

SFS Race Report Sat 12th November 2022

by Bob Chapman, 14 Nov 2022.

Race 5 of the 2022-23 Season and Heat Five of the Spring Point Score. Warm and sunny conditions in the boat park, with a light and patchy breeze from the east. We had 5 skiffs preparing to race, 3 with big rig and 2 with full size intermediate rig, with the forecast indicating the breeze may fill-in a little from the SE or South. Meanwhile, being November, the jacaranda season madness is back and this time around featured the complete closure of McDougal Street from 7.00 am to 7.00 pm, leaving one to wonder if any consideration was given to the inconvenience, disruption, traffic congestion and cost of such action.

The race got underway from a handicap start off Kurraba Point on the no.2, East course into a variable 8-10 kt easterly and run-out tide. Tangalooma was first skiff away off 16 mins, followed by Britannia (15), Australia IV (10), Australia (8) and Yendys on scratch. The breeze at the Kirribilli section of the course was light and patchy while further up the course towards Rose Bay the breeze was a bit stronger and more constant. In addition, on such a nice day there were many craft out on the waterway not to mention a very large cruise ship moored in Athol and extending into the main channel, so plenty of obstacles and boat wash to negotiate.

The first four skiffs made a long port tack out into the tide to cross the harbour towards Rushcutters Bay before tacking onto starboard and lay up towards Shark Island, where the breeze appeared to be filling-in from the SE. Meanwhile, Yendys adopted an alternative strategy to start on starboard, take the stern of the ship and sail up the northern shore.



Tangalooma first skiff away at start boat end. Courtesy Adrienen Jackson.

Tangalooma was first to round Shark Island with a handy lead for the run back to Kurraba followed by Britannia, Australia IV, Australia and then Yendys. With the breeze now ESE the skiffs enjoyed a good angle and fast ride with spinnakers set on port pole, with Australia IV and Yendys making up some time on the skiffs in front.



Tangalooma spinnaker drop on approach to the Kurraba mark. Courtesy Adrienne Jackson.

Tangalooma was first to round at Kurraba for the windward leg to Clark Island maintaining a good lead from Britannia and Australia IV (rounding close together), then Australia and Yendys. Yendys made up a lot of time on the upwind leg to Clark Island.



Britannia and Australia IV round together at Kurraba. Courtesy Barley Stewart.

Tangalooma was first to round at Clark Island for the cracked-sheets leg to Shark Island followed by Australia IV, Yendys, Britannia and Australia. Big mainsails on Tangalooma and Yendys worked in their favour for this leg. Tangalooma continued to lead and round Shark Island for the run to the finish at Kurraba followed by Australia IV and Yendys rounding together, then Britannia and Australia.

The run to the finish was square with port pole spinnaker with the breeze fading a little towards the end of the run. 3 skiffs set ringtails, while Yendys sailed a slightly hotter angle to put in a gybe to lay the finish line on starboard, but Tangalooma maintained their lead to finish first, 1 min ahead of Australia IV, then Yendys with Britannia just ahead of Australia.



Britannia and Australia enjoy a close race to the finish line. Courtesy Adrienne Jackson.



Tangalooma first to finish with Australia IV just ahead of Yendys. Courtesy Adrienne Jackson.

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Stewart, Bob, Chuck and Tomoko, Rob on WB 379, with crew sign-on by Tomoko, and the B-B-Q team. We look forward to seeing you down at the Squaddie next week.

Results for Sat 12th November 2022.

Race 5	12-Nov-22		Hcp Start	East Course	ESE	8 -14 kts		
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	New Hcap	Ring tail
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:16	14:14:00	16:15:00	2:01:00	1:45:00	14	
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:10	14:20:00	16:16:08	1:56:08	1:46:08	9	1
Yendys	M. Dorling	0:00	14:30:00	16:16:46	1:46:46	1:46:46	0	1
Britannia	I. Smith	0:15	14:15:00	16:20:42	2:05:42	1:50:42	15	1
Australia	M. Flanagan	0:08	14:22:00	16:20:47	1:58:47	1:50:47	8	
Alruth		0:11	DNC				11	
The Mistake		0:01	DNC				1	
Scot		0:12	DNC				12	
Aberdare		0:14	DNC				14	
Top Weight		0:11	DNC				11	
Myra Too		0:07	DNC				7	

Skiff	Spring Point Score	Ringtail Point Score
Aberdare	0	
Alruth	12	
Australia	9	
Australia IV	24	3
Britannia	10	3
Myra Too	0	
Scot	10	
Tangalooma	14	
The Mistake	16	
Top Weight	0	
Yendys	17	1
