



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Ray Maki Race 2, Sat October 24, 2015

After last week it just had to be good racing ...again!

The thought of anything better than the first sail last week should have been incentive enough for this week and the second race in the Ray Maki series today.

And sure enough at briefing a good group of skippers and sailors gathered in the traditional area outside the QHPL shed in warm weather with a cool easterly blowing across the harbour.

Commodore Jill addressed the group with a welcome and note on a wedding of new members at the club house this afternoon in Helen and Michael Barrett and of course her role as single handed OOD for the day.

Club Captain Brian went over some of the recent requirements of skippers in documentation and courses before settling on course #8 for the days racing knowing that the easterly to south easterly all day and freshening toward evening.

A mention of the creek mark avoidance requirement brought some relief to the skippers after last week as well.

Brian welcomed Terra Nova with Michael and Joanne to the fleet for the first time, noting also the return of Sundance and the "Bolter from Brighton" in Tom and Alison's Boomaroo which had outrun the field last week in her first race.

Formalities complete with sign on and crew lists it was off to race for the afternoon.

Jill anchored "Swan" at Grass Beds and readied the flags for a three division start before taking photos of yachts sorting themselves out prior to the starting signals.

The Course (#8) was Grass Beds to #3 West Channel, Drapers, Grass Beds, #3, Grass Beds, Swan Spit, Grass Beds, Wedge and finish at Grass Beds. The distance of just over 13 Nm allowed for a close 4pm finish average speed of 5 knots on the course. Before the start it was not all that breezy!

In Div 1 it was a lonely Rosie and only Couta Boat to front the starter who shot from the start heading on a nice reach to #3.



Div 2 saw the front runner in Kinsale3 head out followed by Boomaroo and Tiercel trailing slightly with all seeking to catch Rosie.



At Div 3 it was Terra Nova that sat close to the line but headed away before John Barry's Sundance took the line on cue with Michael in Terra Nova almost a minute behind.

Heading down from #3 West Channel to Drapers Pile it was Rosie easily leading but the tussle behind was with Boomaroo chasing Kinsale3 who led around Div 2 around the mark.



Toward Drapers and off to Grass Beds the first time Rosie continued leading whilst Boomaroo was not making on Kinsale3 with Sundance charging at the fleet ahead and Terra Nova taking to it in a flighty effort at the tail of the fleet. Kinsale3 had taken the lead from Rosie with Boomaroo third in the hunt at Grass Beds.

By Grass Beds Tiercel had succumbed to the press from Sundance at the Creek Mark.

Off to #3 again, and now with Kinsale3

leading ahead of Rosie, Boomaroo, Sundance from Tiercel and the fleet remained intact.



At #3 and returning to Grass Beds Kinsale was making a real fist of the day as the wind started to freshen and at times looking over powered.

By Grass Beds on the return and then to Swan Spit saw the fleet all on the same lap, bunched with Kinsale3 making the running and she continued her lead on the run to Grass Beds the third time ahead of Sundance and Boomaroo as the fleet then headed out to Wedge Pile.

After Wedge it was Kinsale3 crossing in front of Sundance as she headed to Grass Beds but was quickly handcuffed by Sundance as the latter reached speeds of over 9 knots and looking good.



At the finish it was Sundance in line honours followed by Kinsale3 with Boomaroo third. Terra Nova finished only four minutes astern of Boomaroo with Tiercel another slightly more than three minutes followed by Rosie nine minutes behind.



The weather and course had played into the hands of all not allowing any spinnakers with all yachts finishing before the 4pm first finish limit.



On Handicap it was Rosie with Scott Crisp, David Coales and Phil Blewitt taking the race ahead of Sundance second with Kinsale3 in third on the podium. Congratulations to the lads with a great win in their opening for the season!

Others followed in Tiercel, Boomaroo and finally Terra Nova on a provisional handicap.

Interestingly over the course, for the day, the following average speeds were calculated for vessels in the race with Sundance on 7.7 Knots, Kinsale3 with 6.7, Boomaroo 6.6, Terra Nova 6.96, Tiercel 6.24 and Rosie 5.42...well done all.

Our special thanks to our Commodore Jill who single headedly managed the rescue boat in really difficult conditions, while still managing to get good photographs of all the fleet.

PS. A quick but sincere thank you to Rosie's crew in Scott, David and Phil for picking up the finish buoy.

PPS. Our Treasurer held Tintagel on the mooring and took a gamble with crewing on Boomaroo this week...saw a different side of racing we think!

Next Club Racing start: Is on....

SAT Oct 31st with the Ray Maki Race 3 in the series – “Wear a witches hat”

We will meet at the club house following the race which will include announcements!

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”



A good shot of the two big boys and their toys!

