



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Cec Anderson Series – Race 5 (Sprint Races)

- Sat March 14, 2015

Another great sailing day before the weather turns...!!

Today turned out a great day for our two sprint races under the banner of Cec Anderson Race 5.

At the usual noon briefing at the harbour, around eight skippers and 33 sailors gathered to which Commodore Jill addressed the throng, emphasising the Commodore's Cup next week and the subsequent reception at the clubhouse and in early May the club presentation night of which details are to be announced later in the week.

As a matter of interest today we had Bill Reynolds join the crew of Sundance ... Bill is one of our past Commodore's from way back who sailed Sabres with QLYC and Fireballs with RGYC before picking up sticks and moving to Hobart...welcome Bill and enjoy!

For today's racing with the two sprint races it was evident that a wind change was in the offering but most likely toward or after the racing.

The club Captain outlined the matters for the day including weather, possible issues for racing sprints and timings associated with each race before handing over to our OOD Ian who offered some serious advice to skippers re non-use of radios in the starting sequences with all that goes on in that period. ie get in early with your confirmation of POB etc.

On the course it was a gusty north westerly to westerly which gave skippers some concern and many went for the "reef early" option with the start looming.

Course 5 was the OOD call! (Basically a triangle of Grass Beds to Drapers to Wedge and return to Grass Beds.)

At Div 1 start, it was a ripper with Defiance hitting the line ahead of Tintagel with Nellie close in pursuit.



By Div 2 it had lightened in breeze but still stiff it was Doug Curlewis in Kinsale 3 that led the charge from Dr Colin in Tiercel and lastly Wave Dancer with Dave and crew.



At Div 3 the reefs were dropped out and it was Sundance sneaking in ahead of Imagine with Chris and crew looking to return a compliment to John Barry.

By Drapers the leaders were well down and around Wedge but Imagine was snapping at the heels of Sundance whilst trailing the fleet.

Defiance with Dave Cross looked well in control as the fleet headed back to Grass Beds with Tintagel and Colin on the money in second followed by Nellie with our Russell breathing down their stern.

By Wedge it was still Defiance making the lead with Tintagel and Nellie doing well in the conditions and in Div 2 Kinsale easily rounded Wedge with a little wayward Tiercel and Wave Dancer cat close quarters. However Imagine was gaining ground providing some interest at the rear of the fleet.

And of course at Grass Beds where the first sprint stopped, it was Defiance first across to Tintagel, Nellie, Kinsale, Imagine, Tiercel, Sundance and a quick finish by Wave Dancer as last one home.

A minor wait and before too many minutes it was a flag that signalled the second of the races was to start at 1445.

Again as if by magic it was Defiance heading the fleet easily at the line with Tintagel and Nellie in close quarters just behind.



In Div 2 it was again Kinsale 3 that made the start look easy with a lead to the line by four boat lengths over Wave Dancer with Tiercel tucked in a couple of lengths astern.



At Div 3 it was a tussle with Sundance managing the line better to head off Imagine.

This race took some different journeys as Defiance went well out before tacking against the tide to Drapers whilst Tintagel took and opposite tack and headed in well behind a rumb line to the Pilots building and close to the pier.

And..... whilst Geoffrey was changing the headsail, our Ian took the position of "close is good"... as Moyneen wanted some mussels for dinner and these were easy picking off the pier supports....., so Ian then diligently sought out a fisherman on the pier, who took great offense when the boys delighted in ripping both his fishing lines and causing a verbal altercation that could be heard well out into the bay!!

Had this been basketball it would have been a decent foul!!



With lighter airs, the leaders slowed and the back markers took advantage when the wind swung around to south and strengthened as the trailing vessels tacked out from Drapers.



Imagine tacking first inside Sundance and then around even on the lee side of the competition.

A good race was held down the back of the fleet with Imagine right on the skirt tales of Sundance trying to gain some advantage in the conditions.....by the Wedge Pile it was still Sundance with





AND then, with the duel in progress, the skipper of Sundance in JB, dives below deck announcing "we have lost the steering!"

Thus endeth the race for Sundance ... dropping sails and sitting in irons in the tide the

skipper with crew make repairs and after finishing the race, Chris Laker and Imagine dash back and sit off Sundance in case of a requirement to assist. Many thanks Guys...and much appreciated But all is well and Sundance makes back to harbour after repairs below.

The second race is done and dusted with line honours to Defiance (again!) followed in second place by Nellie with Kinsale third. Others follow in Tiercel, Imagine (finishing strongly!), Wave Dancer, Tintagel and of course a DNF for Sundance.

And so.....

- a. On handicap in race 1 is Defiance from Nellie with Tintagel a good third. Others followed in Imagine, Kinsale, Sundance, Tiercel and Wave Dancer.
- b. On handicap in race 2 it is Imagine from Tiercel, Wave Dancer followed by Nellie, defiance, Kinsale, and Tintagel.
- c. On aggregate points over the two races it is a big win to Imagine and crew with Defiance second and Nellie in third place.

Congratulations go to "Imagine" headed by skipper Chris Laker and his crew, for a great day's racing and the win, with a best effort to Defiance and Nellie as the small Coutas that took on the big boys and nearly got it!! Well done all.





As a sidelight to today's racing David Coales of Rosie fame could not race on her today and went with Sundance as crew...his major dislike of big yachts ..."Too many ropes here!!"

But he did like taking the helm...as can be seen!

But last and certainly not least we have the lads and their Couta Boats resting between races – Defiance's crew under Dave's leadership looked particularly keen to take the next one home given race one....mind you Nellie and Rusty seem intent on keeping close to the starter and with anticipation mounting!!



Next Club Racing start: Is on....

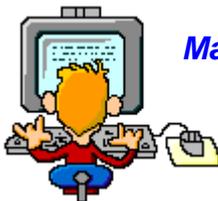
SATURDAY March 21st with The Commodore's Cup

Followed by the Commodore's Cocktail Party at the Club House...

ALSO.....

Weekend of FRIDAY TO SUNDAY Mar 27th to 29th – For the Maritime Weekend...

Starting on Friday Night with "Fishy Tales at the Museum Shed...7Pm – "The Sea Pilot's Coxswains"



Make sure your entry is in early – forms also on the website.