SFS Race Report Sat 3rd December 2022

by Bob Chapman, 5 Dec 2022.

Race 8 of the 2022-23 Season and Heat One of the Summer Point Score. Ideal conditions for the start of the summer series with clear skies and a moderate breeze from the east. 6 skiffs were on hand for today's race with some electing to carry big mainsail with no.1 or 2 jib while the remainder opted for a full size no.2 rig, with crew numbers a factor in these decisions. Australia appeared to have encountered a late rigging issue that required the mast to be un-stepped to affect a repair.

The race got underway from a handicap start off Kurraba Point on the no.2 East course into a moderate but patchy 10-14 kt easterly breeze and a modest run-in tide. Britannia was first skiff away off 16 mins, then Tangalooma (12) and Scot (12), Australia (9) was nowhere to be seen, Australia IV (8), and finally Yendys off scratch. The breeze had a distinct left-hand shift for the early section of the first beat that favoured working the northern shore. The middle and last section of the beat was fluky with chopped-up air and water from the usual harbour sailing / boating traffic. Australia eventually emerged from the Careening Cove but well after the allocated start time and after the start line had been removed, and then set off to sail the course.



Shortly after Tangalooma and Scot started, an imbecile drives a speedboat between them. Courtesy Adrienne Jackson.

Britannia was first to round Shark Island for the run back to Kurraba, followed by Tangalooma, Australia IV, Scot and Yendys. At this stage there was less than 7 minutes separating the 5 skiffs. The skiffs enjoyed a good run under starboard spinnaker pole. Halfway down the run, Tangalooma's gaff came adrift from the mast, wherein they dropped the spinnaker, then the mainsail, re-attached the gaff jaws, re-hoisted the main before continuing to the bottom mark under main & jib.



Britannia prepares for the gybe at the Kurraba Mark.

Courtesy Adrienne Jackson.

Britannia maintained their lead down the run to round first at Kurraba for the tight lead to Clark Island, 50 secs ahead of Australia IV and 3 mins ahead of Yendys, then Scot and Tangalooma. At Clark Island, Britannia held a 30 sec lead from Australia IV for the beat up to Shark Island, then Yendys, Tangalooma and Scot. The variable wind strength and direction made for a testing beat up to Shark Island. Meanwhile, Australia was now on the downwind leg from Shark Island.

Australia IV was first to round Shark Island for the final run to Kurraba followed by Yendys, Britannia, Tangalooma and Scot. The breeze was now ENE and the skiffs enjoyed a fast ride to the finish, with 3 skiffs setting ringtails. Australia IV hung on to record a well-earned win by just 6 secs from Yendys, with Britannia another 4 mins back, then Tangalooma and Scot. Tangalooma swam after the finish whilst taking down their spinnaker. Australia sailed the full course but their time was not recorded.



Australia IV crosses the finish 6 sec ahead of Yendys.

Courtesy Adrienne Jackson.

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Mitchell, Stewart, Bridget, Bob, Russell and Tomoko, with crew sign-on by Tomoko, the B-B-Q team and Fiona on the raffle. We look forward to seeing you down at the Squaddie next week, last race for 2022.

Neville Turbit has recently posted 2 articles on the SFS website to explain the SFS Handicap and Point Score Systems used for the H18s, as per the following links:

https://www.sydneyflyingsquadron.com.au/sailing/sfs-handicap-system/

https://www.sydneyflyingsquadron.com.au/sailing/sfs-point-scoring-system/

Race 8	03-Dec-22		Hcp Start	East Course	East	10-14 kts		
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	New Hcap	Ring tail
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:08	14:22:00	16:11:23	1:49:23	1:41:23	7	1
Yendys	B. Watson	0:00	14:30:00	16:11:29	1:41:29	1:41:29	0	1
Britannia	I. Smith	0:16	14:14:00	16:15:23	2:01:23	1:45:23	17	1
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:12	14:18:00	16:18:59	2:00:59	1:48:59	13	
Scot	J. Watt	0:12	14:18:00	16:21:30	2:03:30	1:51:30	13	
Australia	M. Flanagan	0:09	DNS				9	
The Mistake		0:00	DNC				0	
Aberdare		0:14	DNC				14	
Top Weight		0:11	DNC				11	
Myra Too		0:07	DNC				7	
Alruth		0:11	DNC				11	

Results for Sat 3rd December 2022

Skiff	Season Point Score	Summer Point Score	Ringtail Point Score
Aberdare	0	0	
Alruth	12	0	
Australia	14	0	
Australia IV	40	6	5
Britannia	20	4	6
Myra Too	0	0	
Scot	16	2	
Tangalooma	23	3	
The Mistake	25	0	1
Top Weight	0	0	
Yendys	22	5	2
