



Ray Maki Series – Race 5 Dec 3, 2011

A lovely day for a race!!

After so much rain and wind and getting over the traditional Queenscliff Music Festival...our lads and ladies are ready for a real race and the forecast leads us to believe we are on a winner.

Assembled crews sauntered into briefingtotalling nine boats on the water, including 3 Couta boats!

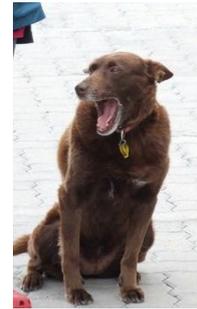


Here comes Russ Watson, returning after almost two years since "Nellie" went to the bottom off "The Wedge"... huge welcome back!! As can be seen, our 'new' regular sniffer dog is on the job, looking for any evidence of foul play amongst the skippers and any challenge or feeding of our four legged friend will result in penalty points by the handicapper!!

Mind you she seemed totally bored during briefing!!

And then there was David Cross, returning after a woolly start to the season...motor not performing, but after having a gentle talking to...working great.

And of course....an equally warm welcome back to Ian McKenzie after a lengthy out of the water period and back to make his mark along with stalwart Bob Mayne.



Briefing was brief....Commodore Jill leading proceedings before handing to Ian Curtis our Sailing Captain and keeper of the watch!



Ian and Bev Lee are our champion OOD's for the day, at the tiller of Swan Rescue ... and this time Ian actually writes down the course....it

is such a disappointment when the OOD does not know what the course is when out there!! Well done Ian!!

A quick sail is promised with Grass Beds to Drapers off to No 3. and Swan Spit before returning to Grass Beds ...up to No 3. then Swan Spit and finish at Grass Beds.

The wind is brisk to 12 or so knots and the first lap is a bull terror...our Tintagel shoots from the line in Div 1. Followed closely by Defiance and Rosie with a Russ Watson in Nellie doing the last minute adjustment No truth in the rumour about class rules and toiletry habits!!

Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club	
Today's Race	
START	GRASS BEDS
DRAPERS	PORT
#3 WESTCH	PORT
SWAN SPIT	P
GB	P
#3 WEST CH	P
SWAN SPIT	P
GB FINISH	
OOD:	
Next Weeks Race	



Div 2 sees Chinon as usual skipping to the line with Zen and Tiercel close at hand along with Ariel as they take to run down the Div 1 boys.

In Div 3 we have Sundance who picked up a few "boys from the bush" who are revisiting as a follow on from their ride last year...welcome back!
At this point the Div 1 around Drapers and Div 2 well on their way up the course.



Around Drapers and those with Spinnakers hoist and fly down to No 3. At No 3 there is a charge for the line with a quick rounding and onto Swan Spit. There is no give and take here.....Tintagel

maintains her lead with Chinon gaining ground and Rosie is flying in competition with Defiance.

The field splits at SS and some are inside whilst others take the tide outside....

At Grass Beds all are doing well and the wind has already seen a brisk 20 knots in it leading some to struggle under previous sail selections.

Again at SS we see Tintagel and Zen are amongst the front runners and around here we see the itinerant Zen with Ian and Bob take a different perspective of the course..."off to Grass Beds" says Ian..."Right" says Bob....and some 300 metres down the course the boys see the fleet headed for Swan Spit..."Oh no, Not again" says Ian.....tacking...and back they come having lost a lot of ground to the fleet!! (We think the pencil needs to be a biro!!)

At the finish at Grass Beds we see Sundance first across the line followed closely by Chinon, Zen, Ariel, Tiercel, Tintagel, Defiance, Rosie and Nellie.

Our heartiest congratulations go to our winner on the day on handicap in Rosie with Scott and David making a great day of it in the conditions...proves the little girl has it in her alongside the big boys!!

Give us a wave you guys!!



Watch out for a new kid on the block soon to be sailing our way...Chris Laker and Gus Rogers who now own "Imagine"and were trailing our fleet during the race and keen to sail against us in the near future.....keep an eye on a navy blue hull out there!



Interestingly if the first 4 or even 5 finishing across the line had picked up 7 thru 8 minutes on the course it would have been line ball as to the handicap finish!! Good work on these yachts by the handicapper!!.....Editor....

