



# *Pittwater Sailors*

## **FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER**

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the 2024 Pittwater Sailors season. Best of luck to all competitors in the Annual Point score and the shorter concurrent Winter and Spring series. So, there are lots of trophies to aim for.

We had 13 boats compete in the first race of the season, which was a great turnout given the hot humid weather and a forecast for 20 to 25 Knot winds in the afternoon! It was good to see Mike Tasker in Kombu was able to race and Richard Steel Rhythm with his new Young99.

The NE breeze was light around 10knots at the start with the bold seen carrying their big headsails while the more conservative started with smaller headsails. The first half of the race was sailed in light winds with slow steady going in the heat and then the NE came in and we were all off. Such was the competition and handicapping that most of the boats finished in 2 close bunches making it particularly challenging for the folk on the start boat. Andrew Latimer videoed the finish from the start boat which helped sort out the boat finish sequence.

The place getters in Yellow Division were first Just Magic, second Turning Point and third Dancelot and for Blue Division first Unlimited, second Nickerlyn and third Jacana who all finished within one minute of each other.

Thanks to Phil O'Leary, Andrew Latimer, and Ross Taylor for manning the start boat in the heat and humidity. Let's hope it's not such a trying day in March.

Thanks also to Len Ballie for doing the handicapping which involved amongst other things, careful placing the new boats in the fleet. You know he really doesn't need to hold back like he did in Sunday's race now he's the handicapper!

Kim Russell handed out the 2023 Season Perpetual and Individual engraved labels to the trophy holders. If you have not picked up your engraved labels, please contact Kim Russell or come along to our March post-race dinner.

A big thank you to Andrew and Vicky for arranging the evening dinner which was up to its excellent standard with a selection of steaks, salads etc. I'm especially appreciative of Andrew making the inevitable last-minute arrangements when problems come up. Thanks to Vicky for doing the supermarket run and preparing such fresh green salads. Special mention to Col Dickings, Bob Cooper and Paul Toomey who did an excellent job in the heat and humidity with the BBQ, giving us a selection of rare, medium, and well-done steaks.

Thanks also to Sheree Nathan and Kim Russell for selling the raffle tickets. The screwing up of the stubs takes too long and so we have decided that everyone will get 4 tickets for \$5 and have a similar opportunity to win one of the 4 bottles of wine as before.

**A big thank you to the volunteers who helped with the many tasks not mentioned above and importantly with the clean-up.**

### **Post Race Dinners:**

The food for the dinners is purchased/ordered on the Thursday morning. If you have a permanent booking but you (or your permanently booked partner) won't be attending the Sunday evening post-race dinner, please advise Andrew Bray (0423 551 948 or [aussiestarship44@gmail.com](mailto:aussiestarship44@gmail.com)) by Wednesday evening. Similarly, if you (or a partner or friend) don't have a permanent booking but would like to attend, let Andrew know by Wednesday evening, and indicate how many people will be in your party. This ensures there is enough to go around, but also helps minimise waste.

Regards,

John Marshall  
Sailing Captain.