

2021 Q2 SRC Report

As predicted the Q2 calendar offered many more open Ocean races although some competitors have commented on our too frequent visits to the Pacific. The Pacific Ocean just happens to be the largest open water Ocean and whilst we have a few more Pacific races to complete the six race Pacific Series we then have an Equatorial SOL Round the World race to leave the Pacific to the west.

In addition, we had a range of coastal races in Q2 including a very sad race to take home, in a Viking Longship, our great friend and staunch Danish SOL supporter **Bimmer** who died suddenly in early May. In his journey home from Copenhagen to Svenborg, helmed by OPS colleagues, he was escorted and followed home by 145 fellow sailors in a suitable tribute to his life and his efforts for SOL. RIP.

Now moving on to the Quarterly Series winners and podiums.

Ocean

This series comprised one of the Pacific Series of six races and two legs of the Equatorial SOL Round the World race series. Two of these races were finishing at Honolulu so we did get to sail into the same port twice this quarter - once in a Maxi Trimaran and once in GB90 our powerful catamaran - hopefully with different crews so that alternative venues could have their bars drunk dry.

The first race in this series from Lima to Honolulu race in our Trimaran was won by **SlideRule**, with **Sax747** second and **aner69** third.

The second race was from Panama to Honolulu in a GB90 was won again by **SlideRule**, with **aner69** second and **bonknhoot** third.

The third race of this series took us from Honolulu to Port Noumea in New Caledonia this time in the old lady Steinlager II. For this race SRC would like to apologise to the fleet for a mean finishing line that was parallel to the approach from the south-eastern corner of the island rather than perpendicular to that track. A mark on the south-eastern corner would have avoided that orientation without altering the course to be sailed. This race was won by **HastySlug**, **RICOTINA** was second and **rafa** was third. The dominant yacht in the preceding two races **SlideRule** had an off-week (or the delivery crew was in charge) and came in 27th.

The winner of the Quarterly series was **RICOTINA** with a set of 6, 7 and 2. **aner59** was second with 3, 2, and 12. **Sax747** was third with 2, 4 and 17. An honourable mention is due to **SlideRule** who was fifth overall with 1, 1, and 27.

SYC

This series commenced with a buddy race from Brisbane to Gladstone off the eastern Australian coast and then we joined our European friends with a race over the top of Denmark and concluded in far warmer conditions with a race from Natuna Besar into Singapore.

The Brisbane race was won by **FreyjaUSA** with **Dingo**, our local, second and third was **rumskib**. The finish was tight with less than one minute between the top four boats – **bonknhoot** missing out on a podium spot.

The Nordsee race was won by **WRmirekd** with **bonknhoot** gaining a podium spot this time with second and **Cippalippa** third.

The Singapore visit 2021 was won by **Sax747**, with **NagaJolika** second and **Patrick70119** third. Winds were mighty shifty on this race as can occur in the South China Sea

The SYC Series went to **bonknhoot** with 4th, 2nd and 6th. Second was **WRmirekd** with 10th, 1st and 7th and **Patrick70119** was third with 1st, 16th and 4th (welcome back).

Sprint

This quarter the Sprints were mostly from the files and comprised Guadeloupe PYOC, Inhaca RTI, Bay to Bay leg 2 and Jezera.

The Guadeloupe race requires a major decision at the start line that will determine your race as it is either island to starboard or to port. **rumskib** made the right choice as he has done before and won the race in one of SOL's Seacart 30 catamarans, followed by **WRmirekd** with **bonknhoot** third, tied on time with WRmirekd and only split by our server.

The Inhaca Sprint was sailed in our Mini 6.5 yachts and was won by Joanne in **Rainbow Chaser** some 13 seconds ahead of **jhk1980** with **Smo** third another 8 seconds behind. I do wonder if Joanne's victory can be attributed to her almost nightly practice racing and thus perfecting her mark rounding. Whatever the reason – well done Joanne.

Bay to Bay Leg 2 is an inshore race in Australia that we raced this year in our Seascope 18 after a hard night on the beach recovering from leg 1 with cans of Fosters, shrimps and hopefully no crabs. The race was won by **WRmirekd** with three boats sharing the time for second place rationalised by our server to 2nd for **Rontos**, 3rd for **sailj29** and 4th for **rumskib**. Very glad that I was not the Race Officer on that finish line!

For the 4th race we repaired to the Dalmatian Archipelago for this 20 nm race in First 27s. The race was won by **Zorba777** with **WRmirekd** 2nd and **sassy63** just 1 second behind in 3rd.

The Sprint series went to **rumskib** with 1st, 5th, 4th and another 4th. Second was **bonknhoot** with 3rd, 9th, 6th and 7th and third was **Cippalippa** with 8th, 6th, 11th, and 24th.

Timed

This two-race series comprised a triangular course near Cape Horn in our IMOCA 60s and a course borrowed from SSANZ in the Hauraki Gulf in Young 11s.

The Cape Horn race was won by **Beliberda**, fourteen seconds faster than **NagaJolokia**.

NagaJolokia got his revenge in the Hauraki race that he won with **sassy63** 2nd just 3 seconds slower.

These results gave 1st overall to **NagaJolokia** with 2nd and 1st and 2nd overall to **Kipper1258** with two 3rd places. Beliberda entered the Hauraki race but did not post a time.

Other Races

Easter Coastal

This race, hosted by our friends at Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, took me back to my offshore time in Hong Kong 1970/80 on many yachts with this race up to Mirs Bay and around Gau Tau. A run down towards Waglan Island, a gybe in medium or worse seas and a spinnaker ride down to South-East Sokos before a beat back up to the Po Toi Islands and a finish in Eastern approaches. This time sailing a Fareast31R had the leader finishing after 21 hours. Very pleasant to visit old racing grounds albeit that safety marks had been added around Gau Tau, to take us wide of the unlit Ninepin Island group and a mark to save us squeaking around SE Sokos. Times have changed but not the memories. This race was won by **WRmirekd**, with **GREATSKUA** second and **rafa** third.

Santa Monica

This SOL Classic takes the fleet over a 1220 nm course around the Canaries in a TP52. Continual island roundings and avoiding BBQs keeps us busy. Won this year by **WRmirekd** who was chased home by **bonknhoot** and then **Sax747**.

Around Vancouver Island (Clockwise)

This 525 nm race takes the fleet around Vancouver Island in our IMOCA60 **v2**. I have highlighted **v2** to try and ensure that I do not use the wrong polar next time! Planning tight tacking in narrow channels does not work with the wrong polar. This was a slow race in light airs that was won by **FreyjaUSA** followed by **Zorba777** and **Vida_Matilda**.

Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta

Held in Melbourne Bay on a triangular course this regatta was not raced in real life this year due to Covid19. With the organiser's agreement a virtual race was hosted in First 27s with **WRmirekd** winning, **Tyger** 2nd and **AndyS172** 3rd.

Klaipeda to Turku

Our first Tall Ships race of the season started at the end of the June and is expected to finish in Q3 when the result will be revealed. Six more Tall Ships races are scheduled in Q3.

Susan Hood Trophy - Lake Ontario Offshore Series

Held as a virtual race in our First 36.7 yachts this was a 75 nm triangular race to introduce Port Credit Yacht Club to warm, dry and comfortable virtual racing. SOL was pleased to see 129 entrants and the race was won by **WRmirekd** with **nacrr** and **rafa** less than 30 seconds behind. A 300 nm race in Lake Ontario is scheduled for 10th July as the SYC Championship race.

Passages

Observant readers will have noted a new class on our recent Race Calendars where we have included passages for yachts following interest from the Cruising Club of America ('CCA'). These passages are just that. They are not racing, but delivery passages set up in the Timed race format, that enables skippers to start at their own time with a view to enjoying their passage and then

reaching the destination by a time limit. As this is intended to be peaceful cruising the selected boats (Santa Cruise 52 and the Passport Cruise 40) have been detuned for strong winds and have a limited motoring capacity. The idea is to encourage visits to coves and quiet anchorages on the passage which can be viewed with Google Earth. The passage in 2021Q2 involve a passage from Iceland to Labrador in North Eastern USA arriving at L'Anse aux Meadows which may have been a very early Viking landing site. It attracted about 160 entrants but only some 90 ventured on to the course. One mark rounding at Cartwright Harbour (English spelling) raised a problem with SOL's server as the mark was so hidden in a corner of the Harbour that having rounded the buoy it took great care to avoid double-crossing the median line between the old and new course and thus invalidating the rounding! This has not happened in 15 years of SOL races and it took some mean mark placing to expose this bug in SOL software which is now being looked at by our Tech Team. We all learn from each race.

Richard/Go4iT

Chair-SRC

7th July 2021