2019 NSW IOM GP Round 1

The Susan McAnna Memorial Trophy

Series sponsored by BG Sails and Design

On the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd of March the first round of the 2019 NSW IOM GP series was run at Kogarah Bay SC. The GP round held at Kogarah Bay annually is dedicated to the memory of Susan McAnna, the much loved and valued Kogarah Bay RYC member and member of the NSWRYA Management Committee, first as Secretary/Treasurer, then as Publicity Officer. Susan is remembered for her considerable contribution to radio yachting in NSW.

This year Matthew McAnna put his hand up to be the PRO and was ably assisted by Ron Moon on Saturday and Mal Cody on both days.

Fifteen enthusiastic skippers turned up to contest the event with a mix of boat designs. There were four V10s, one V8, five Britpops and one each of the following, K2, Cheinz, Picanto, Mad Max and Sabre 3d.

At 10am on Saturday morning the conditions were best described as light and variable, but after a short delay there was enough breeze from the south for Scott Condie to set a windward and return course and racing got under way. During the day the breeze swung to the east and finally settled in the ENE strong enough for some skippers to change down to B rig. Matt was kept busy during the breaks adjusting the course as the breeze changed direction. Sixteen races were completed on the day.

Right from the start Paul Jones made his intentions clear and proceeded to give everyone a sailing lessen. At the end of the day Paul was leading, easily, with Scott Condie doing his best to give him some competition in second place, followed by Wayne Keavy in third.

On Sunday morning the breeze was from the NNW and a longer course was set by Owen Jarvis. As the morning progressed the breeze gradually swung to the NE, a favoured direction at Kogarah Bay, and again, Matt was kept busy during the breaks adjusting the course. Not long after lunch the breeze strengthened, and everyone changed down to B rig. Another sixteen races were completed for a total of thirty-two for the regatta.
Paul Jones showed his superiority by winning all but nine of the races. Scott Condie was second with three wins and a whole host of second places. Wayne Keavy was third with two wins and Owen Jarvis was fourth with two wins two points behind Wayne. Allen Roberts and Terry McLeod also won a race each.

This regatta is about all the skippers and there were plenty of competition lower down in the fleet. Allen Roberts, Terry McLeod and Phil Page had their own battle for supremacy, as did the next group of Ross Spencer with his very speedy V10, Selwyn Holland and his 3d printed boat, Andrew Holly with his Cheinz and Nigel Brimble with another V10. Some skippers were unlucky, Peter Newman lost his keel on Saturday just after lunch, and it was retrieved by Ron Moon. Peter now owes Ron several beers. Stewart Campbell, all the way from Scotland had fun for the two days sailing in conditions he is not used to, and had some great places, the best being a very credible seventh. Unfortunately, Andrew Payne and Daniel Wiseman could not complete the first day and didn’t return on Sunday.

The first three places were presented with medals by KBRYC President Allen Roberts, and each of them made a short speech with their remembrances of Susan. Susan was a great supporter of the little guy and the up and coming skippers, so the Memorial Trophy is presented to the highest placed NSW skipper who hasn’t had the honour of having their name on the trophy before. This year Matthew McAnna presented the trophy to Wayne Keavy who was pleased as punch to get his name on the trophy. Matt also praised all the skippers for their excellent sportsmanship which made it a truly fun regatta for everyone. (I apologise to those who overheard me swearing at my boat when I was having reception problems)

The regatta was fun for the competitors, race committee and spectators alike thanks to PRO Matthew and his helpers Ron Moon and Mal Cody. Round two of the GP series will be hosted by LMRYC on the 6th and 7th of April. Entries are now open on the NSWRYA website. Round three will be hosted by the Northern Mariners at Mount Penang Gardens on the 26th May. The NoR will be published shortly.

Thanks to John Lewis from KBSC for the excellent and healthy lunches.

Owen Jarvis

Keep scrolling down for the full results…
From L to R. Scott Condie 2nd, Paul Jones 1st, Wayne Keavy 3rd and PRO Matthew McAnna