

Race report

Summer Series Heat 5: January 27, 2024



A red and white pennant flying from the clubhouse verandah was a clear signal to skippers and crews that the race committee was struggling to find a breeze on the Harbour to get the fleet away at the traditional 2.30 start time. The park looked a treat though with a fleet of seven boats lined up with sails hoisted. A very light easterly was on the way, however, and it was not after too much of a delay that the Killo radioed in to report that the conditions had improved and that a start was on.

Earlier in the morning, the Sailing Committee had confirmed arrangements for Top Weight to sail as a substitute for Australia IV after her collision with a catamaran under power the previous Saturday. Top Weight's owner, John Tierney very kindly made his boat available to the A4 crew and she looked magnificent under the new big mainsail that was to prove almost a winner on the day.

The limit boats, Tangalooma and Britannia started as a rain squall from the northeast rounded Bradleys Head. This proved decisive as they were blessed with enough breeze to negotiate through the lee of a large cruise ship anchored off Athol Bight. The same could not be said for the rest of the fleet. Australia, Top Weight and Mistake struggled through the lee of the ship before getting into the breeze. Alruth and Yendys were left to set off in very light conditions and searching for breeze and avoiding the lee, headed into Athol inside the ship with Yendys under her No. 1 main and jib coming out the best of those two.

From then on it was a bit of a procession with Tangalooma well ahead and with the race hers to lose. Rounding Shark Island for the first time, the breeze had filled in and stayed in the ENE for the rest of the race. Big kites and ringtails were the order of the day for an easy three-quarter shy run to the Kirribilli bottom mark. Back again to Shark Island and the fleet had closed up with Mistake, Britannia, Australia and Top Weight in close company for the run to the finish.

Yendys meanwhile had re-set its big spinnaker and was heating up in an attempt to sail around the fleet and grab second place. Fortunately though for the rest of the pack a northerly puff emerged out of Mosman Bay and kept the scratch boat at bay. It was quite a sight though with the five boats finishing within a minute or so of one another as they jostled for the podium. The mighty Top Weight and its big new main perhaps making the difference as it grabbed second with Britannia third. The honours were with Tangalooma though after a well-sailed race in squirrely conditions. Well done Neville and the Tangles crew.









BOAT	FINISH TIME	HANDICAP	PLACE	RINGTAIL
TANGALOOMA	1:42:46	18	1	
TOP WEIGHT	1:47:23	11	2	Yes
BRITANNIA	1:47:43	19	3	
THE MISTAKE	1:48:11	14	4	
AUSTRALIA	1:48:15	10	5	
YENDYS	1:48:38	0	6	Yes
ALRUTH	1:53:59	5	7	
SCOT	DNC			
MYRA TOO	DNC			
AUSTRALIA IV	DNC			

Thanks to Rusty for the race report and to Smithy for the images. Also to Chuck for the results.

Results for Saturday 27th January 2024 Summer Series Heat 5

			Start	Course	Breeze	Strength	Tide	
Race 13	27-Jan-24		Handicap	#2	East	6 to 14 kts	Ebb	
Skiff	Skipper	Race H/cap (Mins)	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H/cap Time	New H/cap (Mins)	Ringtail
Tangalooma	N Turbit	0:18:00	14:42:00	16:42:46	2:00:46	1:42:46	0:16:00	
Top Weight	T Stewart	0:11:00	14:49:00	16:47:23	1:58:23	1:47:23	0:10:00	1
Britannia	D Padget	0:19:00	14:41:00	16:47:43	2:06:43	1:47:43	0:19:00	
The Mistake	J Tickner	0:14:00	14:46:00	16:48:11	2:02:11	1:48:11	0:14:00	
Australia	M Flanagan	0:10:00	14:50:00	16:48:15	1:58:15	1:48:15	0:10:00	
Yendys	B Watson	0:00:00	15:00:00	16:48:38	1:48:38	1:48:38	0:00:00	1
Alruth	M Carter	0:05:00	14:55:00	16:53:59	1:58:59	1:53:59	0:05:00	
Aberdare			DNC				0:00:00	
Scott			DNC				0:15:00	
Australia IV			DNC				0:10:00	
Myra Too			DNC				0:07:00	
Scratch Boat Start Time	15:00:00							
Remarks	Australia IV is replaced by Top Weight. Current Points from Australia IV shall remain and continue with Top Weights race results. Top Weight had its current handicap of 11 for the start of R13. Handicap. 1st drops 2 mins. 2 nd drops 1 min.							

Skiff	Summer Points Score R5	Summer Points Score Total	Ringtail Points Score
Aberdare		3	2
Alruth	2	10	
Australia	2	19	
Top Weight	5	20	8
Britannia	4	8	
Myra Too			
Scott			
Tangalooma	6	17	
The Mistake	3	15	
Australia IV			
Yendys	2	15	1