



BLOWING IN THE WIND

CYC Keelboat and Dinghy Newsletter

15th November 2022

Wednesday 16th November-Keelboats-1st Twilight

Saturday 19th November-Keelboats-2pm- Club Start-

Race 2 of Alpin Thomson Series

Sunday 20th November-Dinghies

-10am-Club Championship Race 2

KEELBOAT NEWS

Crew Sign On Sheet It is the responsibility for ALL Skippers and crew to sign on before EVERY race. Before the Saturday race, the Chief Starter will have the file in the bar area and then will take it to the Start Box. We MUST keep these details for a requirement from Australian Sailing.

If skippers do not sign on we may need to go down the path of disqualification!! So do the right thing and sign on before heading out to your boat.

Sailing Committee Meeting: Monday 5th December

KEELBOAT CALENDAR NOVEMBER

16-Nov-22 WED 1825 First Twilight
19-Nov-22 SAT 1400 *CLUB START
(Race 2 “Alpin Thomson” Series)
23-Nov-22 WED 1825 Twilight
26-Nov-22 SAT 1400 *CLUB START
(Race 3 “Alpin Thomson” Series)
30-Nov-22 WED 1825 Twilight

DECEMBER

03-Dec-22 SAT 1400 *CLUB START
(Race 4 “Alpin Thomson” Series)
07-Dec-22 WED 1825 Twilight
10-Dec-22 SAT 1400 *RIVER START
(Race 5 “Alpin Thomson” Series)
SS22 Association State Heat 3-CYC
14-Dec-22 WED 1825 “Christmas” Twilight
17-Dec-22 SAT NO RACING AT CYC
21-Dec-22 WED NO RACING AT CYC
24-Dec-22 SAT NO RACING AT CYC
28-Dec-22 WED NO RACING AT CYC
31-Jan-22 SAT NO RACING AT CYC

Swan River closed until 4-1-23

Saturday 12th October

On behalf of Rear Commodore of Sail, Craig Feakes:

Racing was cancelled on Saturday due to high winds. However, that didn't stop a few boats going out; namely, Paprika (Todd Whitfield) and Beagle (Boykett Family) who “chucked a lap or two of Karrakatta bank – and even took some of the more intrepid newbies out from the meetup group. Seamist VI (Craig Feakes) and Krista (yours truly) contested race two of the State Championship for the Spacesailer 22 class – up at South of Perth Yacht Club.

Here's a summary of what Krista got up to: The day started with a hull clean – was nearly seasick from doing that. The boat was bouncing around all over the place. Installed the boom with holders for the spinnaker pole (to make it easier for the foredecky – who only weighs about 35 kgs!). Krista only has a big 0.75oz light weather running kite in its downwind armoury – and there was no way I was putting that up today. Maybe pole out the jib...that was about as far as I was willing to risk it. I reckon it was blowing 22kts when we took off at 12:30...but by the time we got to South Perth, it was down to around 17-18kts I reckon.

We missed the start (again) by about 10 seconds...which was not great...but I was heartened to see we had similar speed to the other boats. We hung in there with them until they put their kites up for the first run...then we were left behind. We were the only boat (plus one other) that didn't put a kite up...and finished 2nd last and last accordingly! The race was good fun...and the newbies were up for the fight. I'm still having problems with halyards...the jib halyard was slipping...so I'll have to go back up to 8mm rope...the spinlock clutches don't like 6mm (even though it says they are rated for 6mm-12mm...oh well). The other problem I had was I also got a bit lost at one point. I couldn't find Robbins buoy and rounded one that was further east...then realized (when we saw the other boat round the correct mark) and headed West towards Robbins and rounded it correctly. The Lopez blocks are working well...and we had plenty of tacks to get the timing right...we were pretty slick towards the back half of the race. It was the only thing that kept us in the hunt I think.

Krista's S2 kite is a standard 0.75oz cloth...but stretchy (I mean REALLY stretchy...I've seen pantyhose with less stretch than that thing – back in my younger days!). It is great up to 15kts...but after that, you are taking your life into your own hands with it. I managed to order a 2nd hand S3 kite online which is 1.2oz and should do the trick. Ugly looking thing but will see how it goes in the next few weeks. It is due to arrive on Tuesday...so I'll give it a whirl on the weekend...and you can have a look at it. I got it through this website: [New & Used Sails - Sail Exchange](#) for \$400 and it has about 60% life left in it (a new kite would cost around \$3K...so that it good value for money). If you do intend on using the site, make sure you use the measuring guide and get what you are looking for.

Anyway, back to the race. The wind kept building as the day went on. Seamist was holding its own up at the pointy end of the fleet. They handled the conditions well...and didn't have any troubles with their kite at all. We saw a few death-rolls out there...but the SS22 fleet is pretty sharp...and they've been sailing these boats for a long time...so they have the smarts to keep them on an even keel. Seamist pulled off another 3rd and 3rd and Krista improved its position by one place (compared to the previous race) coming 5th over the line and 4th on handicap (there were only 6 boats in the race...don't tell anybody!). Curiously, the newbies on Krista are keen to have another crack – which will be in our home waters on 10th December, so we're looking to give a good account of ourselves.

See you on Saturday!

Comm Dom

Thank You



**Without our volunteers we would not be able to go out and enjoy the sport that we love.
So it is important to thank these people.**

**Thanks to our Duty starters for:
Saturday November 12th: Robert Jeffery & Andrew Caddick.**

DINGHY NEWS

With a strong pin end bias, a short line and a big fleet the start to Sundays race was shaping up for a contentious clash of the Titans at the pin end. That is just what happened, with several boats being forced to a humbling restart.

Two thirds the way down the start line and moving fast as the race began, I was able to tack onto port almost immediately and cross the fleet setting up a commanding lead that with some favourable picks of the shifting wind saw me arrive clear ahead at the top mark. A rare event and I should probably have quit while still ahead.

However, as is so often the way the rear boats took advantage of the wind filling in behind them and the fleet closed up on the downwind leg. Then it was blunder time for me, being unfamiliar with the new course, I mistook the starting pin for the bottom mark. My punishment was swift as I sat and watched half the fleet round the bottom mark above and inside of me relegating me to the rear.

Fortunately, with the continually shifting breeze there were lots of opportunities to make up ground upwind. Colin Dibb tried to take some unfavourable courses in his search for what looked like pressure, but his characteristic luck was not with him on the day and what looked like clever strategies often failed to translate into boat speed.

Travis Lithgo on the other hand stayed more conservative and kept his boat pointing at the upwind mark and so by the final top mark he had taken the lead.

What turned out to be the final downwind leg towards the start boat, flip flopped between being a tight reach and a tack as the wind dropped to a zephyr. I was able to close the gap on Travis and at the final turn towards the finish line I was right on his transom. Meanwhile, a very cunning Nigel had gone wide at the final turn and although sailing a greater distance to the pin end of the finish line he made up for it with greater boat speed taking second place behind Travis and ahead of yours truly by a nose.

All in all it was a testing day requiring constant attention to both wind pressure and direction.

As usual our wonderful start team(all praise to them) were on the ball and shortened the race when the wind all but deserted us.

Astérix Andrew Brockis

DINGHY CALENDAR

November

13 Nov-22 SUN 1000 Club Race
20 Nov-22 SUN 1000 Club Championship-Race 2
27 Nov-22 SUN 1000 Club Race

December

4 Dec-22 SUN 1000 Club Championship Race 3
11 Dec-22 SUN 1000 Handicap Start Race 1
14 Dec-22 WED 1825 "Christmas" Twilight with Keelboats
18 Dec-22 SUN 1000 Club Race

**Please send any articles to: annandrew@inet.net.au by 7pm
Mondays. Or to membership@claremontyachtclub.org.au**