



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Cec Anderson Race 2 in the Series Sat February 6, 2016

A forecast and a beautiful day for a race around the sticks!

The forecast for today was good after a bit of a blow overnight....settling during the day and from 10 to 15 knots expected during our race.

A large gathering of skippers and crew (with a couple of visitors) outside the QHLP Offices, for the race briefing and at midday Commodore Jill welcomed everyone and handed the baton to the Club Captain for detailed briefing.

The race for the day being the Cec Anderson Series and race 3 with a southerly to south easterly and a fair tide running with and ebb for the majority of the race.

Course #9 was chosen given the variability of the wind and not wanting to replicate last week's race.

Skippers were reminded of the Around Mud Island Race to be held on Saturday 20th Feb including the SSCBC Couta Boat Championship races.

Additionally the final results of the Channels Race of two weeks ago was announced with Nellie the winner, followed by Tiercel and third in Valentine. Last week's race in the Cec Anderson #1 was won by Tintagel from Imagine with Defiance third.

With 12 yachts signed on and almost 40 sailors competing it was to be a great day on the water.

The Course was to be a rosette course from Grass Beds to Swan Spit and return, Out to No3 West Channel and return to Grass Beds, to Wedge Pile and return to Grass Beds and finally to Drapers Pile and finish at Grass Beds.

The OOD's for the day were Commodore Jill accompanied by apprentice in Sue Alderson.

On the course it was a good breeze that fronted the skippers tending from the north east, making the start ideal.



At Div1 start it was Defiance and Nellie who sailed down the line to make a quick start but in the end it was Defiance that took first across the line with Nellie, Tintagel, Rosie and Drizabone close behind.

All these yachts took a line up along the shore toward Swan Island in their effort to escape the strong tide.



In Div2 it was Valentine that made the start in front of Tiercel with Boomaroo, followed by Wave Dancer and Fancy.

Boomaroo immediately took a line out into the tide followed by Wave Dancer whilst the others as with Div1 went up the shore hoping for some tide relief.

Div3 start was with the usual two in Imagine just getting to the line ahead of a short staffed Sundance with seconds apart.

These two headed straight up toward Swan Spit with Imagine making a better turn of it given the #3 jib on Sundance against the #1 Imagine was flying.

At Swan Spit it was fairly easy to spot the leaders although as a consequence of the different tracks with Tintagel making life easy ahead of Valentine, Defiance and Drizabone with the others behind.

Valentine, Tiercel and Imagine flew their kites and lastly Wave Dancer also gave it a fling! Tiercel's kite flying was to say the least, a spectacle!



Back to Grass Beds and off to No3 West Channel and at this point the fleet really started to thin out.

The smaller vessels again took an inside line along the shore This seemed to create more problems than it solved as Rosie looked aground near to Swan Island and many were counting on their arrest by our SAS mates....unfortunately NO!

By the time No3 was rounded it was the front runners who had the bit between their teeththe tide was furious and a few had to look



very carefully at their rounding ability....Imagine had literally grabbed the lead and was not considering letting go...her spinnaker was an accelerator against Sundance and Boomaroo ahead of Valentine was holding onto a good third right through here and back to Grass Beds.

Valentine took liberties with Imagine at Grass Beds, (with Chris being the gentleman that he is) despite some aggressive tactics.

The wind lightened and the track to Wedge Pile was a greater distance than expected in the stronger tide...most made it in one tack with a few making an additional tack, given the port rounding....back to Grass Beds was slower than expected.... whilst at Grass Beds for the last time the breeze picked up again

sending Imagine flying toward Drapers and back to finish.

Already we had seen Fancy and Rosie "throw in the towel" with a long road to the finish from where they were A least it is a possible handicap protector!

Sundance rounded Drapers for the finish whilst keeping a close eye on that tide ...it was fierce!

Boomaroo took a close position behind in third place over the line with Valentine in fourth. From there, it was in order to finish, Tiercel, Defiance, Tintagel, Nellie, Wave Dancer and finally Drizabone.

AND on handicap it was as it was over the line for Imagine first, Sundance second and Boomaroo third in a very good performance.

The finish line was a very hard road for the smaller vessels with the last in Drizabone finishing at 5.19 pm.

A different course, but fairly applicable, given the changing wind conditions and direction, making it very challenging and longer than expected mainly due to tacking and lengths of such tacks. Whilst the Buoy to Pile tracks showed it a 10.2 Nm course the real distance travelled was closer to 12 Nm or greater.

Congratulations to Imagine and crew and to the placegetters who earned their place on a great day on the Bay.





Next Club Racing start: Is on....

SAT Feb 13 for the third race in the Cec Anderson Series.

Meet at the harbour outside the QHPL Shed.....at Noon.

***Note to all: A number of Skippers are looking for Crew
and if you would like to be part of our unique racing in
this part of the Bay ...call us or email via the website
...or contact us via "Facebook"***

