

LJSC Race Reports – November 2022

The Sailing Season Commences on Lake Jindabyne

Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club ran the first Point-score race of the season on the afternoon of Sunday 30th October. Fourteen boats rigged up to compete in the race. Ross Lawley and Nic Luntungan manned the start boat while John Russell manned the rescue boat. The race start was delayed by about an hour due to mechanical difficulties with the start boat. Ross finally got the start boat onto the lake and set a Port rounding Windward return course from the start off the club to the Peninsular mark and back.

Adam Robinson returned to the beach on his Nacra which left four catamarans to start the Division 2 race. They set off into a very light Northerly breeze. Alan Davis made a good start and was followed by Tim Symons, Doug Paterson all sailing Nacras and Andrew & Rebecca Rae on their Hobie 16. Alan and Doug sported their brand new square-top sails for the first time.

As Alan & Tim reached the Peninsular mark, the breeze shifted dramatically to the South West. It increased a bit to around 5 to 8 knots to bring the cats back to the Finish line on a very shy reach. Alan took the win followed by Tim, Doug and Andrew & Rebecca. The yardstick corrected times didn't change this result.

The nine mono-hulls started in the Division 1 race 5 minutes after the catamarans. They too struggled their way towards the Peninsular mark until the breeze shifted and increased in strength. They then enjoyed a broad reach to the mark and a very tight shy reach back to the finish line.

Steve Osborne reached the Peninsular mark first, closely followed by Nic Kennedy and Mal McLean. These three rounded the mark incorrectly to starboard instead of Port. Steve realised his mistake and re-rounded the mark correctly. This allowed the next few Laser sailors of Rod Baillie, John Baird and Dave Rubin to pass him. Though Nic and Mal led the fleet to the finish line in first and second place, they were disqualified for not sailing the correct course.

Rod led the rest of the fleet to the finish line followed closely by John only 3 seconds behind. They were followed by Dave, Steve, Ian Ferguson on his Enterprise, Hayden Slater and Thor Slater. The yardstick corrected times didn't change this result.

Light Wind Sailing on Lake Jindabyne

A small number of sailors gathered at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club on the evening of 2nd November for the first race of the 2022-23 Twilight Sailing series. After reviewing the conditions with the Race Officer of the Day, Rod Baillie, the 5 sailors decided not to sail. The wind was a strong and gusty Westerly which made the temperature feel like about 1 to 2 degrees.

The Junior Green Fleet sailors started their 2022-23 programme at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club on Sunday 6th November. Freya and Hayden Slater instructed the sailors to improve their sailing skills in the club's Optimist dinghies.

Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club ran the second race of the 2022-23 Point-score series on the sunny afternoon of 6th November. Steve Osborne and Lynne Burgess manned the start boat and set a Windward / Leeward course to the Mountain mark and back. John Russell and Nic Luntungan manned the rescue boat and set the start buoy and finish mark.

The extremely light North-north westerly breeze only reached about 3 knots at the start of the race. Six catamarans started in the Division 2 race with Thor, Freya & Hayden Slater starting late and having to chase the fleet on their Capricorn F18. The fleet made painfully slow progress on the long windward work to the Mountain mark in the almost non-existent breeze. The four Nacras split away from the others with Alan Davis in the lead followed by Alistair & Lucy Cross, Doug Paterson and Tim Symons. Hobie cat sailors Andrew Kennedy, Andrew & Rebecca Rae and Team Slater made up the cat fleet.

The cats sailed a slow downwind return leg back to the finish line. Alan crossed the line first closely followed by Alistair & Lucy, Tim, Doug, Team Slater, Andrew and Team Rae. The yardstick corrected times gave Alan the win from Tim, Doug, Alistair & Lucy, Andrew, Team Slater & Team Rae.

The five monohulls started 5 minutes after the cats in the same light breeze. John Kleven & Peter Baker and Ian Fergusons sailed their boats without joining in the race. Nic Kennedy on his Finn led the four Lasers on the two slow legs to the Mountain mark and return. Nic crossed the finish line first. Dave Rubin followed Nic around the course, but a fast-finishing Hamish Greenwood saw Hamish finish second 2 seconds ahead of Dave. They were followed by Rod Baillie and Kerry McGaw. The yardstick corrected times didn't change the result.

First Windy Race of the Season

Lake Jindabyne Sailing club ran heat two of the 2022-23 Twilight series on the evening of Wednesday 9th November. The evening started out warm and sunny but cooled as the sun went down. Phil Daley and Nick Kirshner manned the start boat and set a Port rounding course from a start line close to shore and close to the sailing club. John and Sandra Russell manned the rescue boat. They set the start buoy which would also be the course's leeward mark.

The seven catamarans started first in the 5 to 10 knot East North Easterly breeze. Most started at the buoy end of the line and were joined by Alan Davis and Tim Symons who sailed down the line while awaiting the starter's hooter. They headed off to the Quarry mark and then on a long windward work to the far off Mountain mark. Thor, Freya and Hayden Slater slipped to the lead on their Capricorn F18 while the following four Nacras headed towards the wrong mark and had to correct their courses. Alan and Adam Robinson started their race long battle while Tim and Doug Paterson did the same. Hobie cat sailors, Andrew Kennedy and Andrew & Rebecca Rae made up the fleet.

The wind picked up to a 10 to 15 knot North-North Easterly on the main lake which had the cat sailors punching into the waves. The Raes decided to return to the shore. The rest of the fleet completed two triangle laps and two windward / leeward sausage laps. Team Slater used their spinnaker to good effect on the long square runs returning from the Mountain mark. After over an hour's racing they crossed the finish line first, followed by Alan just 17 seconds ahead of Adam. Tim finished next followed by Doug and Andrew K. Alan took the win on handicap corrected times from Adam, Andrew K, Tim, Team Slater and Doug.

Six Laser full rig sailors started the Division 1 race with most of the sailors choosing to start at the favoured buoy end of the start line. They also headed to the Quarry mark then out to the Peninsular mark on their first triangle lap. They enjoyed some fast rides in the freshening breeze and a few capsizes in the tricky waves.

The monohull fleet completed three triangle laps and two windward / leeward sausage laps. After over an hour and a quarter of tight racing, John Baird led the fleet to the finish line followed by Damien Goninan, Hamish Greenwood, Mal McLean, Steve Osborne and Kerry McGaw. The handicap corrected times mixed up the results, though John kept the win with Damien second. Steve took third followed by Mal, Hamish and Kerry.

Nine boats rigged up on the afternoon of Sunday 13th November to compete in heat 3 of Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club's 2022-23 Point-score series. The day was cloudy and a strong and gusty Westerly was blowing before the race start. By the start time the wind dropped to around 5 knots from the West North West. John Baird and Lynne Burgess in the start boat laid a start mark near the Quarry mark and set a triangle lap, Starboard rounding course. Tina Robinson manned the rescue boat at short notice.

The three catamarans of Division 2 started first with a windward work to the Club mark and a long reach to the Mountain mark. They stayed as a bunch until after the mountain mark where Alistair & Lucy Cross on their Nacra 5.8 extended their lead over Adam Robinson and Tim Symons on their Nacra 16 squares.

The wind steadily dropped over the next lap. Half way along the second time out to the Mountain mark, the wind shifted to the North, So the cats had a windward work to the mark and a long square run back to the Start mark. Alistair & Lucy led the cats to the finish at the Club mark. The rain started and the wind suddenly increased to around 15 knots to give Adam and Tim a fast reach last leg to the finish. Adam took the win on yardstick corrected times followed by Tim and Alistair & Lucy.

Division 1 consisting of six monohulls sailed the same laps as the cats, but rounded the Peninsular mark rather than the Mountain mark. Nic Kennedy slipped to the front of the fleet on his Finn while Laser sailors Steve Osborne, Damian Goninan and Kerry McGaw battled with each other while chasing him. Duncan Higgs and Zoe While on their Tasar also had a close battle with Thor Slater, Freya Slater and Molly Robinson on a club Corsair.

Sailors Brave the Cold

Despite the unseasonal cold weather with snow in the morning, 10 Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club sailors rigged their boats to compete in the third heat of the 2022-23 Twilight series. Damian Goninan volunteered to man the Start boat with Peter Baker and Richard Churm manned the rescue boat. Damian and Peter set a start buoy in Curiosity Bay in the 10 to 15 knot South Easterly breeze.

The four Nacra 16 squares making up the Division 2 catamaran fleet took off from the start with all of the sailors using their trapezes. They worked to the Club mark then started a triangle lap to Quarry, Mountain and back to Club. They stayed close together and the lead changed hands several times. They then completed a windward / leeward sausage leg between the Club and Start buoys and another triangle lap from Club, to Quarry, Peninsular and back to the finish at Club.

The cat's handled the windy and gusty conditions well and finished as a bunch over a span of 2 minutes. Damian and Peter had to make a fast dash to the Club mark to overtake the finishing cats and set up the finish line. Alan Davis crossed the line first followed by Adam Robinson, Doug Paterson and Tim Symons. The handicap corrected times mixed up the results with Tim taking the win from Doug, Alan & Adam.

Six monohulls sailed in the Division 1 race. They sailed to the Club mark then started a triangle lap around Quarry and Peninsular marks and back to Club. A windward / leeward sausage lap between Club and start marks was followed by another triangle and another sausage lap. The last lap became very interesting when the Start mark lost its mooring and was blown to shore. The boats rounded the rescue boat instead.

Some of the sailors had to recover from capsizes in the freezing water. Mal McLean and Nic Kennedy didn't complete the course. John Baird led the four remaining Lasers to the finish line. He was followed by Rod Baillie, Steve Osborne and Hamish Greenwood. Rod took the Handicap corrected times win from Steve, John and Hamish. All of sailors were glad to head back to shore after the race to get warm after braving the extremely cold conditions.

The sailors gathered at lake Jindabyne Sailing club on the afternoon of Sunday 20th November for the first 2 races of the 2022-23 Trophy series. After reviewing the Westerly wind on the lake which was blowing at Over 20 knots and gusting to much more, Officer of the Day, Michael Fearnside decided that it was too unsafe to sail and cancelled the two scheduled races.

The Tackers 1 Learn to Sail course was also held on Saturday 5th, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th November at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club. The 4 participants, Jameson Simons, Kai Pietrass-Wong, Cohen Page and Lucy Rankin had a great time learning to sail in the club's Optimist dinghies.

Due to the wild weather and strong wind, the kids weren't able to rig the sail boats on Sunday 20th November. So, they and their instructors, Freya, Thor and Hayden Slater braved the cold choppy water of Lake Jindabyne to swim across the club's submerged car park. Completing a 50-metre swim while wearing a PFD is a requirement of the course. All were happy to reach the clubhouse to get warm and enjoy a sausage sanga prepared by Elizabeth Slater.

Another Two Cold and Windy Sails

Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club ran heat four of the 2022-23 Twilight series on the cold evening of Wednesday 23rd November. Phil Daley and Nick Kirshner manned the start boat while Wayne Ryan and Kai Sheppard manned the rescue boat. Phil set a Starboard rounding course in the 13 knot Westerly breeze with a start line near the Quarry mark.

After a delay while Wayne and Kai laid the start buoy which kept moving off station, the six Division 2 cats started the race. They reached the Club mark in a tight bunch with Tim Symons just in the lead. But after being passed by Adam Robinson and bumping into the rear of his boat, Tim completed a 360 degree penalty turn and relinquished the lead to the other Nacra sailors Adam, Alan Davis and Doug Paterson. The cats then headed out to the Mountain mark on a long reach. Thor, Freya and Hayden Slater on their Capricorn F18 caught up to the Nacras and battled for the lead. Andrew Kennedy on his Hobie 17 made up the fleet.

The cat fleet completed two triangle laps separated by a sausage lap in the windy and gusty conditions. There were plenty of fast rides around the course. The breeze dropped to around 10 knots for the finish at the Club mark. Team Slater led the fleet up the last leg only to be passed by Adam when they needed a couple of extra tacks to reach the finish line. They were followed by Alan, Doug, Tim and Andrew. The handicap corrected times mixed up the results with Andrew taking the win from Adam, Doug, Tim, Team Slater and Alan.

Seven monohulls competed in the Division 1 race. They also enjoyed some fast, planning rides in the windy conditions. They also completed two triangle laps and a sausage lap but around the Peninsular mark rather than the Mountain mark. The fleet was made up of 5 full rig Lasers, 1 Laser Radial and 1 Tasar.

John Baird led the fleet around the course and to the finish line at the Club mark. He was followed by three Lasers close together, Damian Goninan, Hamish Greenwood and Mal Mclean. Next to finish were Mark Baker, Kerry McGaw and Duncan Higgs & Zoe White. Mark took the Handicap corrected times win from Kerry, Damian, Hamish, Mal, John and Duncan & Zoe.

Eleven boats rigged up on the lake shore to compete in heat four of Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club's 2022-23 Point-score series on the afternoon of Sunday 27th November. Kerry McGaw and Lynne Burgess manned the start boat while Damian Goninan manned the rescue boat. Kerry set a Port rounding course starting at the East Jindabyne mark in the very gusty West North Westerly breeze which varied from around 7 to 16 knots.

The start was delayed while Kerry waited for the sailors to reach the start line on the Eastern side of the lake. Six catamarans rigged up to compete in Division 2. Alistair and Lucy Cross returned to the club before reaching the start line. The remaining five cats set off into the strong breeze. The first lap took them around the Mountain and Peninsular marks and back to the East mark. Adam Robinson led the fleet followed by Thor, Freya & Hayden Slater, Doug Paterson, Tim Symons and Andrew Kennedy.

Navigation got a bit tricky after that as all of the cats headed to the Peninsular mark instead of the Mountain mark. They realised their mistake when almost at the wrong mark and turned to speed off to the right one. Adam rounded the Mountain mark first and soon capsized in a strong gust. He quickly recovered and set off after the fleet to the East mark. Andrew Kennedy capsized at the East mark and was forced to retire from the race. The last leg from the East mark to the Finish at the Mountain mark saw the lead change a few times. Team Slater crossed the finish line first followed by Tim, Adam only 3 seconds apart and Doug. Tim took the yardstick corrected times win from Adam, Doug and Team Slater.

The five Lasers of Division 1 lined up to start 5 minutes after the cats. Rod Baillie didn't cross the start line and returned to the club. The remaining four Lasers battled around the same course as the cats. Mark Baker retired from the race on his Laser radial. This left the three Laser full rigs of Dave Rubin, John Baird and Steve Osborne.

Dave and John battled away for the lead around the course in the very difficult conditions. After a few capsizes and several near misses the Lasers finished with Dave first, John second and Steve third. The yardstick corrected times didn't change this result. All of the sailors of both divisions were very glad to return to the club after a very tough afternoon on the lake.