

One Lap Too Many

Heat four of Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club's Twilight series was cancelled due to the wild rainy weather on Wednesday 29th November.

The sailors gathered again at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club hoping for a break in the rainy weather on the afternoon of Sunday 3rd December for the running of Heat five of the 2023-24 Point-score series. Kerry McGaw, Lynne Burgess and Pippa manned the start boat and set a Windward / Return course between a start mark near the Mountain mark and the Peninsular mark. Doug Paterson and Ross Lawley manned the rescue boat.

A light shifty breeze greeted the sailors as they left the beach. The planned start time was delayed while the sailors struggled to reach the start line. The wind soon picked up to around 6 to 8 knots from the South West.

The Five catamarans started the Division 2 race on Port tack and sped off towards the Peninsular mark for the first time. Alan Davis sailed a tight course to the mark and rounded it first in front of Thor and Freya Slater and Tim Symons with Adam Robinson and Damian & Zarlle Goninan close behind. The bigger cats of Team Slater and Team Goninan slipped to the front of the fleet along with Alan.

After two laps Alan and Team Slater had a slight coming together while rounding the Peninsular mark which resulted in a broken tiller for Alan. He then retired from the race. This left the two big cats fighting for the lead while Adam passed Tim as they chased them. The cats enjoyed some fast rides, but the wind did decrease towards the end of the race.

After five laps and windward work to the finish line at the Peninsular mark, Team Goninan finished first followed by Team Slater. The wind then decided to disappear entirely which left Adam and Tim very slowly drifting to the finish line. They were wishing that the race had been finished one lap earlier. The yardstick corrected results didn't change the result of team Goninan, Team Slater, Adam and Tim.

Five monohulls started the Division 1 race and were joined by the lone Division 3 boat, a club Corsair sailed by Kate Whackett and Elizabeth Slater. They also started on Port tack and enjoyed the fresh breeze taking them around the course.

Steve Osborne led the fleet around the three laps of the same course as the cats. As the wind disappeared all-together on the last leg, Rod Baillie managed to pass Steve and finish first as they drifted across the line. He was followed by Steve, Mal McLean and Iain Wood. Duncan Higgs and Kate & Elizabeth didn't finish the race. The yardstick corrected times didn't change the results. Again, the Division 1 fleet felt that the race contained one too many laps.

Plenty of Sailors, not much Wind

Fifteen boats rigged up to sail in heat six of lake Jindabyne sailing club's 2023/24 Twilight series on the sunny and warm evening of Wednesday 6th December. A medium breeze greeted the sailors as they rigged the boats, but it dropped suddenly as soon as the first hooter sounded.

Steve Osborne manned the start boat and was assisted by Emma Osborne-Laverty and Miranda Hadlow. Andrew Kennedy and Duncan Higgs manned the rescue boat. The races started in a light 5 knot Westerly breeze which steadily dropped to around 2 knots at the end of the races. Steve set a Starboard rounding course with a start line off the Clay pits swimming area.

The six catamarans started first with a triangle lap around the club and mountain marks. It was anyone's race at the first two marks as they all rounded together. Alan Davis and Adam Robinson battled for the lead with each other and the big cats of Thor & Freya Slater and Alistair Cross & Gavin Fuller.

After completing a large triangle lap and a windward return lap, the cats finished at the club mark. Team Slater crossed the line first followed by Alan, Alistair 15 seconds later, Adam, Doug Paterson

and Tim Symons. Alan took the win on handicap corrected times by 10 seconds from Alistair, Doug, Tim, Adam and Team Slater.

Seven Division 1 monohulls started the race along with one Division 3 competitor, Ruth Reed sailing a club Laser Radial. Ross Lawley also planned to sail his Impulse in Division 3, but missed the start. The five Laser full rigs of Rod Baillie, Mal McLean, Ian Wood, Dave Rubin and Kerry McGaw battled for the lead. They were joined in that battle by Sam, Tanya, Indigo & Tasman Bishop on their RS400. Jason & Byron Abbott also joined in sailing their NS14 in its first race.

The Division 1 boats sailed a triangle lap around the club and peninsular marks plus a windward / return sausage lap between the start and club marks. They then finished on a slow windward work in the dying breeze with the finish line at the club mark.

Team Bishop slipped to the front of the fleet with great use of their spinnaker on the downwind legs. They finished first, closely followed by Rod, Mal, Dave, Kerry, Iain and Jason & Byron. The handicap corrected times mixed up the results with Rod taking the win from Mal, Iain, Dave, Team Bishop, Kerry and Team Abbott.

Ruth sailed a single triangle lap around the club, peninsular and start marks plus a windward work to the finish line at the club mark. She was the only Division 3 competitor to complete the race.

Another light wind afternoon greeted the sailors who competed in race six of Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club's 2023-24 point-score series on the cloudy afternoon of Sunday 10th December. Alan Davis and Mal McLean manned the start boat and waited for a light 4.5 knot South-south Easterly to arrive. Alistair Cross manned the rescue boat and assisted with laying the start mark in the Bay off Snowline caravan park.

Three Nacra catamarans started in the Division 2 race. Adam Robinson led Doug Paterson and Tim Symons up the first leg to the Quarry mark. The three cats raced closely around the four lap windward / return course between the start and quarry marks. Tim slipped into the lead and was assisted when Adam and Doug came together while rounding the bottom mark for the last time.

Tim finished first at the start mark followed by Adam and Doug. The yardstick corrected times didn't change the result.

Eight monohulls started in the Division 1 race 5 minutes after the cats. Rod Baillie and Steve Osborne slipped over the start line early and had to re-start. This left Kerry McGaw in clean air and able to take advantage of a good start.

Kerry led the fleet on the first lap of the three lap windward / return course. He was chased by Rod, Steve, John & Kim Kleven on their Flying Fifteen, Elizabeth, Freya & Hayden Slater on a club Corsair, Ross Lawley, Iain Wood, and Peter Baker.

Kerry led the fleet for a few laps, but was eventually caught and passed by Rod and John. Rod led the fleet to the finish line followed by John & Kim, Kerry, Steve, Team Slater, Iain, Ross and Peter. Rod took the yardstick corrected times win from Kerry, John & Kim, Steve, Team Slater, Ross, Iain and Peter.

Sailors Enjoy a Northerly Breeze

An unusual steady Northerly breeze of around 10 to 12 knots greeted the sailors at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club on the warm evening of Wednesday 13th November when they gathered for heat seven of the 2023-24 Twilight series. Andrew Kennedy and Laurinda Allan manned the start boat while Mark Norling and Peter Green manned the rescue boat.

Andrew set a Port rounding course with a start line near the Quarry mark with peninsular the first mark. The five catamarans started first with most on Starboard tack while Thor and Freya Slater started on Port tack. This gave them an early lead which they kept throughout the race. The first

triangle lap around peninsular and club marks and back to the start was followed by a long windward return lap to the Mountain mark and back to the start.

The cats made good use of their trapezes in the fresh breeze going out to the mountain mark and had a fast reach back. Adam Robinson matched the speed of Alistair Cross and Vicki Mattiazzo on their Nacra 5.8 and managed to slip ahead.

The cats completed a second triangle lap and a second windward / return lap to finish at the start mark. Team Slater led the fleet to the finish line followed by Adam, Alistair & Vicki and Tim Symons. Andrew Rae and his stand in crew on their Hobie 16 missed the last lap and didn't complete the race. Tim took the win on handicap corrected times followed by Adam, Alistair & Vicky and Thor & Freya.

Nine monohulls started in the Division 1 race 5 minutes after the cats. They completed two triangle laps around peninsular, club and the start marks separated by a windward / return lap between the start and peninsular marks. Steve Osborne led the fleet around the course until he was eventually caught and passed by Rod Baillie while nearing the finish.

Brian and Archie Vowels sailed their Laser Radial; with the club on the first time, but didn't complete the course. Peter Baer and Ross Lawley also retired from the race. That left five laser full rigs and Jason & Byron Abbotts's NS 14 to complete the race.

Rod finished first 5 seconds in front of Steve. They were followed by Kerry McGaw, Mal McLean, Iain Wood and Team Abbott. The handicap corrected times gave Steve the win followed by Kerry, Mal, Rod, Iain and Jason & Byron.

The Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club sailors gathered again at the club for the running of two trophy races on the sunny and hot afternoon of Sunday 17th December. John Baird and Michael Fearnside manned the start boat while Mark Norling and Peter Green manned the rescue boat. The start of race three of these series was delayed for about half an hour while everyone waited for the wind to arrive and slowly made their way out to the start on the main lake.

John and Michael set a windward / leeward course between a start mark near the Mountain mark and the Town mark. The four catamarans started first in the Foundation Cup race three. They struggled up the course in the very light South Easterly breeze of about 2 knots. Returning members, John & Sasha Scott-Hamilton reached the Town mark first, closely followed by Hayden & Freya Slater, Alan Davis and Tim Symons.

The cats then headed off on the downwind leg back to the start. The two-man cats used their Spinnakers and took different courses to the single-man cats. Alan slipped into the lead and finished first, closely followed by Tim, Hayden & Freya and John and Sasha. The yardstick corrected times didn't change the result.

Four monohulls competed in race three of the Sir William Hudson Trophy series. They also struggled up the same course as the cats. Rod Baillie led the fleet to the finish line, closely followed by Mark Baker and his grandson Will sailing their Tasar for the first time. Kerry McGaw was the last boat to finish as the wind completely died out for Dave Rubin before he could reach the finish line. Rod took the yardstick corrected times win from Kerry and Mark.

After another wait for the breeze to pick up, race four of both trophy series was abandoned. The boats had to be towed back to the club by the start and rescue boats.

Last Race on Lake Jindabyne for 2023

Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club ran the last race for 2023, Heat 8 of the 2023/24 Twilight series on the unseasonably cold evening of Wednesday 20th December. Six boats rigged up to compete while Phil Daley and Harriet Greville manned the start boat. Andrew and Rebecca Rae manned the rescue boat and laid the start mark off Lion Island.

The three Division 1 Lasers started first in the very light South-south easterly breeze which varied between zero and 5 knots. They headed off on the first triangle lap around the Quarry and Club marks and back to the start. A windward return lap and another triangle lap followed. A final windward work took the small fleet to the finish line at the Quarry mark.

Rod Baillie and Kerry McGaw battled for the lead while Iain Wood followed. Rod slipped to the front and crossed the finish line first, followed by Kerry and Iain. The handicap corrected times didn't change this result.

The three Division 2 Catamarans started 5 minutes after the lasers. They sailed the same triangle, sausage, triangle lap course. The cats battled for the lead with Tim Symons and Thor & Freya Slater reaching the first mark together with Adam Robinson close behind.

Team Slater on the bigger F18 cat slipped away on the following legs and led the fleet to the finish line at the Quarry mark. Adam passed Tim and finished second with Tim third. The handicap corrected times mixed up the results with Tim taking the win from Team Slater and Adam. After the race, the sailors and their families enjoyed a great Christmas dinner at the clubhouse. The next race at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club will be held on the afternoon of Sunday 7th January 2024.