

## Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club Runs a Learn to Sail Programme for Juniors

Story by Tim Symons, photos by Carl from Australian Sailing

During the first week of the school holidays, Australian Sailing ran the Tackers 1 Learn to Sail course at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club assisted by several recently accredited club members. Club member Alistair Cross organised the course and liaised with Australian Sailing to ensure a smooth event for all participants. Twenty four local seven to thirteen year olds enjoyed four intensive sessions from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Participants enjoyed sailing six Optimist class dinghies and one X3 dinghy. They enjoyed leaning and improving their sailing skills in a safe environment on Lake Jindabyne. The kids learned how to tack, gybe, round marks and right their boats after capsizing. The course ended with a presentation of certificates on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

The club may organise a Tackers 2 course next season and possibly a Learn to Sail Course for older kids or adults too. Expressions of interest can be emailed to:

[learntosail@lakejindabynesailingclub.com.au](mailto:learntosail@lakejindabynesailingclub.com.au).

The last race for 2017, heat eight of the 2017/18 Twilight series, was held at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Twenty boats competed in two divisions with twenty-five sailors enjoying a summer evening sail on Lake Jindabyne. John Byrne, ably assisted by Carl from Australian Sailing, set a course start at the Club mark while Gote Vikstrom manned the rescue boat. The seven catamarans started first with a mixture of boats starting on Starboard and Port tack.

The cats all converged on the Bay mark for the first time and set off towards the far off Mountain mark. The variable 15 to 17 knot South Westerly breeze made for some thrilling fast rides to the wing mark. Michael Fearnside and Louise slipped to the lead followed closely by Barney Davis. Then came Barry Dennis, Andrew & Jake Kennedy, Martin Bannister & Jason, Ian Foster and Tim Symons. The thirteen mono-hulls started five minutes after the cats and set off on a triangle lap using the Peninsular mark. As usual many races within the mono-hull race ensued.

John and Carl shortened the race to one triangle lap plus one sausage lap and finished the race at the Bay mark. In the cats' race, Fearnie & Louise finished first followed by Barney. After sailing through the rest of the fleet, Tim finished next, 13 seconds ahead of Barry. Then came Ian, Andrew and Martin. Fearnie and Louise took their first handicap corrected times win from Barney, Barry, Tim, Ian, Andrew and Martin.

During the mono-hull race Suzie Green suffered a head wound from her Laser's boom and returned to the clubhouse. Barney Davis provided first aid after completing his race. Peter Baker, Nathan & Tayla Gorrige also returned to the beach early. Jason Abbott led the mono-hull fleet to the finish line followed by Phil Daly & Nick Kirshner 7 seconds in front of Sam Bishop. Then Martin Van Weel another 8 seconds behind. Kerry McGaw and Steve Osborne finished next 10 seconds apart. Rod Baillie finished next followed by Ian MCLuggage & Jacqui Van Weel, Hamish Greenwood and Ross Lawley. Steve took his first handicap corrected time win of the season, Kerry second, Jason third and Martin and Phil & Nick tied for fourth place.

The races were followed by a BBQ dinner with desert as the sailors and their families celebrated Christmas and the completion of a successful 2017. The next races at Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club will be race one of the three race Foundation Cup on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January and race one of the three race Sir William Hudson series on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 18.