



Pittwater Sailors

APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

Hi Everyone,

We had 12 boats compete in Sunday's race, which was a great turnout, especially as some could have been put off by the dark brown water we were sailing in. Gerard Mak gave his apologies as he had only just returned from being away and Astrid King emailed me that she hasn't forgotten us, but she has not been able to get someone to take over her Sunday roster position with Marine Rescue yet. We are looking forward to having those who we haven't seen yet but entered for the 2024 season to come along.

It was delightful to see Frans de Wilde and family in boat No. 8 Cruzen join us for the first time.

The forecast was for a N breeze of around 8knots staying in the north and that's what we had at 11.45am so course 1 was selected. As it turned out the breeze increased to around 12 knots by 12.00 midday (which suited Col Dickings in Tardis very well indeed) with gusts up to 14knots later as the breeze stayed from N to NNE, but there were times when the breeze became quite patchy. The course turned out to be a soldier's course with no tracking upwind and we all got back by 02.30pm except for Cruzin. Given that they have limited racing experience and have cruising sails etc. they will probably be relocated into the Yellow Division for the next race.

There were calls to modify Blue Division Course 1 to create a proper work (probably to give a bit more time for the fast boats to catch up? Na that could not be right!) which we will of course have a look at. By the way, the Clareville to Taylors and Mackerel to Soldiers legs in Blue Division course are designed to minimize conflict with Yellow Division boats sailing their Course 1.

The boats in the Yellow division were very civilized as they were comfortably spread out at the finish. Not so for many in Blue Division the first 3 boats Nickerlyn, Soiree and Alfresco finished within 15 seconds following an incredible chase from the Mackerel mark. 3 minutes later Rhythm lead Spirito by 9 seconds and finally Jacana lead Addiction over the line by a couple of minutes.

This leads me to give special thanks to Phil O’Leary on CE VU who overcame some dramas getting CE VU started and along with Andrew Latimer (of iPhone video recording the finishes fame) and Kim Russell getting the results documented. By the way the guys tell me they often have to rely on Andrew’s videos to confirm the order of the finish.

Phil and CE VU will be away for the May race and Andrew Latimer will be away for about 6 months while he caravans with his wife and young daughter round Australia. Drive safely Andrew.

The place getters in Yellow Division were first Tardis, second Turning Point and third Fleetwood and for Blue Division first Nickerlyn, second Soiree and third Alfresco.

A big thank you to Andrew and Vicky for arranging the evening dinner, which was up to its usual excellent standard. Thanks also to Col Dickins and team for doing the BBQ so well. I’m sure everyone enjoyed the smorgasbord I especially enjoyed a great rare steak.

The raffle draw had its usual amusing moments, but it was especially nice to see that the folks on our new boat Cruzin won 2 bottles.

Volunteer Rollcall, for Race and Dinner for Sunday 7/4/2024

<u>TASK</u>	<u>Volunteer 1</u>	<u>Volunteer 2</u>	<u>Volunteer 3</u>
<u>Sailing Captain</u>	<u>John Marshall</u>		
<u>Handicapping</u>	<u>Len Ballie</u>		
<u>Treasury</u>	<u>Kim Russell</u>		
<u>Start Boat</u>	<u>Phil O’Leary</u>	<u>Andrew Lattimer</u>	<u>Kim Russell</u>
<u>Catering etc</u>	<u>Andrew Bray</u>	<u>Vicky Bray</u>	
<u>Club-room table setup</u>	<u>Paul Toomey</u>	<u>Roger Mail</u>	<u>John Marshall</u>
<u>Barbecue</u>	<u>Col Dickins, Bob Cooper</u>	<u>Paul Toomey and Roger Mail</u>	
<u>Supermarket</u>	<u>Vicky Bray</u>		
<u>Meat/Chicken pickup</u>	<u>Rick Murry</u>	<u>Sue Murry</u>	
<u>Raffle Ticket Vendor</u>	<u>Sheree Nathan</u>	<u>Kim Russell</u>	
<u>Help with cleanup is greatly appreciated</u>			

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) 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.

Special Request.

We are often seeking people to help on the Start Boat both on a casual and a more regular basis. The Start Boat experience is a pleasant way to spend a Sunday on Pittwater. We are looking for both men or women who don't need any prior sailing or racing experience.

Could all Sailors ask your family members and friends for anyone who could be interested in coming out on the Start Boat please. If interested, please ask them to call me on 0419 764 952 to find out more and I can answer any questions they may have.

Regards,
John Marshall
Sailing Captain.