

A Class GP 2

Wollongong Model Yacht Club

Dunmore Ponds

31st May 2014



Driving down “the track” to the venue and first glimpse of the lake brought thoughts of: “oh no”.

Glassy water, no wind, people coming... forecast rain. Oh well we could always have an early lunch, tell some jokes and go back home to mow the lawn.



Forecast was for 10km/h and rising to 17km/h in the afternoon. So where was it??

So we set up, prepared our boats all hoping. Then it rained, when your spirits are down nature knows how to stomp on you, we are just mere mozzies in the big scene of life. Then it puffed a little, one of the brave first boats drifted backwards, hey it was movement. Excellent here it comes.



About 10.30, we picked a “sort of” course and decided to start and see what happened. Shifts here, knocks there, nothing over there and finally Jon Pinkerton pulls a win closely followed by the king of the pond Brian Dill and then Ralph Hyman. The rest of us wondered what happened.

Ok, things got better (sort of).

Very ably PRO’d by Ralf Steyer, assisted by Andrew and marshalling, recording and balancing out the “bloky atmosphere” was Cathy Holland.



What an interesting day it was, I have been sailing at the pond for years now and cannot remember a more variable and topsy turvy set of wind conditions. One had to really look right across the course all the time to see where the next advantage could come from.



The wind strength generally stayed around the 5 to 10 km/h range and a competing NW and NE breeze had decided to play games with the poor souls trying to race their hearts out. No problem, we all had time in the glory basket and also in the bottom of the bin, the thing about these days is it creates lots of stories and things to laugh about.



By lunch time Brian Dill had settled into finding the right channels, closely followed by Laurie Hinchcliff, Garry Bromley, Jon Pinkerton and Ralph Hyman. Allan Thompson, was having some ups and downs as was Selwyn Holland. It would have been easier just to tail end Brian, gone along for the ride, so to speak.. Hey this is what sailing is all about, we spend most of time in GPs with variable and interesting conditions.

After lunch and desert ably put on by "Big Al" and Laurie Marshall (thanks guys, really appreciate it... including drinks from Ralph), we launched into the afternoon with renewed spirits. Laurie Hinchcliff, remained solid, Brian kept his cool and maintained some excellent results, Selwyn Holland made a late charge and we all continued to pursue the allusive lift to get us in front.

Some great stories created during the day: Brian was running second at one stage and got stuck left of a lift and ended up last. In another, Selwyn had a $\frac{3}{4}$ leg lead that vaporised to a last in just 50 metres. On a positive note, Gary picked a change that brought him from last to first, now that put a smile on his face.



All in all, a highly variable day with Cathy making the comment that she thought that everyone was very civil and it was nice to see the "disputes" ironed out on the water with everyone doing their rounds voluntarily.

Overall, a fun and interesting day. Thank you to the "travellers" and see you at the next event.

1st Brian Dill

- 2nd Selwyn Holland
- 3rd Jon Pinkerton
- 4th Ralph Hyman
- 5th Laurie Hinchcliff
- 6th Garry Bromley
- 7th Allan Thompson



Special PRO prize: Laurie Hinchcliff

(highest placed competitor who has not achieved a podium position before, great work Laurie)



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Hosted by

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Position	Skipper	Sail #	State - Club	Design	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Brian Dill	39	WMYC	Sword	23.0	2.0	1.0	4.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	6.0	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0
2	Selwyn Holland	93	WMYC	Gunboat	38.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	7.0	2.0	4.0	6.0	6.0	2.0	5.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	4.0
3	Jon Pinkerton	94	KOBSC	Gunboat	42.0	1.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	1.0	8.0	2.0	4.0	1.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	8.0
4	Ralph Hyman	105	WMYC	Venom	46.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	8.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	8.0	8.0	3.0
5	Laurie Hinchcliff	36	KOBSC	Sweet 9	48.0	6.0	7.0	6.0	3.0	5.0	8.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	6.0	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	2.0
6	Garry Bromley	76	KOBSC	Privateer	63.0	7.0	5.0	1.0	7.0	4.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	5.0	5.0	7.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
7	Allan Thompson	03	WMYC	Gunboat	75.7	5.0	6.0	7.0	6.0	6.0	4.0	5.7	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.0	6.0	5.0	5.0	8.0

Report/images: Selwyn Holland