

WIND WARRIOR TRANS TASMAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

AND AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

REGATTA REPORT

18/11/19

Our second international regatta following the success of last year occurred on the 16rd and 17th of November. Five New Zealand sailors competed against a group of nine local sailors. This year we also had four competitors from Blairgowrie Yacht Club in Victoria. Class designer and builder Grant McKinnon was a member of the New Zealand contingent.

After registration and boat weigh in on Saturday morning racing started in a light south easterly breeze. Six races were completed before lunch and a further fifteen races were completed in the afternoon sessions giving a total of 21 races for the day. At the completion of the days racing Grant McKinnon 1st, Terry Farrell 2nd and Dave Anstey 3rd were proving themselves the boats to beat.

Sunday was a perfect day for racing with a moderate south easterly breeze freshening in the afternoon. Big swings favouring either side of the course tested the tactical skills of all competitors. Nine races were sailed in the morning and ten races in the afternoon giving a total of 19 races for the day. An outstanding performance by Terry Farrell with four straight wins in the morning session saw him close the lead to Grant McKinnon. Going into the final session it was obvious the title would be taken by either Grant or Terry.

After a total of forty races completed with eight discards (one for every five races completed) Grant McKinnon (NZ) 1st held off the challengers with Terry Farrell (AU) 2nd and Dave Anstey (AU) 3rd. The Australian Championship results were Terry Farrell 1st, Dave Anstey 2nd and Richie Robinson 3rd. The Trans Tasman Championship Shield was won by Australia and the Trans Tasman Club Series Shield was won by Clarks Beach Yacht Club (NZ).

At the presentation trophies for the top three competitors, Trans Tasman and Australian, and the Championship Shield and Club Series Shield were presented by Club Captain Elanor Cunningham. Wind Warrior Club hats were given to each visiting competitor. A special thank you to Chris Molloy and Keith Albury for running the races and to Terry Farrell and Markus Schumi for course laying and boat rescue.

Thanks to the Lake Macquarie Yacht Club for the use of the club facilities especially the marquee on Sunday. A big thanks to our Kiwi and Victorian competitors for travelling a considerable distance to compete. The next international regatta will be in Auckland, November 2020.

Marshall Harper