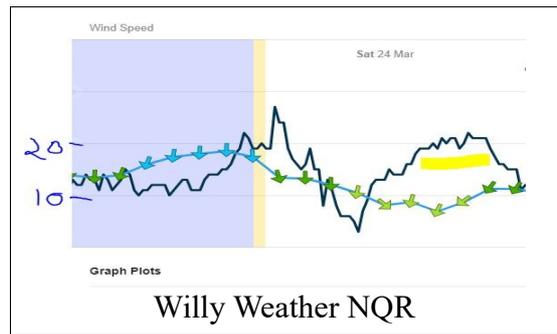


180324 Maritime Weekend Special Trophy race



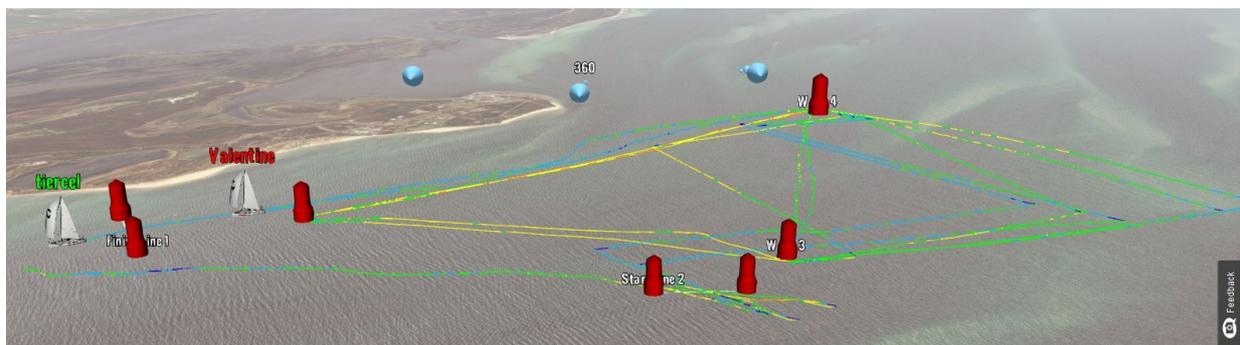
Enthusiasm rains supreme



Pre-start

Another day for the diehards. Willy Weather, not alone, promised benign winds around 8 knots (false) and the radar looked like rain should pass by race time (true). Members gathered at briefing in the last of the rain like wet chooks flushed from shelter. Soggy paperwork was completed and off to battle for Imagine, Valentine, Tiercel and Warrior. Wind increased from very little to around 20 knots and (at S Chan Fort) up to 22 kn.

Most set off with full sail, expecting moderation which did not happen. (New) Course 1 was announced (start near W#3, W#4, QA, W#3, W#4, W#3, W#4, GB); as was the Div1 and Div 2 starts being simultaneous. Warrior (port tack, pin end), Valentine and Tiercel (stb tack, "Swan" end) got away on time for the beat to No. 4 West. The long beat did not suit Warrior, and Valentine and Tiercel, got away from her, with their own speeds matching closely. Tiercel edged ahead and soon both were passed by Imagine. Only Imagine flew the kite on this day, leaving the others well behind. On the final beat to No. 4 Tiercel either judged the change in tide correctly (her story) or was lucky with a wind shift, in



that tacking onto starboard as per previous lap allowed her, this time round, to make the mark while Valentine overstood. The last run to the finish at Grass Beds saw all vessels make high speeds with occasional goosewinging (or spinnaker for Imagine). The only casualty was Tiercel's radio antenna which blew off.

Over the line it was Imagine, Tiercel, Valentine and Warrior; with handicap results Imagine, Tiercel Warrior and Valentine. With the Clubhouse unavailable for the scheduled BBQ, 14 members repaired to a packed "Brewhouse" for dinner.



Thanks to OODs namely Jennifer, Frank and Terry Hurley and Captain Steve for organising the race and the dinner.