



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Special Trophy Race Saturday March 12, 2016

Another great day on Port Phillip Bay enjoying sailing!

An overcast morning following a number of days of gloom held a prospect of a rain free and light to moderate wind through our area of Queenscliff.

At briefing there was some enthusiasm for the Special Trophy race as we welcomed back Doug Curlewis after his surgery together with the Bux family sailing with us with Steve Lee on Valentine for the day.



John Barry as acting Commodore welcomed everyone reflecting on the Green wedding at the club house today with post-race drinks at the Espy and the Committee meeting last night.

Club Captain Brian briefed the skippers and crews on the race with mention of the Wooden Boat Festival in Geelong this weekend and a number of our Coutas attending to racing there.

Additionally Brian reminded skippers of their responsibility to submit all paperwork on entry for the Maritime weekend with racing on Sat and Sun but starting next Friday night with Fishy Tales at the Museum. Entry and fee will have all crew and skippers supplied with fish and chip lunch for \$20...get in fast and before Monday's closing date.



Our OOD Ian Lee declared that the course would be advised on the water and with the southerly it ended up on course #6 for the day as all vessels milling around Swan as she sat on station.



Course 6 started at Grass Beds to Pope's Eye pile, Wedge, Grass Beds, Pope's Eye pile, Wedge, Swan Spit, Wedge and finish at Grass Beds.



The breeze settled well on the course, but tending light as the start of Div1 approached and with that, a tremendous start ensued, as Maud made a great run at the line closely followed by Wave Dancer underneath her, whilst Rosie took a tighter line above Maud and Drizabone trailed the fleet a couple of lengths. All took a shore line track but Drizabone tacked out early.

In Div2 it was a mixture with Valentine sailing up the line ahead of Kinsale3 and Tiercel to her port and as they approached the line Tiercel could not maintain momentum avoiding the line and completing a 360 behind the fleet to start last in this group. This delayed Tiercel by a minute and half to the start line.



By Div3 start the fleet were well on their way toward Drapers keeping out of the tide and Maud looking the better as she headed south with Rosie well inside.



Imagine led Sundance toward the start of Div3 and successfully made a break heading along the shore before they both tacked out to manage the creek pile.

In the interim it was Maud that was fronted by the Ferry as she traversed the creek entrance losing time on a tack that the ferry had forced on her.

Sailing on a tack toward Point Nepean by most of the fleet early saw the strongest tide for some time ensuring skippers kept their eye on the ball.

Wave Dancer did the better of Div2 with Maud a fair second in sailing well up before ensuring the tide and breeze did their job to make Pope's Eye pile. Imagine in Div3 took an early tack whilst Sundance persevered on a long run before tacking.



Rosie was struggling with maintaining an inside line sailing well up past Drapers and toward Bell Rock. Valentine tacked early as well but made good ground whilst Kinsale3 and Tiercel took middle ground in the fleet not making distance on the leaders. Drizabone disappeared at one stage out of the fleet but was seen as in reasonable shape nearing the first mark.

On the run to Wedge it was Dave in Wave Dancer looking a treat coming from way out to a good line with Imagine flying the kite on the way (flying was probably a bit of a loose

term here!) And then on the second rounding of the Wedge certainly took it a little close although the angle gives it a better view than actual!



Tiercel as observed trying out the old green "blooper" on her run from Pope's Eye to the Wedge the first time but made a poor attempt on her second attempt....Colin about to abandon ship!!

Around Wedge and to Grass Beds it was the tide that took its toll with Maud retiring with a broken jib halyard on her way to Pope's

Eye the second time....bad luck while doing so well!

Sundance was able to gather in Wave Dancer on this leg whilst Imagine really got away and the others grouped up at the wedge mark but broke up as they headed down to Grass Beds in a long line.



Back to Wedge again saw different tacks by yachts in the strong tide and while some took early tacks and others the long road up to Point Nepean, little mattered in the end with a return (DNF) to the harbour by Valentine and Rosie.

Approaching Wedge the OOD could be seen sitting off with the shortened course flag flyingand although it was early than expected it was justified on the back markers attempts to get around the course in the healthy tide as it took its toll on the slower competitors.

Over the line it was Imagine by 11minutes over Sundance with Wave Dancer a further 5 minutes out while others finished in order Kinsale3, Tiercel and finally Drizabone 38 minutes post the winner.

On handicap it was congratulations to Imagine with Chris Laker and crew, followed by Wave Dancer in second place, less than two minutes behind with Sundance third, a further a little over four minutes astern.

Others followed in Tiercel 4th, Drizabone 5th and finally Kinsale3 in 6th position.



In summary a good race but the imposing tide on yachts made for some cunning moves crossing in the eye of the rip, let alone trying to make a tortuous rounding of Pope's Eye pile.

Many thanks to our OOD's in Ian, Bev and Jock for the "trauma" of a lovely day on the bay! Pity that they have to get so relaxed about it all!



News: In the Wooden Boat Festival in Geelong over the weekend... the results are...

- 1. Passage Race – Fancy 1st, Nellie 2nd**
- 2. Corio Cup – Nellie 3rd, Fancy 4th**
- 3. Regatta Series – Nellie 1st and Fancy 2nd.**

Congrats on the QLYC representatives on such excellent results!

Next Club Racing start: Is on....

SAT Mar 19th for the Maritime Weekend Race...continuing on Sunday Mar 20th with a short race followed by "Race the Ferry"

Remember "Fishy Tales" on Friday night at the Maritime Museum Boat Shed!

Meet at the harbour outside the QHPL Shed.....at 11.30 am for a briefing before lunch and blessing of the fleet in the harbour .



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"

