



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Lady Nelson Trophy Race

- Sat March 7, 2015

A day on the water not to be forgotten...by many!!

A long weekend has begun and our QLYC sailors are keen to get on the water and take an annual honour of the Lady Nelson Trophy.

A gathering at the harbour sees around 30 sailors and 8 yachts talking with each other after last week's efforts and improved conditions with a return to excellent sailing conditions.

The weather promises a light wind softening with some cloud early to a brisk breeze but sunny afternoon.

At briefing it is Commodore Jill that opens proceedings with a welcome, some news and a call to arms for Off the Beach (OTB) sailing at the club tomorrow.

The Club Captain outlines the conditions and briefs members on the Maritime Weekend coming at the end of the month with flyers/entry forms being distributed to skippers for the event.

Today's race will be the Lady Nelson Trophy and we are given a short dissertation on the good Lady by Ian McKenzie, re her arriving in Port Phillip many years ago together with Colin Bishops posting on Face Book of a great pic in Swan Bay....perhaps a smaller version of the same!

All signed on and ready to go.

On the water the OOD for the day is Club Capt, Brian Golland, John Barry (VC) and Frank McMahon looking after the fleet.



The course is set at #6 from the courses with a start at Grass Beds, Pope's Eye Pile, Wedge, Grass Beds, Pope's Eye Pile, Wedge, Swan Spit, Wedge and finish at Grass Beds.

The breeze is perfect for a great start and at Div 1 start it is a fight to the line with Drizabone and Nellie neck to neck...but Tintagel sits back and waits while Rosie bears down and takes the start before finally Tintagel gets there!





In Div 2 there is no equal to how these guys start... with Maud bearing down a minute or less early, and dips through the line but takes off for a tour of the rest of the fleet...then it is Tiercel quickly across followed by an unusually late Wave Dancer and with more than four minutes later Maud makes it through and onto the course...wow!!



Lastly it is the lonely Imagine that takes to the line around 30 seconds down and does the "catch up" with the rest of the fleet.

During the first lap and back to Grass beds it is Imagine as back marker doing best but the boys in Rosie and Maud are lagging the field and dropping off.

Drizabone is making good ground and Nellie with Wave Dancer looking the best but Tiercel is steaming as they usually do with Dr Colin making the old girl hum.

Coming back after Wedge it is Drizabone ahead of Nellie mid fleet but Tintagel also has things pretty well with maintaining her pressure on the forward part of first division and mid fleet.



Imagine has really taken hold of the fleet and using her spinnaker from Pope's Eye Pile to Wedge and down the track has made a big plunge to the front.

Tiercel is angling to be second home behind Imagine whilst it is a gamble on who will be the tail of the fleet although Rosie,

not in her usual style...looks set to make amends to finish last.

By the time Grass Beds is approached for the last time and the finish, it is Imagine with line honours and Tiercel a good second, although some twenty two minutes astern, with Tintagel having a big day out, coming home third a further six minutes behind.



Others follow them home, in the order of Drizabone only two minutes behind with Wave Dancer a further two again and from there it is Nellie, Maud and Rosie.

The OOD's waited patiently for the trailers with Rosie coming home one hour and nineteen minutes behind the leader Imagine!

Congratulations on handicap to our winner of the Lady Nelson is Imagine with Chris Laker and crew doing a great job winning by five (5) minutes corrected. Second was Tiercel and third Drizabone with Wave Dancer, Tintagel, Nellei, Maud and finally Rosie.

For interest the following starters were behind the mark and later than one would have thought...(Handicapper just take a note!) ... Imagine 1minute, Maud 4 minutes, Wave Dancer 3.5 minutes and 1.5 minutes for Tintagel. Umm!!!

Next Club Racing start: Is on....

SATURDAY March 14th with The Cec Anderson Series Race 5 which should be two sprint races if conditions allow.....

.....and remember

SATURDAY and SUNDAY Mar 28th and 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 shortly.