

## SFS Race Report 02 March 2024 Autumn Series Heat 3 and Sydney Harbour Regatta

After a weekend off due to SailGP, the historics were back on Sydney Harbour for Heat 3 of the Autumn series and the Sydney Harbour Regatta. Conditions promised to be exciting with a strong 20-30kn southerly forecast. The south course was selected by the race officials with a 14:30 handicap start.



Five boats gathered in the park prepared to take on the conditions - Alruth, Australia, Tangalooma, The Mistake and Top Weight (aka Australia IV) all rigged with reefed mains and small jibs. With Yendys being AWOL, some of their crew were dispersed across the fleet with Michael Van Stom taking the helm on Alruth and Jang Tang working for'ward on The Mistake. The Mistake thought they'd make the conditions even more challenging by only taking out 5 crew.



Top Weight (aka AUSIV). *Photo from YouTube.com:18footersTV: JJ GILTINAN CHAMPIONSHIP - Race 1.*



**Tangles launching with Alruth chomping at the bit. Photo courtesy of Helen Kenehan.**



**A good shot showing the rig on Australia. Photo courtesy Kirsty Chase.**

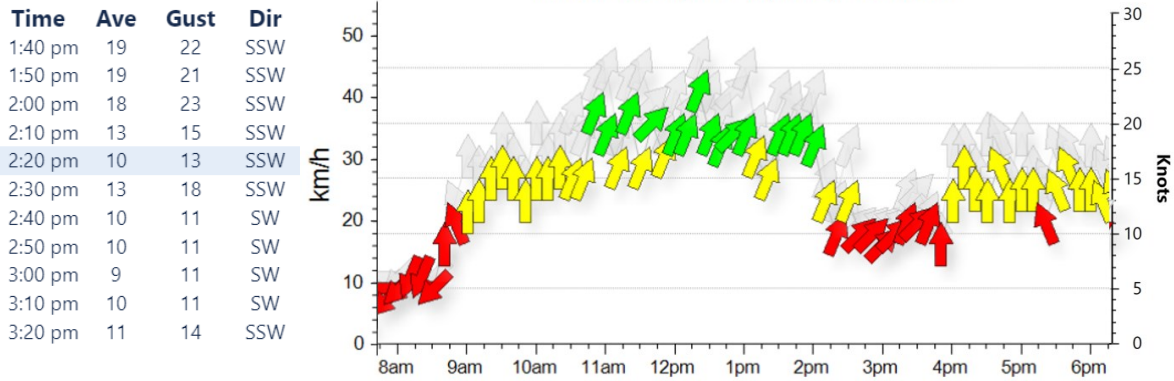
Alas, the big winds did not eventuate leaving the boats under-rigged and becalmed at times.



**Top Weight (aka AUSIV). Photo courtesy of our SFS volunteer Stewart.**



### Wind history for Sydney Harbour



Weather on Sydney Harbour 02-Mar-2024. [Information & images from Seabreeze.com.au](http://Information & images from Seabreeze.com.au).

Tangles and The Mistake led the charge to Clark Island with Alruth passing Australia who found the doldrums as they rounded the Island. The leaders promptly set their kites to starboard, gybing half way to the Chowder Bay mark with no change in the line up until the work to Shark Island where Alruth took a convincing lead which they maintained for the run back down to Kurraba.



A sneaky peek through the modern 18's showing Tangalooma leading the fleet at this stage, with spinnaker set heading from Clark Island to Chowder Bay. [Photo from YouTube.com:18footersTV: JJ GILTINAN CHAMPIONSHIP - Race 1](http://Photo from YouTube.com:18footersTV: JJ GILTINAN CHAMPIONSHIP - Race 1).



Alruth in hot pursuit of The Mistake and Tangalooma on the run from Clark Island to Chowder. [Photo from YouTube.com:18footersTV: JJ GILTINAN CHAMPIONSHIP - Race 1](http://Photo from YouTube.com:18footersTV: JJ GILTINAN CHAMPIONSHIP - Race 1).

Upon approach to Kurraba there was suggestion from the support crew that the race may be shortened and unsurprisingly as Alruth approached the rounding mark, the S flag was sighted on the Killo and the race ended without the final lap of Clark Island and with Alruth crossing for a convincing win ahead of Tangalooma, The Mistake and a close photo finish between Australia and Top Weight (aka AusIV).

**32.2 Shortening a Race**

If the race committee signals a shortened course (displays flag S with two sounds), the finishing line shall be,

- (a) at a rounding *mark*, between the *mark* and a staff displaying flag S;
- (b) at a line boats are required to cross at the end of each lap, that line;
- (c) at a gate, between the gate *marks*.

The shortened course shall be signalled before the first boat crosses the finishing line.

**Shortened Course**



**S** The course has been shortened. Rule 32.2 is in effect.



Top Weight (aka Australia IV) on the work up to Clark Island and The Mistake in the background, having already rounded Clark Island. Photo from YouTube.com: 18footersTV: JJ GILTINAN CHAMPIONSHIP - Race 1.



The view from the best harbour cruise in Sydney. Photo courtesy of Helen Kenehan.

## Results for Race 17 Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar 2024. Autumn Series H3 and Sydney Harbour Regatta

Skiff	Skipper	Race Time	Race Handicap	Corrected Time
Alruth	Michael Van Stom	1:15:48	7	1:22:48
The Mistake	Jerry Tickner	1:20:27	14	1:34:27
Tangalooma	Neville Turbit	1:20:58	15	1:35:58
Australia	Marshall Flanagan	1:28:44	11	1:39:44
Top Weight	Terry Stewart	1:28:45	9	1:37:45
Britannia	DNC			
Aberdare	DNC			
Scot	DNC			
Australia IV	DNC			
Yendys	DNC			
Myra Too	DNC			

Despite the murky day and tricky breeze, everyone enjoyed the day, none more so than the Alruth crew. Thanks as always to the volunteers for making it all possible.



Can't do it without our fabulous SFS volunteers Thanks Barley! Photo courtesy of Helen Kenehan.

March 2024	
Sat 2 March	Autumn Series H3
Sun 3 Mar	No Racing
Sat 9 Mar	Sydney Harbour Regatta Autumn Series H4
Sun 10 Mar	No Racing
Sat 16 Mar	Autumn Series H5
Sun 17 Mar	No Racing
Sat 23 Mar	Club Championship H3 Autumn Series H6

Only 3 races to go – don't miss out.