



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Cec Anderson Series – Race 1

- Saturday January 17, 2015

Whether to race or not to race!! Glad we did!!

This Saturday was a change that was not expected with our BoM friends issuing a “Strong Wind Warning” on Friday evening and at first light dropping this warning for Port Phillip but not the rest of Victoria...wot!!

And so we gathered at briefing in the harbour to see what the day might look like and as briefing unfolded after the opening stanza by our Commodore Jill ... it was on a show of hands by the skippers present that a race word by held and that the course be a windward return along the Queenscliff coast in favour of a lumpy and unpleasant one further out in the bay.

The club welcomed new member Jessie Martin (not the same lad that skippered our favourite yacht “Lionheart”) to our ranks and she was taken on board with John Barry and Sundance for her first QLYC adventure.



The forecast was 20 to 25knot winds south westerly and up to a 1.5 metre swell and ebb tide all day..... Briefing concluded with 6 yachts signed on and 22 sailors.

OOD for the day was Jill with Ian and Bev Lee who selected course #11 from the course list ...involving a Grass Beds to Drapers, GB, Swan Spit, GB, Drapers, GB, Drapes, Grass Beds finish.

On the course it was reefs across the board and reduced headsail whilst all milled around before the start...



Div 1 got away with Tintagel alone again as she pressed close to Swan Rescue and the OOD's before finally (after heartfelt moments by Bev)....getting out of the blocks....

Div 2 provided much interest with Wave Dancer and Dave Hatton away quickly, then Valentine second after a quick last minute tack, eventually followed by a wayward Tiercel some 4 minutes shy of the start time.

In Div 3 it was Sundance that cracked it right on the line while Imagine had the OOD's perplexed at her circle work and wild manoeuvres, including an overboard hat.....before setting off well over two minutes late??

The wind and sea made windward to Drapers difficult but Tintagel took to it with vigour...with Wave Dancer close in pursuit.....Valentine was making ground but bemoaning an almost minute lost on the line.



Around Drapers it was a difficult scenario with wind directly out of Bass Strait and with the ebb tide gave everyone a good chance at working their way down and around.

Imagine was trailing the fleet and made little headway ...whilst Sundance although catching the fleet took a small loss approaching Drapers when a headsail tack broke loose...quickly fixed and on track down the course.



By the second lap to Drapers it was still Tintagel although the margins were slim and Tiercel and Valentine took advantage to get to the lead.

Sundance was in touch with Valentine approaching Grass Beds the third time but fell foul of a push by Valentine at the mark and confusion resulted as Sundance missed the mark with a starboard pass instead of a port and continued up to Swan Spit.....Oops....then realising the error Sundance backtracked without rounding the buoy and thus was DSQ



Valentine however exulted in the mishap and flew down to Drapers for the last time maintaining the lead and back to Grass Beds as line honours for the day by under two minutes to Sundance in second and finally Tiercel third followed by Tintagel, Wave Dancer and finally Imagine.



Tintagel also missed the mark following Sundance in a “baaaa” moment....but saw the error of her ways given Colin was distracted taking photographsand quickly made amends and continued unabated.

Imagine and Tintagel took the honours for the day with sailing up the “Cut” with little “T” almost getting on the rocks in the gusts!!

Bystanders enjoying the spectacle asked the race officers if the finish line had been set inside the cut!





A Valiant effort in the conditions by all skippers in a good race with some trying conditions especially in the windward stakes. It did result in a quick race and whilst a shorter course of around 7Nm put an average speed of some 5 knots.

On handicap it was Valentine in her second and successive win by nearly 3 minutes over Tiercel in second place followed by Wave Dancer in a very creditable third.



It was a good effort by the Ferry boys in accommodating our crisscrossing their path during the race...thanks boys!

And then there was Tiercel flying her colours as always and sailing an honest race! Tiercel and

Wave Dancer had their fair share of tussles during the day....



See you next Saturday next (24th Jan) for the next instalment of the Cec Anderson Series races which again will feature a Sternchaser andwe will venture into the Lonsdale Bight.... Be there!