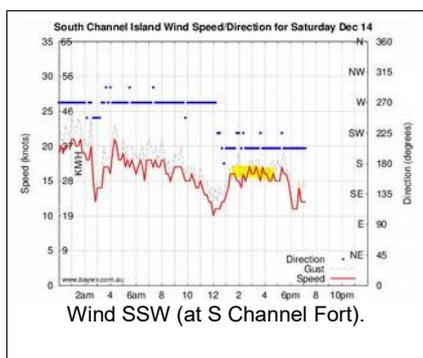


Ray Maki race 6. 14 December 2019



Again a fleet of 7, this time Tintagel, Rosie, Drizabone, Valentine, Tiercel, Boomaroo and Imagine. And again a SSW wind, but more moderate this week. Course 5 was selected with legs between the start off Queenscliff pier, Parks north, Swan Spit, Drapers Reef, QA, Drapers and back to the line. With a moderate flood tide on this day, but close to its peak at the start, the first challenge was crossing the



The start: Valentine (tacking), Boomaroo, Tiercel.

line. Division one boats all crossed without problems on the port tack. In Div 2 Valentine did a crafty tack right on the line near the committee boat while Boomaroo and Tiercel crossed on port near the pin. Div 1 boats hugged the shore, Valentine and Tiercel also did so, to the extent they could, and Boomaroo headed further out. Imagine as the sole representative of Div 3 had no competition for space on the line.



Rosie and Drizabone.

Boomaroo probably paid a price in terms of tide on the first leg; Tiercel managed to slipstream Valentine for a short time, then lost it and gradually lost ground. Imagine overtook all the others in the course of the race. In the beats, against the contrary tide, Tintagel was seen in the shallows, out of bounds to Div 2 and 3 and there was enough wind for Div 1 vessels to overcome the inherent disadvantage of upwind legs against the tide.



Valentine on the beat to Parks N.

On the long leg from the Parks buoy to Swan Spit, spinnakers had been anticipated but the local wind was more southerly than forecast and kites only became viable after rounding Shortlands Bluff. They flew from Imagine, Valentine and (eventually) Tiercel who had it jam in the sock. Tiercel's ploy of going further off shore before the Bluff, in the hope of early spinnaker deployment, did not pay off. What she gained on Boomaroo by flying the kite was lost by the messing around.



Tiercel struggles to raise kite as Boomaroo sails on.



Drizabone.

Over the line the order was Imagine, Boomaroo, Valentine, Tiercel, Drizabone, Rosie. On handicap (following last week's vigorous race favouring the big boats) the results were Tintagel, Drizabone, Rosie, Boomaroo, Valentine, Imagine, Tiercel.

Drinks and chips followed, and many thanks to OOD and Swan crew: Ian Campbell, Peter Curtis, Ian McKenzie and John Sisley.