



## Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

### Winter Series – Race 1

- Sun June 14, 2015

#### After a week's delay a great day for our first race!!

Last weekend with its blustery conditions meant that our first race this winter was delayed a week....but what a day it turned out to be with perfect sunny conditions for a race around the bay outside Queenscliff.

Our winter briefing area outside of Lix's Café in the harbour made congregating a breeze (sic) with five skippers and crew milling around and catching up after more than a months off water.

Commodore Jill (minus crutches) paraded her two new knees before welcoming everyone just after 10am. As OOD with Alex, she handed the briefing to Club Captain Brian, for a quick overview and details of the race under a north to north easterly light breeze and course #1 of the set club courses.

Signed on skippers were Doug Curlewis - Kinsale3, John Barry – Sundance, Dave Hatton – Wave Dancer, Patrick Roberts – Lionheart and Colin Gibbs – Tiercel.

Although confronted by a flat battery on Swan Rescue, Commodore Jill and Alex were quick to enlist the harbour staff of QHPL for a jump start, so all was well on the water with Swan positioning herself in deep water at Grass Beds.

The course was Grass Beds to #3 to Swan Spit, Grass Beds, #3, Grass Beds, #3, Swan Spit, Grass Beds finish.

With only two divisions, first start at 11.30 by Div 2 was pretty good with Tiercel over the line first followed by Wave Dancer and Kinsale3 with Lionheart in her first race since 2013 a minute late to start.



The windward leg to #3 was a great and opening leg for Kinsale3 as Doug and crew got a leap on all the others by a couple of hundred metres at the mark.

Wave Dancer was second to the mark with Tiercel and Lionheart close behind and together.

Div 3 was a lonely start with only Sundance having the line to herself.

Toward Swan Spit and Sundance from Div 3 just behind Lionheart after the mark.

Not much tide at this stage and Kinsale3 really took command of the race from here continuing to make a useful race by several hundred metres, whilst Wave Dancer was marginally ahead of Tiercel and Lionheart at SS.

However, a short while after Swan Spit on the downwind leg, saw Tiercel alongside Lionheart for a short while, before Tiercel took a move to an inshore route along the shallows of Swan Island.



Wave Dancer continued to maintain second position just ahead of Sundance before the wind picked up and Sundance overtook her heading down to Grass Beds the first time.



Looking back from Lionheart it was now obvious that Tiercel was slowing dramatically inshore, and subsequently confirmed when channel 72 crackled with Dr Colin announcing that they were aground and requesting assistance from Swan Rescue when available.

The OOD at the same time was announcing to all vessels that a shortened course was being called, with finishing the race at Swan Spit after #3 instead of Grass Beds.

At this point Kinsale3 was well on their way toward #3 with the balance of the fleet rounding or about to round the Grass Beds buoy.



The fleet then heard Tiercel announcing that they were free of the grounding and were a DNF (or DSQ if you consider a motor assist) but would continue with a leisure sail amongst the fleet.

Sundance was now approaching #3 and Kinsale3 was making well toward Swan Spit whilst Wave Dancer and Lionheart crossed paths midway to #3 before both took separate tacks to #3 with Wave Dancer making the better of the journey some one hundred and fifty metres between them at the #3 pile.



At Swan Spit it was Kinsale3 easily the line honours winner ahead of Sundance followed by Wave Dancer and finally Lionheart.

All crossed the line by rounding the pile to Port and finishing except Lionheart who knew better and crossed firstly between the OOD and pile and secondly rounding the pile before finishing. Just to confuse the OOD!!



On handicap, it was Kinsale3 as the winner of the first winter series races followed by Sundance under one minute astern and third was Wave Dancer a further seven minutes behind her and lastly Lionheart in default by a little over ten minutes behind Kinsale3.



Congratulations to Doug and crew on Kinsale3 in a good result and a great race in light conditions when some tactics and the weather

played its own part between competitors.

And our thanks to the efforts and support provided by our OOD's Commodore Jill and Honorary Life Member Alex Eagleson....well done!

**Next Club Racing start: Is on....  
SUNDAY June 28<sup>th</sup> with 2<sup>nd</sup> race of the Winter Series**

***Remember this is Crew Contested Racing – so crew get on the winning yacht!!***



***Meet at the harbour outside Lix's Café at 10am ...coffee or breakfast before if you are inclined.....***

***The Crew points after Race 1 Winter 2015 are:***

- 1 Point – Andrew and Mike***
- 2 Points – Frank, Ross, Monica, Finn and Phil***
- 3 Points – Ross,***
- 4 Points – Lyndy and Brian***
- 5 Points – Wendy and Bob***