

NSWRYA SOLING 1 METER INTER-CLUB REGATTA 1

Saturday 7th April, 2018 Basin Radio Yacht conducted the scheduled inter-club regatta on St. Georges Basin. 14 Soling 1m Class yachts faced the starter for the first Scratch heat of the day - Michael McClean from Tabourie (boat no. 86) , Greg Henery (boat no . 142) and Phil Page (boat no. 180) , both from Sydney, with members from our club made up the fleet . Phil Hutchins, from Tabourie, missed the morning but was ready for Handicap section after lunch.

A triangular course was set to take advantage of the light southerly blowing early in the day . One scratch race was concluded and a second barely started before the wind fell away preventing any further sailing for a short time. Within 20 minutes a light south easterly appeared, the course was reset and scratch racing resumed. The breeze slowly developed from a gentle 2 knots, building to 5 knots during the 5 races held in the morning .We stopped for lunch at 12.00 pm

A BBQ was enjoyed by all, afterwards the trouble was 'Feed the man meat' at lunch and you have a problem getting them all started again, particularly in view of the obviously increasing wind strength. However, start we did of what was to be handicap racing. At 1.00 pm the wind had increase to a steady 16 knots gusting to 22kts. Seven brave sailors started the first race, the poor little boats were at their limit and mayhem prevailed. A couple retired (boats nose diving) , Phil from Tabourie, had gear failure, and poor local sailor , Don Peters, watched in amazement as his boat (sail no. 219) started sinking. A serious unobserved crack in the side of the hull apparently received during a previously, had opened up. Luckily Tom Phillips hurried out in the rescue craft just in time to catch Don's boat just it sank below the waves. 4 boats only managed to finish the heat.

Following consultation between the Race Committee it was decided to award the prizes for the Handicap Series based upon that one race.

Congratulations to the trophy winners as follows:

SCRATCH RACING:

- 1st place went to Phil Page, boat no. 180 on 11 points
- 2nd place went to Ken Smith, boat no. 129 on 16 points.
- 3rd place went to Fred Elphinstone, boat no. 152 on 18 points

HANDICAP RACING:

- 1st place went to Simon Renault, boat no. 143 on 1 point.
- 2nd place went to Ken Smith, boat no. 129 on 2 points.
- 3rd place went to Michael McClean , boat no. 86 on 3 points.

OVERALL WINNER:

Ken Smith.

