

Winter Race 5. 15 September 2019

Another "occasional" winter race report, to celebrate the fact that it finally happened – and despite a very iffy forecast. The great thing being that at least some crew could change vessels and

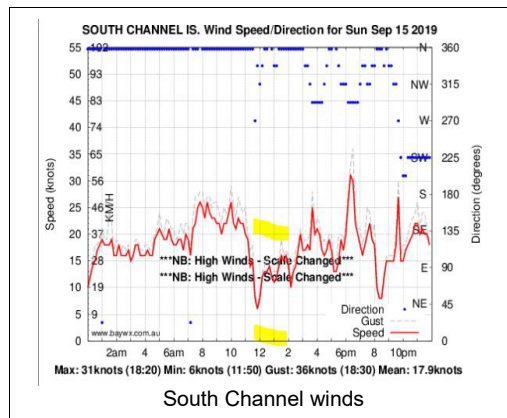


Sundance.on another (drier) day.

comply with the series' criterion of sailing on more than one boat.

The forecast was for light northerly winds and a high probability of rain. In the event the wind was variable in strength and direction and the rain almost held off until after the race. The fleet set out in a brisk wind which dropped to nearly nothing at the start time (notionally 11.30) and then picked up again - and the record at South Channel was probably not a very close match for our territory on this day.

Course 1 had been agreed upon by the fleet comprising three vessels, Tiercel Sundance and a welcome appearance by Valentine, just brought into service following Steve's return from travels. Tiercel made a dog's breakfast of getting to and approaching the start, not helped by the jib jamming in the foil amongst other issues. Sundance had her jib dramas later in the race, costing a bit of time in the vicinity of West Channel #4



South Channel winds



Last minute preparation allows Valentine to enjoy 1 winter race.



Tiercel on another (drier) day.

With a fairly strong flood tide and variable winds the main challenge was balancing tide and wind. A wise decision to shorten course made the course West 3, West 4, QA. West 3, QA (finish). The finish around 1.30 allowed crews to get ashore before the rain started in earnest. Result: Tiercel, Valentine (by seconds from) Sundance.

Thanks to Club Capt Ian Campbell for OOD duties performed from Sundance.