

The Sailors brave the cold on Lake Jindabyne.

Story by Tim Symons, Photos by Phil Daly

The sailors gathered at Lake Jindabyne on the afternoon of Wednesday 6 November and decided that it was unsafe to take on the gale force winds blowing across Lake Jindabyne. They gathered again on the afternoon of Saturday 9 November and despite the forecast storms and cold temperatures, four hardy sailors decided to sail a race on Lake Jindabyne. Kerry McGaw and Lynne Burgess manned the start boat while being assisted by Phil Daly and Tim and Harriet Greville on the rescue boat. They decided to send the sailors on a short triangle shaped course using the regular inside course to keep all of sailors closer to the club.

Luckily the forecast storms and high winds didn't eventuate and the sailors enjoyed a light to moderate Westerly breeze throughout the race. Kerry started the two lasers first to give the 2 cats a bit more time to get rigged and off the beach. John Baird led new member Mal McLean off the start line at the Club mark and towards the Bay mark. They then headed off to the Peninsular on their first triangle lap. The wind varied in strength and direction around the course giving the sailors some fun fast rides and tricky buoy roundings.

Tim Symons on his Nacra and Thor Slater on his Maricat started 5 minutes after the mono-hulls. Tim led Thor to the Bay mark, then out to the Peninsular mark as they tried to catch the two Lasers. John kept his lead over all of the following boats around the three lap shortened course and on to the finish line at Club mark. Thor mastered the tricky wind conditions best in the cat race and led Tim to the finish line. But, he failed to cross the finish line correctly and turned back to the Quarry mark and sailed back up the course to finish properly. Mal finished a bit later which completed the day's race.

The yardstick corrected times saw John win the mono-hull race from Mal and Thor win the cat's race from Tim. The sailors hoped that the warm weather would return and that they would be joined by more competitors for the next race to be held on the evening of Wednesday 13th November.