

Abbotsford Sailing Club News 24/12/2016

A very long race before Santa

It was an interesting race, (I guess for those who enjoy that) with lots of breeze, then no breeze and a ripping tide. And all that before the Yuletide dinner and a visit from Santa! It led to some interesting results. And Robyn B learned that maybe taking a few days more to fix your boom might be wise (is this a nomination for a big sook award??).

The Yuletide dinner was a great success with more than 70 people and a fantastic crowd of juniors. Thank you to Santa and the Social Committee and all the other many contributors for making this a vibrant evening.



We now break for Xmas and New Year, and the Committee would like to wish you all the best for 2017 and many favourable lifts on (and off) the water.

The next sailing day is Saturday 14 January 2017, which is a short course day for all classes.

Cherub Nationals: Several of the Abbotsford boats will be competing at the Cherub Nationals at Drummoyne Sailing Club between 28 December and 5 January. If you would like to support and watch the racing from the water, give Annette (0435044767) or Graem (0417285531) a txt or ring to discuss.

Support boats: Please check on [the google calendar](#) or on the Club notice board when you are supposed to be on, and organise replacements if needed. On 14 January 2017, Lee and Garry are listed on the calendar.

Any news to be included in the next newsletter should be sent to willevervoort@gmail.com. Newsletters will come out every week during the racing season.

If you no longer want to receive this newsletter: [Unsubscribe here](#)

Learn to Sail

LtS had a fantastic day. Everybody had made a major effort to decorate their boats and the judges (Nathan and Connor) had a hard time deciding a winner. The boats looked fantastic and many proud parents were taking lots of photos. After the water guns were handed out, the boats went out 2-up to have maximum opportunity to chase the other boats. Even some dads were so excited that they also wanted to join the fun. Anthon sailed with Ben in a Sabot, and despite the fairly crowded cockpit, they sailed around without any dramas. Charlie and Christo were another great combination in an Opti. Charlie took over most of the sailing and navigational responsibilities, whilst Christo looked for targets for the water pistol. Orlando and Cameron showed similar teamwork in Opti. Amelia and Jamieson also were in an Opti together. They quickly worked out that to avoid nose diving and taking a lot of water over the bow, Jami had to sit right up at the stern. A good lesson in boat balance really.

All sailors came back with smiles and were ready for a break until the restart of LtS in late January.

Below are some photos from the Xmas decorations. More photos are in this album:

<https://goo.gl/photos/4EXHHFQiWYu3Nzgx8>



Junior fleet

The Junior fleet struggled a bit, and I think the shortened course sign was a relief for a. The strong tide and light and variable breeze were a real challenge. All the fleet tried vain to keep anywhere near the starting line as they were sucked downriver and into the wind shadow of Henley Point. Eventually after the start was delayed and a little N' popped back in for a few minutes, most of the fleet crossed the line to start. For nearly the next hour they all battled to get to the first mark at Grammar. Sometimes the breeze dropped to nothing as the tide ramped up to full flow. As a result the placings and leads changed many times, but still the fleet remained very tight. Anna was first to the mark and then tripled her lead once she got on the nice reach up to Quarantine. Pretty much when she rounded there, the breeze shifted to the SW and strengthened, meaning everyone else had quite a work to get there and a pretty quick run back to Bedlam. It was great to have Aiden Lancuba visiting from North Queensland. In the end Anna in Pippi Ripple, the visitor Aiden was second, followed by Charlie in third. Next was Evan in Boatzilla followed by Evie, Marco and Nick. Full credit to all sailors for sticking it out and finishing the race and for now appreciating what such a big influence the tide can be on the river, especially in light airs.

At the halfway mark of the season Anna, Charlie and Evan lead [the championship](#), while Evan, Charlie and Marco lead [the pointscore](#). Below are some photos of the junior fleet battling the conditions.





More photos in this album: <https://goo.gl/photos/4EXHFFQiWYu3Nzgx8>

Racing starts on time (check the sailing instructions), so make sure you arrive around 12:30pm to rig your boat, attend the briefing and theory sessions, and then be ready to get on the water with plenty of time.

Main fleet

Similar to the junior fleet, the main fleet also struggled with the conditions, with some boats only just finishing within the 3 hour time limit. We were also joined by two of the scout boats, the NS and the Tasar.

Tom forgot to keep a look out even before the start and managed to hit Unshackled 2, this a Big Sook Award nomination?

In the end, the championship heat in the Lasers was won by Lee in Vibe, followed by Garry in Bad and Neil in SeaCure, despite the radial sail. Handicaps were in the same order. In the skiffs, the Hill brothers in Arrogant Frog took line honours, despite coming for repairs. They were followed by Nathan and Paul in Block Party and Willem and Stephen in Fast Forward. However, Fast Forward won the handicap, followed by the Arrogant Frog and Block Party. In the 420's and Open class Liam and Coop in Condition Apply finished first, followed by the scouts in the NS and then Equaliser with Luke and Bart, with the Tasar from the scouts finishing a few seconds later.

Photos from the Lasers doing battle in the tricky conditions.



There are clearly far too many photos from Fast Forward capsizing, however more photos in this album: <https://goo.gl/photos/4EXHHFQiWYu3Nzgx8>

Thank you to Kevin S and Noel and Rolf for support and Annette, Dennis and Mary Lou for starting, and Gai for the finishing duties.

General News

Men's change room: This is making some good progress and we hope to have this all finished when sailing restarts on 14 January 2017.

Starting and Finishing: If non-sailing members or Junior Fleet parents are interested in learning about starting and finishing races, please see Mary-Lou and Annette. We can always use more help (and it's not hard!).

Social Sailing: The next Social Sailing is in February. Please contact Graeme on socialsailing@abbotsfordsailingclub.org.au

80th Birthday glasses for sale!

Good looking glasses as Xmas presents with the club logo. Wouldn't they look wonderful for serving ice-cold lemonade to your friends? And only \$5 each!

And there are still beautiful club jerseys at \$65 each. Sizes Y, XS, S, XL and XXL are le
Payment can be brought to club and given to Gai, or you can pay directly into the Club Account No. 03591 9893, BSB 082 330, but note that the account name is: Abbotsford 12ft Flying Squadron.

Club shirts are also available. Cost is \$35 each.

Club meetings

Upcoming decisions in the club meeting: We are talking about the ferry wharf developments, the RMS lease and ongoing negotiations and planning for the ramp. Please come and attend the club meetings! Even if you can only make it only one Monday a month. The next meeting is on 16 January. **This is your club!**

All members are welcome at the club committee meetings which are held on the first and third Monday night of each month at 8 pm at the clubhouse during the season.

Even if you cannot be there for every meeting, we value your input and would welcome you to the club meeting table. More people means more ideas! We don't send out the minutes to everybody, but if you would like to receive this riveting material, please contact Tom.Biskupic@gmail.com

Boats for sale

420 BobKat, stored at the club. Well equipped and has been sailed regularly over the years. \$1500 negotiable. Contact Kevin: kevin.john.jones@gmail.com

In this section members can advertise their boats, please e-mail willemvervoort@gmail.com to get a listing in the newsletter or to have a listing removed

Dates for your diary

- 14 January Short Course series
- 21 January Race
- 22 January Social Sailing
- 28 January Race and Learn to Sail recommences
- 4 February Short Course series. Jack Dempsey Memorial Sprints for 12s.