its reputation of nasty when angered....but our sailors have mastered her before!

On handicap the big yachts score ...congrats to Doug Curlewis on a short race but good win with our friends from QCYC, Rory Thomas with Gordon and Fiona Syme and family on Yachtmaster placed second followed by Tintagel and Chinon.

Next Saturday Jan 15 we will have Ces Anderson Series Race 2 with a briefing at Noon be there!!