

## **Cold, Wet and Windy on the Lake Jindabyne**

Story by Tim Symons, photos by John Byrne and Ross Tattersall

After another rainy day, Lake Jindabyne Sailing Club ran heat twelve of the 2019/20 Twilight series on the cold evening of Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February. Nine mono-hulls and four catamarans rigged up to brave the conditions. John Byrne and Richard Churm manned the start boat while Michael Fearnside and Ross Tattersall assisted on the rescue boat. John set a Starboard rounding course in the expected 10 knot South Westerly breeze. The sailors searched for their wetsuits while they rigged the boats ready to race. The two fleets started separately from the Quarry mark and headed to the Bay mark. The breeze decided to switch ends and blew from the South East, so the boats all started on Port tack and reached the first mark on that tack.

The cats headed out to the Mountain mark on a long square run in the building breeze. After many gybes and different course choices, Adam Robinson and Jason Abbott on Adam's Capricorn F18 rounded the mark first. Tim Symons was next, but he rounded the mark incorrectly to port and had to re-round the mark to Starboard. This gave Andrew Kennedy the opportunity to slip past him. Alistair Cross and Gavin Fuller rounded next close to Tim. They then zoomed off on the long windward work back to the Quarry mark.

The mono-hull fleet were joined by Nic Kennedy on his International Finn Dinghy and Thor, Freya and Hayden Slater on the club's Corsair. The mono-hulls stayed in a bunch as they followed the cats to the Bay mark. They then headed off on a square run to the Peninsular mark. Both fleets sped up as they made their way around the course as the wind steadily increased to about 12 knots. The cats used their trapezes and spinnaker to good effect. Phil Daley & Nick Kirshner used the Flying Fifteen's spinnaker until a gear breakage on the first square run put it out of action for the rest of the race.

Adam & Jason led the cats around the full five lap course which took over an hour and a half to complete. They led the cats to the finish line followed by Alistair & Gavin, Tim and Andrew. Tim took the handicap corrected time win from Adam & Jason, Alistair & Gavin and Andrew.

Nick and his Finn slipped to the front of the mono-hull fleet and led around the course followed by the Laser full rigs of Jon Baird, Ben D'helan Hamish Greenwood and Mal McLean. Nic finished first followed by John, Phil & Nick, Ben, Hamish, Mal, Steve Osborne, Kerry McGaw and Team Slater. The handicap corrected times mixed up the results to give Phil & Nick their first win of the season. Next were Mal and Ben only 2 seconds apart, Kerry, Steve, Hamish, John, Nic and Team Slater.

In contrast, heat four of the 2019/20 Sir William Hudson series was run on the warm and sunny afternoon of Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. John Byrne manned the start boat with Richard Churm on the rescue boat. John set a course on the main lake starting at the Bay mark in a very light North Easterly. The fourteen boats all started together in this combined divisions race.

The long first leg to the Mountain mark started off as a windward work and settled into one long tack past Lion Island. Alistair & Lucy Cross on their Nacra 5.8 slipped to the front of the fleet while Michael Fearnside and Ross on their Hobie Wild Cat and Tim Symons on his Nacra 16 Square gave chase. The triangle lap took the fleet from the Mountain mark to the Cardinal mark near Cub Island and on a long square run to the Peninsular mark. The first three cats tacked downwind trying to get some extra speed from the very light breeze while Thor & Freya Slater on their Maricat led the rest of the fleet on a straight line course to the mark and gained a lot of distance in the process. Peter Baker on his Sabre and Kerry McGaw on his Laser Radial returned to the beach early and didn't complete the race.

After another two slow legs in the light breeze from the Peninsular mark to the Mountain mark and back to the Finish line at the Peninsular mark, Michael and Ross finished first, followed closely by Alistair & Lucy and a fair way back, Tim. Thor & Freya finished next, followed by Nic Kennedy. Hobie 17 sailors, Thomas Davis and Andrew Kennedy had a close race around the course with Thomas finishing in front of Andrew. Next to finish were Sam Bylett, Terry Lee & Lucas Blackmore-Lee, John Baird, Hamish Greenwood and Mal McLean. The yardstick corrected times mixed up the results with Nic taking the win from Sam, John, Hamish, Mal. Terry & Lucas, Thor & Freya, the first catamaran, Alistair & Lucy, Tim, Michael & Ross, Thomas and Andrew.