

Spring Series 3rd Race Report 24th September

2011

Nice morning very light winds, around 11.30 started to become overcast.

Bad news, the starters boat still only has one operational motor, rang Ian McKay and said it "looks as if we will be having another Transit race starting from the Club", when he arrived the wind was mostly East and there would be no works in a Transit course, he requested he use the starters boat take it slowly and set a long W course, permission was granted.

Most yachts left the Club around 12.30 on the way out it became colder and started to rain in a cold mist.

13 yachts started, W course flag was set west well down the runway, top mark 140 degrees in Kurnell near wharf, starter was asked if another bouy was to be laid as in a W course the start is in the middle, the yacht was advised yes and it appeared another bouy would be laid further west leeward to the start bouy.

Good start the fleet split in 2 once over the line the faster yachts tended to favour the North East the Endeavours sailed SE a tack of approx 150 degrees.

By the windward mark the margin had increased as Red Ned, Halcyon Daze Via Con Dios and Windy point Braveheart were well ahead and I lost count of their positions, The Endeavors and Wasabi were not that far apart, Tic Tac tacked off and went north and when we all arrived at the top mark he was well ahead, under spinnaker we battled Tic Tac and while running square to the bottom mark we could just make out the Faster boats who at this stage were at the bottom mark, it was clear Halcyon Daze kept on sailing looking for the mark he understood would have been laid lower than our starting mark, bad news for him it had been set in the middle of the first long leg, Red Ned did not make the same mistake and took the lead to the finish, although I have read out the scratch and handicap results I did not keep a copy and am unable to advise the finishing order in respect to Windy Point, Halcyon Daze, Happy Daze all these yachts were well ahead of the rest of the fleet, great battle between Tic Tac and Wundurra with Blys making up ground all the time and Stella was just slightly slower than Blys, Wasabi was always in the picture and with Charles on board they had a great race, Tarni 11 held on for a long while but the race was to long and unfortunately he had a DNF

Wundurra was able to catch Tic Tac in a tacking encounter, the "second fleet" finished in this order Wundurra, Tic Tac, Blys, Stella, Wasabi and Katy May

You can see how interesting this is becoming the handicaps are making big changes, I must say the starters did a great job in setting this windward course which was far superior to what would have been achieved if we had a Transit course starting at the Clubhouse

I must admit also I was of the understanding when I heard the remark from the starter that another bouy was to be set I got the impression it was to be set further to the west of the start and not in the middle of the course.

If I have missed any one I will try harder next time to keep up with the faster yachts ha ha

Brian C