



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Annual Cole Cup to Portsea Trophy Race

- Saturday Feb 1, 2014

A "stayers" race that would put Flemington to shame!!!

After a number of windy weekends, this one looked to be a floater beginning as a fairly dense fog as the breeze seemed to be at odds with the intentions of the Sailing Captain....Oh well....!!

Commodore Jill addressed the gathered with a welcome to our NZ fellow Brent Willing who joins us again on Sundance and Fin, a young mirror sailor from the Bellarine who also is sailing with Sundance!

And a round of applause for Jennifer our Hon Secretary who had a "Big" birthday on Friday...!!



Young Finn Moate, (a Mirror owner and recruit to the sport), was introduced to the Commodore and was suitably impressed with his welcome! Courtesy of Sea Scout fame...Ross Nitz! **(See later video on Youtube)**

To the sailing captain Steve and the course for the "Cole Cup to Portsea" was a special with some different marks and a length of around 13Nm....this would be a three hour for almost all and a long day at the workbench! Light winds and a hopeful sea breeze in the mid arvo. The course was Grass Beds to Pope's Eye Pile, Wedge, No 4, No 6, across to Point King Buoy, to Portsea Buoy, back

via Wedge to finish at Grass Beds.

And to be fair there was some "deeper" discussion regarding marks etc!!

Around 42 sailors and ten yachts were competing today for the coveted trophy!

On the course the yachts milled around as wind was difficult to find and the tide kept the skippers on their toes... BUT as 1330 hrs arrived the postponement flag was raised and a further 30 minutes was added to the afternoon journey.



Finally as Div 1 commenced their encounter with the line, it was Indulgence that provided some interest with almost taking on the OOD before tacking just prior to the line and then being swept back in the tide allowing Drizabone to sneak through and Rosie in hot pursuit but Indulgence took to the pin end and away we go!

At Div 2 it was a great tussle with Valentine pushing Tiercel up over the pin end buoy and ensuring she had to start behind the fleet, whilst Wave Dancer snuck under and took a leaner position as a result...Fancy and Maud took good lines and started cleanly.



By Div 3 the back markers in Sundance and Imagine were geared to go with some tactical manoeuvres taking precedence over the line and Imagine sneaking to early lead.

Look at this crew on Imagine..."more heads than mice!!" AND sneaky Gus behind cover!!



In the transit to Pope's Eye it was Tiercel which made exceptional ground, with Sundance having taken the air from Imagine and the field spread all over the course from Grass Beds to Tuckey 2 to Pope's Eye.....it was a mad woman's breakfast!

Wave Dancer thought it was Course 13 and gracefully took an oblique route and wondered why all yachts were much more southerly than they!!

Then Valentine and Wave Dancer both found a wind hole out near the Stones or Pope's Eyeas distinct from Pope's Eye Pile???

After rounding PE it was down to No 5 via Wedge, but this seemed easier than it was, as shallow ground beckoned and with barely 200 mm under the keel, Imagine took a direct line but Sundance tacked for depth seemingly making more ground than Imagine...whilst Tiercel maintained a slight lead to No 6....

Going for the Yellow Buoys off Sorrento and Portsea caused some anxiety and Tiercel took the safest route and Sundance picked the right one with a slight divergence of course...(and good eyes!)



On board Sundance it was the young skipper Finn, who kept the crew in check with his wheel trim!!



On the course to Wedge it was Sundance from Tiercel with Imagine just shy of these two. (Pic of Sundance courtesy of Colin Gibbs)

The radio said it all as one by one the back markers took to "return to base!" with Drizabone, Rosie, Wave Dancer, Valentine and Maud all being casualties to tide, wind and the vagaries of sailing!!

But the race continues....Sundance pulled the kite down in disgust whilst Tiercel held a good full spinnaker maintaining a push past Sundance approaching Wedge. On the run down to the finish it was Tiercel being run down by Sundance (without Spinnaker!) and in turn being hotly pursued by Imagine with spinnaker which gained ground in the last 300 metres....a tussle commenced with Imagine out pacing Sundance and Tiercel a fine finishing third!

This was a “stayers race” with the Tiercel “branding” all over it...they got into the lead bunch and kept on plugging away....nice work to Colin, Jennifer, Clive and Tudor!!

In the end it was Imagine by 2 seconds to Sundance with Tiercel a further 12 seconds behind!!

At the back of the field was Fancy and Indulgence, cantering to the finish line, which was abandoned by the OOD's at 5.30pm with these finishing in order at 5-40 and 5-45 respectively!! (BUT taking their own time by the sailing instructions!)

On handicap results it was Tiercel with a win by over five (5) minutes over Fancy (good work lads!), with Imagine a further almost 5 minutes behind Fancy!



To Tiercel with a now (almost) unreachable lead across all races, Colin has to his credit....2 DNF's, 4 wins, 1 second and 2 thirds....and unplaced in only one race....nice work!!

Thanks to the OOD's and our sentiments to Bev who retired ill on the day before duties...best wishes.



Next Club Racing start:
Is on....

SATURDAY February 8th for the next race in the Cec Anderson Series (race 2)

PS: Late mail.....changed the earlier results.

The sailing committee considered and upheld an appeal from Fancy that as she finished within an hour of the first boat to finish she should not get DNF.

Indulgence also finished within an hour and is now recorded as having finished.