



SYDNEY FLYING SQUADRON LTD

RACE REPORT - Race 18 International Women's Day

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED IN STYLE

*Australia Survives the JJs and
Another Bloody Easterly!*



Photo thanks to Christophe Favreau (via Facebook)

It was the International Women's Day Weekend and women everywhere were being celebrated for their achievements. None more so than on the

racecourse on Sydney Harbour ... but more of that to follow!



Photos thanks to Chief Rescue Officer, Barley Stewart



With Autumn upon us, there was even a possibility that we might see a SE breeze and a change of course. But as Saturday approached it became clear that Cyclone Alfred had stalled the high pressure system off the coast. That would mean a bit more breeze than has so often been the case this season – but again in the east. Some of the yacht clubs bravely opted for a nor'easter. But the danger there, as our friends from RSYs later reported, is that the NE course becomes a soldiers course with little opportunity for competitive sailing.

So, the well-worn No. 2 Course Board soon went up on Killo and it was a Kirribilli start in around 10 knots of breeze, firmly in the east at this stage, but showing signs of going slightly left during the afternoon.





Photo thanks to Chief Rescue Officer, Barley Stewart

Mistake (Jerry Tickner) was first away with 6 minutes start from Top Weight (Commodore Terry Stewart) and the fast-improving Tangalooma (Neville Turbitt). They were followed by Australia and Aberdare on her new handicap of 9 minutes. Yendys (Michael Van Stom), as always, was last away.

Top Weight did best on the first work up to Shark Island and rounded 3 minutes ahead of Mistake with Australia, Alruth, Aberdare and Mistake all within a minute at the mark. Yendys had done well but was adrift of the others by 6 minutes.



Photos here thanks to Christophe Favreau (via Facebook)



By the bottom mark at Kirribilli, Top Weight had maintained her lead with all but Yendys rounding close together after early spinnaker drops. It was a really good race at this stage and the breeze had strengthened a little, as well as going a wee bit more left as predicted.

As the afternoon wears on, Saturday's are always congested with pleasure boats converging on Bradleys Head. This Saturday held other dangers with the large fleet of modern 18s contesting the second heat of the JJ Giltinan Series. The fundamental rule of sailing is that boats on starboard have right of way over boats on port. The second most important rule is that a when two boats are on the same tack and overlapped, the boat to windward must give way. The lads from NZ on the modern 18, Honda Marine, needed to be reminded of the rule when they collided with Australia (vice Commodore Marshall Flanagan), breaking Australia's bumpkin and forcing Australia to retire and head home. Fortunately, no-one was injured and the rig was saved.

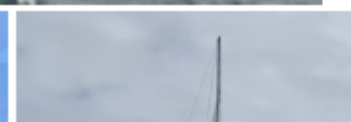
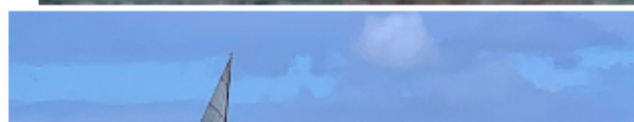


These photos with thanks to Sail Media (via Facebook)



Meanwhile, the race continued with a real battle between the first four leading skiffs. Rounding the YA buoy for the final time at Shark Island, Alruth and Aberdare had joined issue and were fighting for supremacy. Skipped by Michael "Chappo" Chapman, Aberdare gave no quarter and after getting clear of Alruth's cover, moved into the lead. Did we mention that Aberdare was, again this week, crewed by three women, who clearly had received the memo about International Women's Day and who were about to show the boys how girls really do rock?

Aberdare, no slouch when running downwind, with the added advantage of a burst of oestrogen, went on for a popular win by half a minute from Alruth with Top Weight a further half a minute behind in third place. The fast-finishing Yendys was fourth so that the first four skiffs finished within a minute and a half of one another. All credit to the handicapper of course. Tangalooma and Mistake followed in that order.





Photos here thanks to Chief Rescue Officer, Barley



Stewart

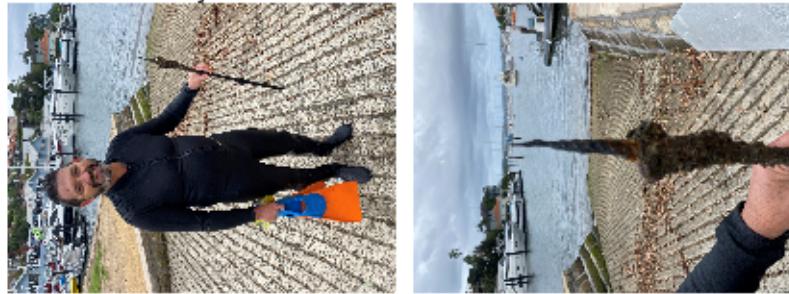
So, congratulations to Chappo and his girls – or was it to the girls with their Chappo? What a great sign it is for the future with the girls taking to the sport and doing so well? Aberdare also managed second fastest time after Yendys and there was a bit of talk on the deck that we may see an all-girls crew next season. How good would that be?



Chappo with his Aberdare crew, Photo thanks to Barley Stewart

We are really pleased to finish this race report with a bit of good news. After a number of recent injuries at the bottom of the launching ramp at low tide, Dave Russell donned his wetsuit and flippers before the boats were

launched and discovered the likely source of the problem. A very sharp length of rebar was recovered by Dave that would have certainly caused more injuries in the future. Great effort David!



David Russell cleaning up Careening Cover. Photo thanks to our new CEO, Rolf Cohen

The usual fun and games on the deck concluded a great day at the world's best harbour. See you next week when you get your body to the Squaddie.

Results for Saturday 8th March 2020

Autumn Series Heat 3

Start Time	2:50 PM	Start	Course	Breeze	Strength	Tide
Fastest Time	Yendys 1:59:09	Handicap	2	ENE	9-12 kts	Flood

Skiff	Skipper	Handicap (Mins)	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	Handicap Place	Bingtail
Aberdare	Michael Chapman	9	2:21:00 PM	4:08:18 PM	1:47:18	2	
Aluth	Alan Robertson	10	2:20:00 PM	4:08:58 PM	1:48:58	3	
Top Weight	Tony Stewart	14	2:16:00 PM	4:00:37 PM	1:53:37	4	
Yendys	Michael van Stom	0	2:30:00 PM	4:09:59 PM	1:39:59	1	1
Tangaloona	Neville Turbitt	14	2:16:00 PM	4:16:22 PM	2:00:22	5	
The Mistake	Jerry Tickner	20	2:10:00 PM	4:18:52 PM	2:08:52	6	
Australia	Marshall Flanagan	15	2:17:00 PM	DNF			
Britanna	David Pegg	20		DNC			
Scott	Jamie Watt	15		DNC			
Australia IV				DNC			
Mya Ica				DNC			



Photos thanks to Barley Stewart



SAILING CALENDAR

SYDNEY FLYING SQUADRON 2024 – 2025 SAILING CALENDAR

DATE	H18'	12'	SOCIAL/Location
February 2025			
Sat 1 Feb	Harbour Marathon	No Racing	BBQ
Sun 2 Feb	No Racing	Point Score "Sprint"	SFS
Sat 8 Feb	No Racing	No Racing	GP Racing
Sun 9 Feb	No Racing	No Racing	GP Racing
Sat 15 Feb	Queen of the Harbour Summer Series H7	No Racing	BBQ
Sun 16 Feb	No Racing	Club Championship Ht 3	SFS
Sat 22 Feb	Autumn Series H1		
March 2025			
Sat 1 March	Sydney Harbour Regatta Autumn Series H2	No Racing	BBQ
Sun 2 Mar	No Racing	Port Jackson Championship	SFS
Sat 8 Mar	Autumn Series H3	No Racing	BBQ
Sun 9 Mar	No Racing	Club Championship Ht 4	SFS
Sat 15 Mar	Matthew Flinders Cup Autumn Series H4	No Racing	BBQ
Sun 16 Mar	No Racing	NSW Sprint Series Champ	SFS
Sat 22 Mar	Port Jackson Champ Autumn Series H5	No Racing	BBQ
Sun 23 Mar	No Racing	Point Score "Sprint"	SFS
Sat 29 Mar	Aust Championship H2 Club Championship H3 Autumn Series H6	No Racing	BBQ
Sun 30 Mar	No Racing	Club Championship Ht 5	SFS
April 2025			
Fri 4 April	No Racing	Australian Championships	TBA
Sat 5 April	Autumn Series H7	Australian Championships	TBA
Sun 6 April	No Racing	Australian Championships	TBA
Mon 7 April	No Racing	Australian Championships	TBA
May 2025			
	Presentation Night TBA		

Only FOUR races to go for the 2024-2025 season - don't miss out!

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