



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Cec Anderson Series – Race 2 “A Sternchaser into Lonsdale Bight”

- Saturday January 24, 2015

Australia Day Weekend and a great day for a race!

A beautiful day was forecast by our friends at BOM and it was just that with a gentle breeze building over the afternoon before a late change and strong wind warning.

At briefing it was a larger than normal gathering with 13 skippers about to take out their vessel for a big days racing. Over 46 skippers and crew were involved today and signed on.



Our Commodore Jill welcomed everyone to today's racing and reminded people of next week's Sunday Messabout/ Discover Sailing Day at the club house from 11 am.

The Club Captain outlined the course and weather having contacted everyone yesterday with details of our Stern Chaser into Lonsdale

Bight and around the Parks Buoys/Marks.

Our Stern Chaser model is a staggered start with allocated times for each vessel based on handicap with the OOD monitoring each starter and finally finishing the race with the yacht in front of the fleet at 4pm declared the winner!

The race therefore runs for exactly 2 hours 30 minutes.

Before the start competitors jostle near the course start and beyond looking for some wind and tide advantage.

Today's race sees some familiar faces with “Pequita” crewed by Jane and Peter returning for their first race in the season alongside “Regardless” with a new skipper in



Antony and familiar face Ian McK on board....
....long time since we have seen her with us after Alex Eagleson's long career with her at the club!



At first gun it was Rosie off and familiar face Gayle on board todayfollowed quickly by Drizabone and Tom looking to challenge....

Following her was Pequita, Maud, Fancy and Tintagel.
Wave Dancer was off 22 minutes and then followed Tiercel, and Valentine.
Kinsale 3 then followed with Imagine second last at 52 minutes and finally Sundance at 53 and half minutes.....wow!!

Looking down the bay to Bucket Rock it was hard to see a vessel from Sundance with Valentine already passed Tiercel before Drapers Pile.....

The breeze was picking up as vessels passed around Bucket and into the Bight....

It was a great sight with all vessels passing under the headland of Queenscliff and the fort/ lighthouses etc.....

Across to the Inner Parks Mark and out to the Outer Mark before returning to the Inner and lastly the Outer for the last time....and from there Bucket Rock and inside Drapers Pile.

A number of vessels went well inside toward Point Lonsdale before tacking to the Outer Parks Mark but the swell and waves off Lonsdale certainly looked spectacular....

A few good cross overs by vessels as they tacked on the course made for some good sailing whilst continuing a great race...

Out in front of the fleet it was Tintagel showing her true colours with maintaining the lead and looking a winner after passing around Bucket Rock and down under Drapers around the Creek Mark and inside Grass Beds.



A few took to spinnakers coming down to Swan Spit and it was one that took our eye for the report...good work Dave...

At Swan Spit before turning for home and the 4pm clock finish it was Valentine that was quicker and picked up the lead at Swan Spit ahead of Tintagel and Wave Dancer with a quickly following Sundance.

Looking back down the fleet, all were tightly bunched around the Creek Mark and the ferry

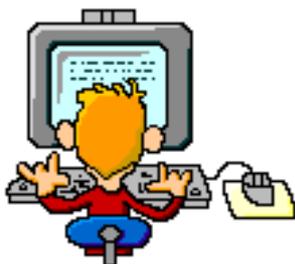
made a good track through the field at that point....



Almost back to Swan Rescue and Grass Beds it was the clock that stopped the race with Valentine and Steve Lee taking his third straight win in three races closely followed by Tintagel in second, Sundance in third place with Wave Dancer a whisker behind in fourth. Well done to all competitors and a fabulous race in absolutely perfect conditions.

Our thanks to our OOD Jill and Alex who managed well given the intricate timings and at the end a difficult job getting that Buoy out from the sea floor!!

BUT not only that, the OOD also rescued and took in tow Kinsale 3 and Doug Curlewis, who nearly dropped their outboard in the drink but managed to hang onto it.



See you all next Saturday next (31st Jan) for the Annual Irwin Trophy which will be followed by the Discover Sailing and "Sunday Off the Beach Day" at the Club House Be there!