



## Easter Regatta Weekend Apr 24, 2011 "Commodores Cup & Irwin Trophy"

Wow....What a weekend it was in Queenscliff Yachting!!

And we thought last week held some surprises and interesting behaviour!

The forecast of a delightful couple of days of sailing with light to moderate winds and overcast skies...and a couple of good races to give those venturing out to prove their skills....well we might have to ask...skills is one way of putting it!!

### Race 1.....the Commodore's Cup!!

Saturday proved a day for good racing with up to 20 knot winds and seven yachts taking up the challenge of the Commodores Cup....well at least the Commodore was excited...at briefing talking to all about his cocktail party at the clubhouse after the race....he was keen!



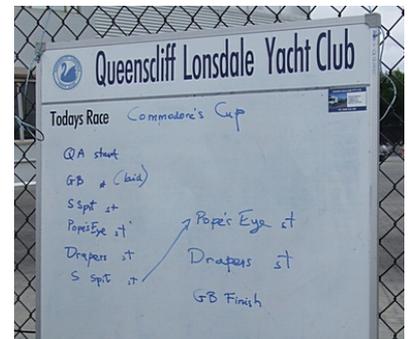
Seven yachts and 24 sailors took to the water for a 1.30pm start over three divisions.

The course was simple and the OOD on his first adventure was Doug Curlewis, looking to make our lads put in the hard yards...., with an excellent flood tide and a long course from QA to Grass Beds, down to Swan Spit and over to Pope's Eye Pile (Doug's favourite!), back to

Drapers, down to Swan Spit, Pope's Eye, Drapers and finish at Grass Beds.

The challenge was on and each yacht took a different perspective on the course, although once around Grass Beds the tide and wind saw a quick run to Swan Spit followed by the long run over to Pope's Eye resulting in the fleet bunching up (courtesy of the tide!).

As Sundance approached the pile, Defiance gave some ground with Christabelle and Tintagel just behind and others approaching.



Seems that many took the opportunity to push hard against the tide and not make much ground, whilst others sought to make passage across the bay, crossing the tide to drop rapidly below the mark and then having to come back to it. Tintagel was making the best of it, although Bonta and Defiance also remained defiant and tested.

By the Drapers mark the fleet was struggling, with Sundance making the best of it and coming down to Swan Spit, the OOD made the courageous decision to shorten course at Swan Spit, finishing the first boat just after 3pm....

Looking back it was certainly a welcome sign for the back markers...

Rosie with David, back on board after an absence, saw them struggling and eventually retiring after the balance of the fleet finished.

Highlights of the day included....

- Maud doing it tough and giving the berth a belt to loosen a few planks on her return;
- Sundance making light of Easter celebrations with fruitless buns for afternoon tea;
- The return of Bill Reynolds ... a very long serving member of QLYC from the 60's, sailing on Sundance ... visiting from Tasmania!