

Autumn Marathon

After postponing the planned Marathon race on 31st March, Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club ran the annual event of the afternoon of Sunday 7th April. This race doubled up as the first race of the 2024 autumn series. Richard Churm manned the rescue boat John Baird set a course around Lion and Cub islands and the mountain mark. He started the race from the shore with the start line between the flagpole on the club's front lawn and the club mark.

Thirteen boats of Both Divisions 1 and 2 started the race together and headed off to circumnavigate the two islands in an anti-clockwise direction. The very light breeze of around 2 knots made for a slow start and windward leg between the islands and the shore.

The sailors patiently and slowly made their way from the start to the cardinal mark off Church rocks. They passed all buoys to Port and headed past the Town mark and out to the Mountain mark.

After about an hour's frustratingly slow progress, the wind changed to the South West and started to build to around 8 knots. Alan Davis led the fleet past the islands and on to the mountain mark and beyond. He built up a large lead and was followed by fellow Nacra sailors, Doug Paterson, Tim Symons and Matt & Alex Mason.

The cats finally sailed away from the smaller monohulls when the new breeze arrived and enjoyed a fast leg back to the finish line at the Club mark. Alan finished first followed by Doug, Tim and Matt. The yardstick corrected times didn't change this result.

The nine monohull Division 1 fleet also enjoyed the new breeze which allowed the seven Lasers to pull away from the other boats. The Lasers jostled for positions as they zoomed to the finish line. Dave Rubin finished first followed by Mal McLean, Rod Baillie, Steve Osborne, Kerry McGaw, Stephen French, Duncan Higgs, Matt Warner and Ross Lawley. The yardstick corrected times only changed the results of the last three finishers with Ross taking seventh place followed by Matt and Duncan.

A Warm Autumn Afternoon with no Wind.

Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club ran races two and three of the 2024 Autumn series on the sunny and warm afternoon of Sunday 14th April. John Baird and Ruth Reed manned the start boat and set a Port rounding Windward / Return course starting at around 2pm. John Russell and Narissa Hamilton manned the rescue boat and laid the start mark near the Western shore between the Mountain and Peninsular marks.

Fifteen boats made their way, very slowly to the starting area in a South Easterly breeze of around 4 or 5 knots. Five catamarans started the Division 2 Race two of the series and headed off to the Town mark. They made slow progress as they searched for the breeze.

After two laps in the dying breeze of around zero to 3 knots (maybe), Doug Paterson led the fleet to the finish line at the Start mark. He was followed by Elizabeth and Thor Slater on their F18, Andrew Kennedy, Tim Symons and Matt & Alex Mason. Doug took the yardstick corrected times win from Andrew, Tim, Elizabeth and Matt.

Ten monohulls started the Division 1 race after the cats. They sailed one lap of the same course as the cats. After another slow race, the Lasers came out on top. A lone sailboarder on a Windsurfer joined the fleet for the first time. The bigger, Elliott 780, RS400 and Flying Fifteen all used their spinnakers to help them on the downwind leg back to the finish line.

Kerry McGaw finished first, followed by Stephen French, The Sailboarder, Dave Rubin, John & Kim Kleven, Sam Bishop with Indigo & Tasman, Steve Osborne, Nick Kennedy, Matt Warner and Ross Lawley. Kerry took the yardstick corrected times win from Stephen F, Dave, Sailboarder, Steve O, John K, Matt, Ross, Nick and team Bishop.

Race Three of the Autumn series was setup to start on the same course. Alex Mason was feeling a bit crook, so took a lift back to the beach with the rescue boat, leaving Matt to sail his Nacra 5.8 solo. Division 1 were sent off first and Division 2 followed. The now mixed-up fleet made extremely slow progress towards the Town mark. Safter about half an hour, the boats had only moved about one third of the way up the first leg of the course, so John B abandoned the race and sent everyone back to the beach.

Another sunny Autumn Afternoon with a bit more breeze.

Races Four and Five of the 2024 Autumn series were run by Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club on the warm and sunny afternoon of Sunday 21st April. Rod Baillie and Narissa Hamilton manned the start boat and decided that an inside course would be best in the light and shifty breeze.

The breeze was shifting around as they set the Port rounding Windward / Return course starting near the Snowline shore boat ramp. The breeze looked like a North Easterly, so the Peninsular mark was chosen as the top mark. It then shifted to the Sout East making the Quarry mark the Windward mark. John Russell and Karte Whackett manned the rescue boat and laid the start mark.

Four cats made up the Division 2 fleet which started Race four first in the 5.5 knot breeze. All of the fleet started on port tack. Doug Paterson and Tim Symons sailed Nacra 16 squares, Damian and Zarli Goninan sailed their Nacra 5.8 and Matt Mason sailed his Nacra 5.8 single handed.

Doug led the fleet to the Quarry mark closely followed by the two 5.8s. All four boats were closely bunched at the bottom mark. A tactical race in the light breeze saw potions change around from time to time. Tim managed to pass Doug the second downwind leg as the two 16 squares slipped away from the two bigger boats.

After about half an hour, Rod moved the start boat to the other side of the start mark and set up a finish line. After sailing three laps of the course, Tim finished first 6 seconds in front of Doug, Matt and Damian & Zarli. The yardstick corrected times didn't change the result.

Six monohulls competed in the Division 1 race. Four Lasers were joined by Nick Kennedy, Jenny Kennedy and Ross Tattersall on the Elliott 780 and Duncan Higg's Tasar. They sailed two laps of the same course as the cats. Kerry McGaw, Mal Mclean, Steve Osborne and Matt Warner battled away for positions on their Lasers. They were split by Nick on the Elliott.

Kerry led the fleet to the finish line, followed by Mal, Nick, Matt, Steve and Duncan. Kerry took the yardstick corrected times win from Mal, Matt, Steve, Nick and Duncan.

Race five of the Autumn series was run after the finish of race four in slightly less breeze of about 4.5 knots. The cats again sailed three laps while the monohulls sailed two laps of the same course. Three of the four cats started with right of way on Starboard tack while Damian started on Port tack. This created an interesting situation when they crossed paths.

Doug slipped to the front and led the fleet around the course. He finished first, closely followed by Matt, Damian and Tim. Doug took the yardstick corrected times win from Tim, Matt and Damian.

The same six boats the Division 1 race five. Again, the Lasers battled for positions with the Elliott in the middle. Steve finished first followed by Mal, Nick, Kerry, Duncan and Matt. Steve took the yardstick corrected times win from Mal, Kerry, Nick, Matt and Duncan.

Final Races of 2023-24 Sailing Season

Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club ran the final races for 2023-24, races six and seven of the Autumn series on the afternoon of Sunday 28th April. John Baird, Lynne Burgess and Pippa manned the start boat while John Russell manned the rescue boat. A Windward return course was set with a start line between Town mark and Cub Island. The top mark was planned to be Peninsular, but a large wind-shift just before the start changed it to Mountain.

It was a fine afternoon with high cloud and a medium strength 8 to 9 knot Northerly for the first race of the day. Division 2 started Race six first. Doug Paterson, Andrew Kennedy and Tim Symons sailing their single handed Nacra 16 squares while Matt & Alex Mason sailed their Nacra 5.8 and Thor Slater sailed his two-man Capricorn F18 single-handed.

The cats sailed a closely fought three lap race with the finish line back at the start mark. Thor slipped to the front of the fleet while the four Nacras battled for positions. The wind increased and shifted to the west on the last leg. The two bigger cats sped off to the finish line. Thor used his spinnaker and capsized near the finish allowing Matt & Alex to finish first. Tim led the single-handed cats around the Mountain mark for the last time. He was caught by Doug and Andrew when the wind changed. The finish line shifted and shortened in the wind change and required a 180 degree turn to cross it correctly to port. Doug over shot the finish followed by Tim with Andrew on his inside. Andrew gybed first and finished followed by Tim and Doug. Andrew took the yardstick corrected times win from Tim, Doug and Matt & Alex.

Laser sailors, Kerry McGaw, Stephen French and Matt Warner were joined by Duncan Higgs on his Taser for the Division 1 race. They completed two laps of the same windward / return course as the cats. Duncan didn't complete the race and returned to the club. The three laser sailors enjoyed a fast last leg and interesting finish line like the cats. Kerry finished first followed by Stephen and Matt. The yardstick corrected times didn't change the result.

While the sailors waited for race seven to start, John moved the start line to line with a new top mark of Peninsular in the now Westerly breeze of around 3 knots. Thor spent a while trying to right his cat with John Russell's assistance from the Rescue boat. Matt and Alex sailed over to help. Alex jumped onto the Rescue boat and raised the mast for Thor while John steered the rescue boat. Unfortunately, these sailors missed the start of race seven.

The three remaining laser sailors started race seven next. They sailed two laps plus a windward work to the finish in the light breeze. Kerry finished first followed by Stephen and Matt. The yardstick corrected times didn't change the result.

Three cats started race seven in the light breeze. They had a close race until Tim managed to hook his tiller under his life jacket causing him to allow the Doug and Andrew past and get away. After two laps and a windward work to the finish line at the Peninsular mark Doug finished first followed by Andrew and Tim. The yardstick corrected times didn't change the result.

Another Successful Sailing Season at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club

A successful 2023-24 sailing season was celebrated by Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club when it held its annual Presentation on Saturday 4th May. Around 40 sailors and family members attended the presentation event at the club's clubhouse. Many stories from a predominately light wind season on Lake Jindabyne were shared.

During the season the club ran 42 races on Lake Jindabyne and several sailors represented the club at regattas run by the Wallagoot Lake Boat Club, Kurnell Catamaran Club and the Nacra Nationals at Speers Point Sailing Club.

The club splits the sailors into two main divisions 1 and 2 for monohulls and catamarans, respectively, with an extra Division 3 joining in on occasion. Races were held on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons from 29th October 23 to 28th April 24. The various awards and trophies were handed out by Commodore, John Baird and Club Captain, Rodd Baillie.

The Division 1 results are:

Wednesday Twilight series – First, Kerry McGaw, Second Steve Osborne, Third, new member, Iain Wood.

Sunday Point-score series – First, Rod Baillie, Second, Kerry McGaw, Third, Stephen French.

Sir William Hudson Trophy – First, Rod Baillie, Second, Kerry McGaw, Tied Third, Steve Osborne and Hamish Greenwood.

New Sprint series - First, Dave Rubin, Second, Kerry McGaw, Third, Stephen French.

Stern Chaser race - First, Steve Osborne, Second, Dave Rubin, Third, Kerry McGaw.

Sunday Autumn series – First, Kerry McGaw, Second, new member, Matt Warner, Third, Stephen French.

Marathon – First Dave Rubin, Second, Mal McLean, Third, Rod Baillie.

The Division 2 results are:

Wednesday Twilight series – First, Tim Symons, Second, Alan Davis, Third, Thor & Hayden Slater.

Sunday Point-score series – First, Doug Paterson, Second, Alan Davis, Third, Tim Symons.

Foundation Cup Trophy – First, Alan Davis, Second, Adam Robinson, Third, Tim Symons.

New Sprint series - First, Alan Davis, Second, Doug Paterson, Tied Third, Thor & Hayden Slater and John Scott-Hamilton.

Stern Chaser race - First, Thor & Hayden Slater, Second, Alan Davis, Third, Matt & Alex Mason.

Sunday Autumn series – First, Doug Paterson, Second, Tim Symons, Third, Matt & Alex Mason.

Marathon – First, Alan Davis, Second, Doug Paterson, Third, Tim Symons.

Club Champion:

The overall club Championship is calculated over all divisions and race series on a Yardstick corrected times basis. The 2023-24 Club Champion is Alan Davis with Kerry McGaw and Rod Baillie in Second and Third.

Full results will be available soon on the club's website at: www.lakejindabynesailingclub.com.

Other awards include:

Lady Sailor of the year – Rebecca Rae after a successful season sailing her Hobie 16.

Junior Sailor of the Year – Byron Abbott who sailed in the Junior Green Fleet and with his dad in their NS 14.

After the presentations at the clubhouse, the members and their families gathered at the Banjo Paterson Inn for dinner and more celebration. The Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club will cease activities during Winter and will resume sailing in November 2024. The club welcomed several new members this season and look forward to more sailors joining them to enjoy the great sport of sailing on Lake Jindabyne.