



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Irwin Trophy Race, Sat Dec 12, 2015

The storm goes through and we enjoy the aftermath in a beautiful sailing day!

A strong wind warning yesterday and the ISAF world titles at St Kilda were a mess in 40 odd knots....but we looked and we all agreed Saturday was to be a pretty good one for our race.

The traditional Irwin Trophy was on the calendar for today's race and as always brings out something special.

As everyone gathered with crews and skippers, there were a few new faces being introduced amongst the group. Allister Denhart and Tom Byrne had enquired before about joining us on the water and then there was Past Commodore Graeme Ritchie from RGYC sailing with new member Scott Taylor on Fancy.



Commodore Jill, addressed the crews reminding them of our Discover Sailing at the club house tomorrow and requesting any assistance in making the day go well.

Additionally she also commented on the "Pink Regatta Day" to be held on Sat January 16 next, with preparations well in hand for sponsors, visitors and looking to include as many yachts/boats to join us on the water on our Lady Skippers Race Day.

Our Club Captain outlined the weather including a south westerly to southerly all day and the probable course including the reminder of hazards around Queenscliff and to be careful given our practice of using fixed marks for the courses.

Brian congratulated new owner of Fancy, Scott Taylor and son Hugh on winning their first race with the club last week and welcomed visitors Tom and Alister who are joining with the racing today.

The OODs' again for the day were Ian and Bev Lee together with Jock Lee.

On the course it was announced that course #11 would be used and that entailed a good sail in close proximity to Queenscliff along a north/south line close to the shore.

The course was Grass Beds to Drapers, Grass Beds, Swan Spit, Grass Beds, Drapers, Grass Beds, Drapers and finish at Grass Beds.

There were seven yachts in today's race with the three Coutas in Fancy, Drizabone and Rosie, together with Sundance, Tiercel and Lionheart, and Tintagel and 23 sailors on course.

At Div1 start it was Tintagel leaping at the line ahead of Drizabone with Rosie making up the numbers behind.



Before Div2 were approaching the starter along came Fancy seen to be breaking the start by taking off on the Blue Peter ahead of the Div2 group.

And then there was the real Div2 with Tiercel that again took first across the line followed by Lionheart.

In Div3 it was again a lonely Sundance starting on scratch having to run down here competitors.

The old fox Tintagel continued to maintain a lead although it was hard for the Grub to get a real grasp on the front runners at Drapers the first time with Drizabone and Rosie all around her.

Tiercel was well in the race with heading off Lionheart, who was taking her last race with QLYC that we currently know...the bookies may have a different story.

By Swan Spit it was a catch up race with Tintagel dropping off along with Drizabone and Rosie who went way inside to minimise the current.

Tiercel was making a big play for the front spot with Sundance hot on her heels.

By the time the fleet had arrived back at Grass Beds it was evident of the windward work by the back markers was paying off.



Down to Drapers again it was a different story with tacking out from the Creek Pile looking at Fancy making her way down in the fleet and amongst the balance of Div1 and Div2 with Lionheart going well near Tintagel and Rosie trailing the fleet.

At Drapers it was Sundance right behind Tiercel and gaining but Sundance had to wait before rounding and picking off Tiercel on the way back to Grass Beds but doing the gentlemen's thing with sailing past leeward of Tiercel.



Fancy was heading down at the Creek with Tintagel inside making use of the tide.

For the final run to Drapers and back to Grass Beds it was a mixture at the Creek with Drizabone and Fancy trailing Lionheart and Rosie taking a back seat.



At the finish it was Sundance ahead of Tiercel by less than 3 minutes with Lionheart third some 11 minutes. Others followed in Drizabone, Fancy, Tintagel and finally Rosie 34 minutes behind Sundance.

On Handicap it was Tiercel grabbing a convincing win over Lionheart with Sundance third. Fancy was penalised for her early start in Div2 with a DSQ along with Rosie who decided to take the Grass Beds mark incorrectly. Thus in fourth place it was Drizabone from Tintagel in 5th spot.



Another good win to Tiercel, her first with this trophy and the good Dr Colin, with their superior crew and making the best in this short race.



**Next Club Racing start: Is on....
SAT Dec 18th with the Ray Maki Race 4
Supplementary.**



**Meet at the harbour outside the QHPL
Shed.....at Noon.**

**Note to all: A number of Skippers are looking for
Crew and if you would like to be part of our unique
racing in this part of the Bay ...call us or email via the
website ...or contact us via "Facebook"**

