

COMMODORE'S REPORT



The **HELLY HANSEN WOMEN'S CHALLENGE** is one of Manly Yacht Club's signature events.

In 1995 I owned a Peterson 30 called *Haymaker*. *Haymaker* entered the first Woman's challenge event with Trish Parle as skipper. Trish

did well and the prettiest prize of any of my yachts over the years sits on her mantelpiece - a trophy from Cristal D'Arques (the original sponsor).

At this time all of the other clubs had token race days called "lady's day" races. Manly rejected this concept and, instead, started the Women's Challenge concept instead.

It is pleasing to see that in the last few years all of the other clubs in Sydney Harbour have now taken up the concept of Women's Challenge type of racing. This is represented by the SHWKS series. The last race of this series is the MYC Helly Hansen Women's Challenge.

This year the event is on the **26TH MARCH**.

So, if you are a yacht owner willing to share your vessel with a female helm or all female crew, or you are a female wishing to participate, then contact Cath Thornton ([Race Director](#)) Lisa Callaghan ([President](#)) or myself commodore@myc.org.au. We will do our best to get you organised.



The MYC Helly Hansen Women's Challenge is **RACE 6** of the Sydney Harbour Women's Keelboat series

Enter as a CASUAL entry

HERE

MYC recently organised a Skippers' Forum to get feedback from the skippers of the club. The results are very interesting.

The design for next season's calendar will be based upon a bottom-up approach rather than a top-down decision from the Sailing Committee. The feedback from the Forum was extremely useful:

- 45% of the attendees indicated that they wanted to sail weekly
- 23% wanted to sail fortnightly
- 73% liked sailing in the twilights (still our most popular event as far as entries go)
- 68% indicated that they would like to sail in regatta/offshore pub destination event
- 14% indicated they liked cruising events
- 45% liked competitive type events
- 14% liked just fun type events but 36% liked both
- 0% exclusively wanted to sail on a Saturday
- 45% wanted to sail on a Sunday
- 55% are happy to sail on either Sat or Sunday

A surprising 45% want to sail mid-week events.

From the commentary one thing stood out above all others and that is that members wanted a regular cadence to the racing schedule.

e.g. CC races every two weeks not a perceived random cadence of sometimes weekly and sometimes every three weeks.

Further input from the recent Commodores' Dinner attended by all of the Sydney Commodores, indicated that many clubs are also suffering from declining fleet numbers and the way into the future is to start sharing events and resources.

So, with the approval of the Sailing Committee I have made an initial approach to MHYC to set up a MYC division in the Wednesday afternoon sailing event they run. As indicated by the survey, 45% of our members would like to sail mid-week. We could also incorporate MHYC Bedlam Point Cup and Chaos Cup into our marathon series.

So, the above results will now inform the design of the sailing calendar for next season.

Stephen Teudt - Commodore



WHAT'S COMING UP?



SATURDAY 25 MARCH

Sailability is looking for a couple of females to helm in the Hanse 303 Division. They have their eye on the One Design prize, but in recent years have been outnumbered by the junior fleet. Contact Catherine womenschallenge@myc.org.au for more info.

So, Juniors... do you have your eyes on the One Design prize? Make sure you get our entries in.

What's the laser fleet doing?

SUNDAY 26 MARCH

There's already lots of info about competing... but if you aren't maybe you can help behind the scenes. Check in with Race Director Catherine and Commodore Stephen to see what resources they need.

And don't forget the after-racing presentation back at the club. If you can hand out food during the event, come and see Maz in the galley.



MANLY YACHT CLUB HELLY HANSEN WOMEN'S CHALLENGE 2023

INVITING SKIPPERS AND THEIR CREW TO ENTER THE
MYC HELLY HANSEN WOMEN'S CHALLENGE 2023
SATURDAY MARCH 25 : LASERS, HANSA 303s, JUNIOR CLASSES
SUNDAY MARCH 26 : YACHTS

Exciting sailing, wonderful prizes, plus a trophy for winner of the largest one design fleet.

More information at
www.myc.org.au



Images: Marg Fraser-Martin



MANLY YACHT CLUB

SHIP OF FOOLS

Costume Ball 2023

APRIL 1, 2023
7:00 p.m.

\$60 per fool

Includes food, entertainment and daft foolishness.





TICKETS
HERE

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR TICKET YET?

Don't miss out on the April Fools Masquerade party of the season! Come in your most foolish outfit, or, come as you are (as long as you are clothed!).

Purchase your tickets here:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CFJLQ> OR... click on the poster, OR... hover your phone camera over this...

EASY
PEASY



WHAT'S COMING UP?

YES! THERE IS MORE...

DON'T LOOK NOW BUT EASTER WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT

GOOD FRIDAY 7TH APRIL

And that doesn't just mean hot crossed buns in the shops!!

The ever-popular Good Friday race to Pittwater, followed by a great dinner at the RMYC and a potential cruise on the Hawksbury for some, or an unofficial race back to Sydney for others. On-line entry [here](#).

You'll need a cat 4 if you are racing, or if you want to cruise up and meet the fleet there we can arrange an overnight berth. Race entry fees cover the cost of the berth.

Contact Commodore/Race Director Stephen at commodore@myc.org.au for more info.



MINI REGATTA

2 SUNDAY 16TH APRIL

Sponsored by:



PEPPER TREE WINES



COMMODORE'S PICNIC

23 APRIL


What plans from the new commodore... wait and see!

PRESENTATION NIGHT

**SATURDAY
20 MAY**



"Believe me my young friend, there is nothing – absolutely nothing – half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats." So says Ratty to Mole in Kenneth Grahame's classic novel "The Wind in the Willows".

With this sentiment in mind... we need  **YOU** to help us find someone to take on the role of RO (Race Officer) on a semi-permanent basis.

If you know someone with time on their hands who is keen to start and finish races on a regular basis on a Sunday afternoon please contact Commodore Stephen commodore@myc.org.au

Australian
Sailing
RESOURCES

Keen to volunteer at your club but not sure where to start? Australian Sailing has several free online officiating courses launching soon that will equip you with the skills you need to get involved!

<https://www.sailingresources.org.au/officials-volunteers/>

CURIOUS ABOUT HOW HANDICAPS WORK?

Handicapper Greg explains it in this newsletter.

Want to know how this season's Club Champs handicaps worked?

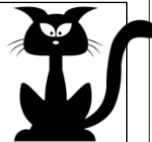
Join the on-line meeting on TUESDAY 21ST MARCH. Here's how :

<https://meet.google.com/ymt-vvhh-bgb>

Or dial: (IT) +39 02 8732 3990 PIN: 108 739 695#

More phone numbers:

<https://tel.meet/ymt-vvhh-bgb?pin=5856574490691>



POSITION VACANT

Dear Reader,

This will be my penultimate newsletter. The last newsletter from me will be the April edition.

I've had great fun producing the newsletter, but I've run out of oompf!

The newsletter is produced 10 times during the year, but the frequency can be changed to suit.

It is important to maintain as it holds our history, records members' achievements and keeps our members informed of upcoming events.

It can be produced by any means comfortable to the editor (this editor uses Word), provided that the end product is a PDF.

If you have some creative and/or social media skills, or would like a new challenge, please drop me a line... newsletter@myc.org.au






PEPPER TREE WINES CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RACE 8 26th FEBRUARY 2023

Coming through...
Ten Sixty steams through
Jupiter and Sirius

RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/1783/races>



A sparkler of a day for Club Champs Race 8 and Course 1 taking both fleets around the top laid mark, then to Rocky Point and Cannae before division 1 headed down to Taylor's Bay while division 2 circled between Obelisk and Cannae a couple of times before heading home. Division 1 did a final Cannae/Obelisk loop before they, too, headed for home.

 = Individual Recall Flag

A couple of keen starters in division 1 saw an OCS in the results, while the other OCS returned to the start and still managed first across the line and 3rd on handicap - well done *Corum*. It was strange not to be seeing *Corum's* red kite in front of *San Toy* for the first downwind leg, but equilibrium was soon restored.



Despite a few bloopers ... congratulations *Pensive* in first place, *San Toy* second and *Corum* in third.

Corum and *Pensive* now battle it out for the series win with only 2 races to go but with 2 drops *Ten Sixty* and *Ludicrous Mode* might just be in there with a chance.



Division 1 rounding top mark - image Greg Zyner



In division 2 ... *Ratty Tooley*, *Ça Va* and *Cheap Thrills* ... 1.. 2... 3... with *Ça Va* first across the line. More images here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/BdqXsQHMYT1szbyc7> and from Marg Fraser-Martin [here](#)

Thank you Team *Khaleesi* for race committee duty and our sponsors



PEPPER TREE WINES



Division 2 *Ça Va* at Cannae
-image Marg Fraser Martin

Winners Left to right:
Phil (*Ça Va*), John (*Cheap Thrills*),
Bruce (*Pensive*), Graham (*San Toy*),
Michael (*Corum*), Ian (*Ratty Tooley*)
with RD Mark doing some sort of duck
dance???



PEPPER TREE WINES

TWILIGHT RACE 17

10TH FEBRUARY 2023



Zuiderdam and Pensive

RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/1816/races>



A beautiful twilight night with threat of thunderstorms holding off until all boats were off the racetrack.

Course 9 took the fleet to Eastern Channel AS, where they met the RSYS fleet heading around the Beashel/Sow&Pigs AS mark before heading off to Chowder Bay South AS and then home.



Most of the fleet avoided the wind shadow of the first cruise ship but we all had to mind our "p's" and "q's" when the Zuiderdam came through; deciding on which side of the ship we wanted to be, and whether we'd be caught again when she turned out of the channel and through the Heads. There was quite a bit of prop wash from the ship and the tug coming back into the harbour.



Manly Sailing-Equinox

Congratulations *Gecko*, closest to the start - nailed it on zero-zero, with *San*

Toy 2 seconds off and *Esprit* 3 seconds.

Daybreak had another good race, 1st on handicap with *Shear Magic* and *Fast Company* in 2nd and 3rd place respectively - *Mondo* - fastest around the course, with *Pensive* and *Jupiter* in hot pursuit.

Thank you Peppertree wines and The Quays Marine for your sponsorship. Thank you race committee, Santo and the Manly Sailing crew.





VALE

ROBERT (BOB) COOK

1947 - 2023

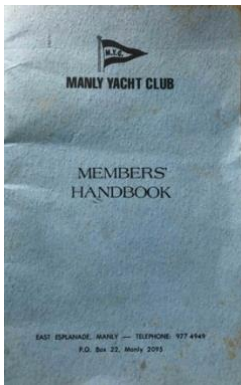


Bob Cook became a member of Manly Yacht Club in the 1960s when he talked his father into buying him a Manly Junior. The boat was kept in the old blue club house and rigged on the beach and raced on Saturday mornings. Bob recalled that the Club didn't have support boats and in a big southerly a team of fathers would patrol the walkway on the old baths with ropes. When the winds and waves overwhelmed a MJ skipper and crew, they would often end that day's sailing pinned against the shark proof fence and parents at the ready, would lower a rope and haul the MJ up and onto the walkway. Bob said the most embarrassing part was carrying the boat past the busy wharf and back to the Club.



In the 1980s Bob re-joined the Club as crew aboard Bruce and Pam's Swanson Dart *Rumours*.

By this time, he had married Megan and they had a daughter Katherine. After racing Megan and Katherine would join the crowd on the deck but Katherine, like any 1 year old was always trying to climb through the fence and horrifying her mother! Bob came up with the idea of installing wires and enlisted Bruce's support for the working bee. The wires are still there today.



The Club didn't have a handbook. Rather, the Commodore of the day issued a sheet of paper with the courses, and we relied on the Racing Rules of Sailing known as the "Blue Book" for all other guidance. Bob visited some of the bigger clubs around the harbour and picked up copies of their handbooks. He noted that we could do a lot better. He called Bruce and said that his place of work had just installed a new program called "Word" and we should use it to write our first addition of the MYC handbook.

Bob took a seat on the MYC Sailing Committee and became Editor in Chief of the handbook which ran to 8 pages. Being written by a person with a very organised mind it was vastly simpler than other the clubs' books and was hailed as a breakthrough. Unfortunately, the world has become more complicated and the Club has found it necessary to include additional information and now the book is 144 pages!

Bob bought a J 24 and moored it in Manly Cove. By then he and Megan had a second daughter Danielle and Bob would often take the kids to boat on Saturday afternoon.



He continued as a member for many years and sailed in the twilights, Sunday racing and liked the offshore race to Pittwater and mostly crewing on Pensive.

Unfortunately, he contracted motor neuron disease and after a 12-year battle finally passed away in February.

Bob had an infectious personality, was able to make friends easily, was very practical and good with his hands. Although serious at times he could always reflect on matters and see the humorous side.



SAIL ON ...

SYDNEY HARBOUR WOMEN'S KEELBOAT SERIES



Images and Graphics Marg's Yacht Photos



MHYC
25 SEPTEMBER
2022



CYCA
30 OCTOBER
2022



RSYS
20 NOVEMBER
2022



RANSA
22 JANUARY
2023



MHYC
26TH FEBRUARY
2023



MYC
26 MARCH
2023

[RESULTS](#)

[RESULTS](#)



ABN



ABN

[RESULTS](#)

[NEXT RACE](#)

SYDNEY HARBOUR WOMEN'S KEELBOAT REGATTA

Race 5 - 26th February 2023



13 boats took to the water for Race 5 of the Sydney Harbour Women's Keelboat Series, getting practice in for the culmination of the series at Manly Yacht Club with the Helly Hansen Women's Challenge.

Catherine Thornton-Rofe put *Kaotic* through her paces (thank you Arthur Crothers for the loan of the boat) placing her 4th on the day and second overall in the series with only 1 point behind the leader in division 2.



Macie Bourke, one of our juniors, helmed *Okavango Delta*, in skipper Lyn Humphreys' absence, placing "Oka" 1 point behind *Kaotic* in the series.



"Oka", as the boat is affectionately known, was crewed by a number of our junior fleet, who regularly compete in the J24 regattas (with a responsible adult on board - thanks Jan Bartel, and thanks Lyn for your generous use of the boat and support of the juniors).

It's going to be a nail-biter as to who will come up on top when the final race of this series is run.



NOTE: all series competitors of the Sydney Harbour Women's Keelboat series are automatically transferred into the MYC Helly Hansen Women's Challenge so that both the SHWK and the HHWC can be scored separately. HHWC is the last race of the SHWK series.

HAVE YOU ENTERED THE HELLY HANSEN WOMEN'S CHALLENGE YET?

**ENTER
HERE**




 — 2023 —
 NAUTILUS MARINE INSURANCE
SYDNEY HARBOUR
REGATTA



The first weekend in March saw the 18th anniversary of the Sydney Harbour Regatta held with 89 races for 17 divisions across 7 course areas. Sydney Harbour turned out some great weather for this exciting event.

Hosted by MHYC, the regatta would not be possible without the tremendous support of CYCA, MYC, RANSA, RPAYC, RPEYC, RSYS, SASC, SFS and a skilled team of 85 race management volunteers. Nautilus Marine Insurance is principal sponsor along with supporting sponsors Quality Marine Clothing, Flagstaff Marine, Pacific Rigging, Maui Jim and Manly Spirits.

At Monday night's prizegiving ceremony, MHYC Special Events Chairman, Ian Box, congratulated all 156 entrants in this year's regatta, especially those who contested Australian or State Championships as part of the event. There were almost one thousand competitors this year. To be able to deliver 89 races for 17 divisions across 7 course areas takes an enormous effort and the event ran smoothly with a full program of races for all classes and 5 protests resolved by the Jury.

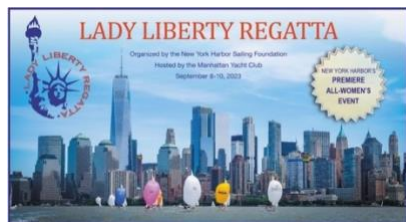
A number of Manly Yacht Club boats took part including *Kia Kaha*, *Ça Va*, *Jupiter*, *Mondo*, *Ratty Tooley*, *Kaotic* and *Ming the Merciless*.



Janette Syme, skipper of *Kaotic* in the J/24 division won the opening race and placed overall in the One Design and PHS category. She mused: "Very tricky weather. We had a very good first race on day one," Syme said. "The top three boats were very close. We were all in front at some point. We took the lead at the last mark and just won, as the others were coming down to us with breeze."

As to sailing, Syme has loved it since taking up the sport at seven. "I started helping a Flying 11 at 11 and never looked back," said the grandmother of two. "I haven't given up on life yet", she said, laughing.

"The reason we're doing this regatta is to practice for the Lady of Liberty Women's Regatta in New York in September. It's in J/24s and there will be crews from 10 nations competing as well of five from the USA".



Ian Smith was delighted with his second place on *Jupiter* in the J/99 fleet which was also the Australian Championships and the first time a Championship has been held for the J/99's in the world.



The team on *Ming the Merciless* had a cracker event with co-owners Jono and Neil enjoying the competitive field of Farr East 28 boats. Usually incorporated in the Super 30 fleet the 5 boats decided to split out for their own start line for one design result. Skipped by Jono Rogers and his team of Neil, Chris, John and Jack they romped home with 5 first places out of the 6 races held for a solid win.



"This was our first-time racing against a field of Farr East 28's and we were pleasantly surprised by how competitive the fleet was. The results don't reflect how close the racing was, it was a hard-fought battle" said Jono. "It was a real team effort and we all had great fun."



Well done to all those competing and to the Manly Yacht Club Volunteers supporting the event.

For more photos, courtesy of Andrea Francolini and Marg Fraser-Martin [here](#)

LIES, DAMNED LIES & HANDICAPS

(with apologies to Mark Twain)
Greg Wilkins

At a recent skippers' meeting at MYC, there was a lot of discussion and feedback regarding the handicap systems used at the club: past, present, and future. This article aims to shed light on some of the questions raised during the meeting and provide an understanding of the difficulties and options going forward. In addition, the club will hold a training evening where real data from the current season can be explored and questions asked (and hopefully answered).

The club currently uses the Performance Handicap System (PHS) for all our series, unlike previous years when we used a different system for the Twilights. PHS is designed to rate both a boat in its current state and how it is sailed by its current crew. The intention is that on any given day, any boat can win if sailed well against her handicap. The best designed & maintained boats don't always win. The winner is the boat that sails best against the calculated average of a select set of their past performances.

There are many variations of PHS. The club has used the Sailsys variant for several years now, and prior to that, we used a "spreadsheet" variant that was configured by Graham Radford from TopYacht options and then implemented (in a fusion of TopYacht and Google spreadsheets) by me. The PHS systems all have a similar core algorithm where the handicap for the next race in the series is calculated as the average of how a boat sailed for a number of previous races. This is called the Back Calculated Handicap (BCH) and is the handicap the boat needed to have for all the boats to have equal corrected times (more about that later). Algorithms also use a clip above and below a BCH to either limit or exclude extraordinary results.

Another variation in PHS algorithms is how the actual BCH is calculated for each race, as there are an infinite number of solutions that have all boats with the same corrected time. The spreadsheet system used a technique inherited from TopYacht, where 40% of the boats were assumed to have sailed better than their handicaps. Sailsys has a proprietary algorithm for determining BCH. In reality, the number of boats sailing to their handicap varies greatly with the conditions, and it is always easy for a boat to sail worse than their handicap and difficult to sail much better than a fairly assigned one. Having a fairly calculated BCH is crucial when combining results race to race, series to series and club to club.

Here are some frequently asked questions about PHS handicaps:

WHY DOES A BOAT'S HANDICAP SOMETIMES IMPROVE, EVEN AFTER A GOOD RESULT?

With boat Sailsys and "spreadsheet", a boat's handicap is just as much influenced by several (up to 7) previous races as it is by the just completed race. If a very good result drops out of the average, then the next handicap may improve even after a good result. Note that not

all PHS variants have this behaviour. For example, Top Yacht can be configured to set the next handicap as a proportion between the current allocated handicap and the most recent BCH. This way, the handicap always moves in the direction of the last result. This can often have a better "vibe" than the other algorithms but is not necessarily a fair reflection of the average performance of a boat and can devolve into a punitive system where everybody has a turn at winning.

WHY DOES A BOAT'S HANDICAP NOT CHANGE AT ALL AFTER THEY HAVE HAD AN EXTRAORDINARILY GOOD OR BAD RESULT? This can be because their extraordinary result may have been excluded from the calculations. With Sailsys, this exclusion is done algorithmically by the clips above/below a boat's BCH (and perhaps by other proprietary algorithms that may exclude an entire race). With the spreadsheet system, BCHs were limited by the clip, plus the eagle-eyed handicapper could manually intervene to modify extraordinary results if deemed necessary. Whilst the intent of both these approaches is to base future handicaps on normal sailing, an argument can be made that in a statistical system, no results should be considered extraordinary. Moreover, objective algorithmic detection of what is extraordinary is difficult and prone to false positives. Conversely, subjective detection of extraordinary results by a handicapper has the limitations of what can be seen and known from a limited perspective.

WHY DOES THE HANDICAP CHANGE SO SLOWLY? PHS handicaps are statistical and thus more accurate with larger sample sizes. To achieve fair handicaps the PHS needs to be calculated over many races and large fleets. For short series with few boats, this puts a lot of importance on a correctly selected initial handicap, as over 4, 6 or even 8 races, by the time the handicap has adjusted then the series is over. This is made even more difficult by boats that have seasonal changes, when their average towards the end of each season can be habitually different to how they sail at the start of a season. An argument can be made that if handicaps are correctly set at the start of the season, then the expectation is that they should not change much (or at all) race by race.



Continued on next page ...

LIES, DAMNED LIES & HANDICAPS ... continued from previous page

BUT WHAT IF A BOAT WINS MANY RACES IN A ROW? That might indicate a wrong handicap, but it also may be indicative of a boat that is sailing well. In One Design racing, it is common for a well sailed boat to have a winning streak and so too in handicap racing a boat may sail several races or even a season, above their long-term average. PHS handicap changes are meant to be adjustments towards the average, not be punitive corrections to make everybody a winner. All PHS handicap systems are torn between the incompatible goals of rewarding good sailing vs giving everybody a chance of winning.

WHY DOESN'T THE HANDICAPPER FIX A HANDICAP THAT IS "OBVIOUSLY" WRONG?

Sailsys is an objective system that does not even allow the handicapper to manually intervene in the algorithmic determination of the handicap. It does have some elements of "simulated subjectiveness" as it can clip extraordinary BCHs or exclude boats/races by some proprietary algorithms. The "spreadsheet" system had an objective core with BCH clips but allowed subjective inputs by the handicapper when deemed necessary.

In an objective system, there is no "obviously" wrong handicap, if the calculations say that a boat's long-term average performance is X, then it is X! Fast boats can sail slowly on average; erratic boats will sail both above and below their average performance; well sailed boats may have winning streaks. However, with a subjective approach, an expert handicapper can look at the actual boats on the water and see such things as: spinnakers in the water, boats with dirty bottoms, sandbagging, lucky shifts etc. and adjust handicaps accordingly. Sailors often like the "vibe" of the subjective approach, but there are many questions:

- If a boat habitually puts their kite in the drink or never cleans their bottom, then should that be a part of their average (variable) performance? Or excluded so that the handicap is based on only their best performances? Should habitual bad boat handling be treated differently to habitual bad bottom cleaning (especially when said bottom gets cleaner towards the pointy end of the season)?
- Is an extraordinary result due to a "(un)lucky" wind shift (and thus is excluded), or is it due to good/bad sailors seeing/missing a wind change (and thus should be counted)?
- No handicapper can be all seeing, leading to the philosophical question that if a spinnaker falls in the water but the handicapper didn't see it, then did it really fall?
- The supply of expert handicappers is limited. Using objective automation is used as a substitute for the lack of subjective expertise.
- It can be difficult to explain to competitors the reasons for a subjective change, leading to a less transparent system.

Objective PHS systems also include some simulated subjectivity. By clipping BCHs or automatically excluding some races, the algorithm is trying to discount extraordinary results and obvious poor sailing. Just like subjective exclusions, such automated handling of extraordinary results may discount something as extraordinary when it really is a true example of good/bad sailing.

Both objective and subjective approaches strive to find an average over a boat's better performances rather than all performances. However, this is somewhat of a self-referential paradox, since a boat's better performances are defined as sailing better than their handicap, yet their handicap is calculated as the average of their better performances.

WHY DID A HANDICAP CHANGE AS IT DID? The "spreadsheet" algorithm was completely open and known, so any given automatic change could be explained exactly. However, subjective manual changes were not immediately transparent, but an explanation could be sought. With Sailsys, parts of the algorithm are proprietary, so we can never explain precisely how a handicap is calculated, only the general principles are known. The evidence is that having an open and transparent algorithm is much better accepted by competitors.

Hopefully this article has answered some of the questions surrounding the handicap system.

A deeper dive into how the handicaps worked in this year's Club Championship will be done during an online session

TUESDAY, 21 MARCH · 7:00 – 9:00PM

JOIN HERE

<https://meet.google.com/ymt-vvhh-bqb>

Or dial: (IT) +39 02 8732 3990 PIN: 108 739 695#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/ymt-vvhh-bqb?pin=5856574490691>





RESULTS: <https://sites.google.com/myc.org.au/lasers/results/2022-2023?authuser=0>



FEBRUARY 12: CLUB CHAMPIONDIPS

Abandoned but not forsaken.

A 24-32 knot southerly blew out this Club Championship Sunday. A few of us made it out for some wild rides and capsizes, before joining the more sensible crew in the shade.

Important to play what's in front of you – in this case CCs, dips and cold beers.



FEBRUARY 19: 4P SERIES 13 & 14 - APS 9 & 10



Thank you "on the spot" Colin

Under a blue sky and in a nice 12 knot sou'easter, nine boats battled it out in the 4P reaching and autumn point score series. 4P Phil couldn't be denied, taking both guns in front of Iain and Ian in the first race and Ian and Iain in the second.

On handicap though, it was Lloyd's day, winning race one in front of Sam and Seamus and bagging a second in race two. Nice work Lloyd. It was pleasing to see 'young' recruit Mitch Miller who recently joined the fleet, grabbing his first win in the second race, from Lloyd and Cameron. I'm sure there'll be many more.



Looked like a great day on the water ... and the deck



Lloyd wins APS9



Phil wins 4P 13&14



Iain and Ian

Thanks to Tim who was kind enough to step in to run the day, along with the rest of the committee. Thanks also to whoever cooked the snags and bought the beers after the race.

I was too distracted by a 25 course Japanese degustation with matching wines in Margaret River to remember. 🍷 😊



The catering in WA was excellent, thanks



Geoff Reid - Lasers



RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/1816/races>

TWILIGHT RACE 18

17 FEBRUARY 2023

Pensive skipper Bruce and crew Pam, Ollie and John, with regular scribe Julie, performed race committee duties for what looked like a bright clear evening.

24 boats, including 3 casuals, took to the water. *Moonraker*, *Esprit* and *Pompadi*... first, second and third across the line, with *Jupiter* beating *Esprit* by less than 30 seconds to be fastest around the course. The closest to the start was pretty close with *Manly Sailing-Solace* and *Misky* both nailing it at 00:00, *Moonraker* next on 1 second and 3 boats - *Pompadi*, *Shear Magic* and *Sirius* all on 2 seconds. A "stirling" effort - Peter Wilkins would have been proud of you!



THANK YOU

TWILIGHT RACE 19

24 FEBRUARY 2023



Twilight Race 19 and a celebration of an 80th birthday for Robert Steffens - a better present would have been 1st, but 3rd place will do.

Course 3, on a lovely evening with winds not quite as predicted, sent the fleet to Chowder Bay North via Cannae before heading back to the finish.



The "sneaky" crew of *Shear Magic*



Fleet heads to Chowder Bay North AS

Congratulations *Waterhound*, *Ludicrous Mode* and *Shear Magic* - 1... 2... 3...

Fastest around the course was *Mondo*, then *Pensive*, then *Ludicrous Mode* and closest to the start - *Manly Sailing-Aqualuna*, nailing it on 00:00, with *Kryptonite 2* seconds behind.



RD Jason with "old man of the sea" Robert (3rd *Shear Magic*), Anthony (1st *Waterhound*), John (2nd *Kryptonite*)

Thank you Team Daybreak and Julie for race committee duty.

Thank you to our fabulous sponsors ...

THANK YOU





RESULTS: <https://sites.google.com/myc.org.au/lasers/results/2022-2023?authuser=0>

FEBRUARY 26: CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 13 & 14 – APS 11 & 12

These were the first Club Championship heats to be held since December 11 (the others were abandoned because of no wind and too much wind) and 12 boats competed in a fickle 8-15 knot NNE.

Phil, the glutton, won both heats, from Ian and Sam in the first race and Iain and Councillor Dave in the second. Sam and Dave can be really quick on their day and it's refreshing to see some new faces on the scratch podium.

Congratulations must also go to Andy and Dave for their point score wins and making the cap look so good. Their handicaps will take a beating though, as they both made the podium in the two races. Andy in front of Seamus and Dave in race 1 and Dave in front of Iain and Andy in race 2. Nice work.

Phil can be seen here mistakenly wearing the handi-cap after a bit of results confusion (not that we stand on ceremony). Thanks to Ollie and the race committee for the day and Iain for putting on some tasty sausages, rolls and cold beers.



Ollie and the very becoming handi-cap models Dave and Andy

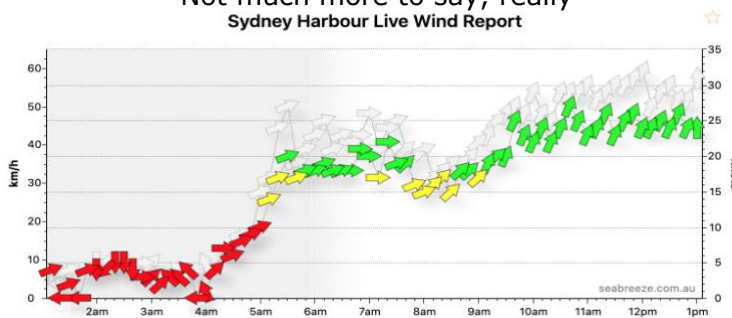


Phil stands tall with two CC wins



SUMMER SERIES RACE 3
12TH FEBRUARY 2023

Not much more to say, really
Sydney Harbour Live Wind Report



SUMMER SERIES RACE 4
19TH FEBRUARY 2023



PEPPER TREE WINES



A pleasant day for a "tootle" around the harbour, with only 5 boats taking to the water. Due to a double booking, there was no presentation back at the club. *Esprit*, helmed by Jan Bartel, was fastest around the course and first on handicap, followed by Stephen Smith on *Shear Magic*, with the other A10, *Sirius* helmed by Mark Stacey, in 3rd place.

The provisional series winners for appear to be *Esprit*, *Shear Magic* and *Okavango Delta*. We'll find out on Presentation Night - Saturday 20th May. Keep the date free!

(Sorry, no on-water photographer has contacted the newsletter editor with any images).



TWILIGHT RACE 20/ TWILIGHT FEMALE HELM RACE 5

3 MARCH 2023

RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/1816/races> and
<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/1817/races>



More images here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Yd3pJqUNdRiAFiGk6>



Well this doesn't look good! The forecast was light - and it wasn't wrong. Looking back at the obs. for Sydney Harbour for our race period ... WSW / SW / ENE / ESE and "gusting" less than 8kts. Boats were slow to move out of the starting area, with a few backward sailing manoeuvres for some but eventually everyone was on their way. San Toy - closest to the start at 4 secs.

RO Ian picked Course 2 in the hope that we'd make it around. 22 boats started, and 22 boats finished, with a good half hour to spare before cut-off time. Well done all!



Ming the Merciless got to the head of the fleet - and stayed there, crossing the line ahead of *San Toy* who just managed to squeak ahead of *Thiseldotoo* and *Mondo* - 10 seconds between the 3 boats

finish times. *Mondo* was fastest around the course.

Seven boats competed in race 5 of the Female Helm division with *Thiseldotoo* coming in first on corrected time, *Mondo* in second, followed by *Manly Sailing-Equinox* in third place.

Thank you Team Ratty and Julie for race committee duty. Thank you to our sponsors Peppertree Wines and The Quays Marine.



THANK YOU



PEPPER TREE WINES





RESULTS: <https://sites.google.com/myc.org.au/lasers/results/2022-2023?authuser=0>

MARCH 5: LASER MICRO REGATTA



Lucky to get a start in

With the yachts off at the Sydney Harbour Regatta, we weren't sure we'd be able to run these heats of the Micro Regatta. Until that is, the one-man race committee – Andy Padgett stepped up.

With a little help from Phil, Andy set the course and then with no help from anyone, ran four races, calling out starting sequences and recording finish times with his phone... and all of this in a challenging 20 knot NNEaster deep in The Sound. Bravo and thank you Andy.

There was some great racing, made more interesting by countless (and spectacular) capsizes. None more spectacular than Phil's at the bottom mark, which earned him an extremely popular last place. Gordon didn't think conditions were hard enough and decided to forget his bung. Mmmm!, boat feels a bit sluggish..

Along with these sailing shots, Andy somehow managed to shoot some great action clips too which we've posted on the [Manly Yacht Club – Lasers Facebook page](#).

Overall, Ian won the day from Iain, Phil, Mike and me. Thanks to Sam, Dave and everyone else for making sure we were well watered on the deck, despite not having a designated caterer. And once again, three cheers for Andy.



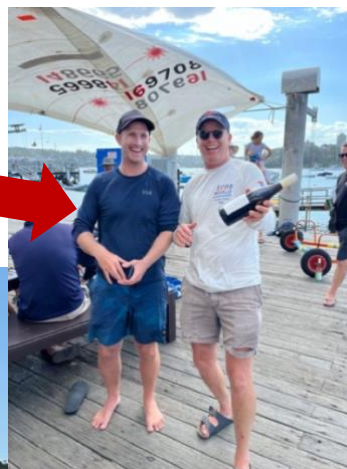
Phil, under control ... for now



Another close finish



Andy



Ian won the day



Great start from Dutchy



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

We have lots to talk about in this morning's Signals. First of all, this is the last issue written by Eli, as she is handing over to a beautiful new volunteer, Clare Archer. Clare has volunteered to take over this role. Clare will be a lot of fun in her position as Editor, as she is very experienced in a variety of roles and looking forward to taking over this one for Sailability. Also, a younger perspective of all matters Sailing will bring a blast of fresh air to Signals.

Welcome CLARE

NEW ENGINE FOR CHARLIE'S CHARIOT



After waiting for many weeks and months for the delivery of our brand-new engine for Charlie's Chariot, finally on Friday, 24th Feb, everything was ready.

There has not only been a new engine installed, but also

the seat has been fixed, there is new wiring to all the electricals on the boat, and there are new monitoring devices.

So, it is almost like driving a brand-new boat. John and Warwick had the first experiences, and David had the joy of the first real Sailability driving on Saturday morning.

Dates
for your



25TH MARCH
Helly Hansen Women's Challenge

3RD MAY from 6:00pm
Volunteer Recognition Dinner.



SUNNY SAILING DAYS IN FEBRUARY

It looked like lots of fun was had by the many groups who participated in sailing days in February; who enjoyed sunshine and nice breezes out on Manly Cove.



Signals
from Sailability Manly



FROM ONE EDITOR TO ANOTHER

Dear all,
Here is my last effort as Signals Editor, as I will be leaving this role to Clare, who is (thankfully for me) taking over the Signals part of my role. I have not felt equal to this task for several months and apologise for the errors I have made while waiting for someone better qualified than me to take over.

It has been an enormous part of my role in Sailability, and as you will have heard by now, it is all getting too much for me, so I will reluctantly be standing down. I will still be at some sailing dates, but not every single time anymore.

It has been a great lifetime for me, and I have met the most wonderful people in the world on my way through. I have experienced many opportunities which I have thought beyond me over the years, and I am no longer up to the challenge.

It has been my utmost privilege to meet you all, and I hope to keep lots of these contacts close as friends.

Best regards to all,
Eli.



Dear Eli,
I'd like to thank you for ALL that you have contributed, not only to Sailability, but to Manly Yacht Club and to this newsletter. Your tireless fundraising efforts and relentless pursuit for accessibility for the community; your enthusiasm to ensure that sailing days run smoothly seemed to hold no bounds.

It has been my privilege to have worked with you over the last 20+ years, and, although you are scaling back, I hope to see you around the club from time to time.

Best Regards,
Maz

TWILIGHT RACE 21

10 MARCH 2023



PEPPER TREE WINES



RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/1816/races>



Daybreak first across the line



With NE breezes of 20+ knots forecast on the harbour, 26 boats ventured out on the course set by the mighty Enigma team, very ably assisted by Julie on the Race Committee.

Course 7 seemed appropriate for the conditions - Rocky, Edwards, Grotto, Rocky, Edwards and finish. No "on-water" photographer tonight but Colin, watching from a different spot, snapped a couple.

Winners today - *Daybreak*, *Ming the Merciless* and *Moonraker*.

Fastest around the course was *Mondo* followed by *Pensive*.

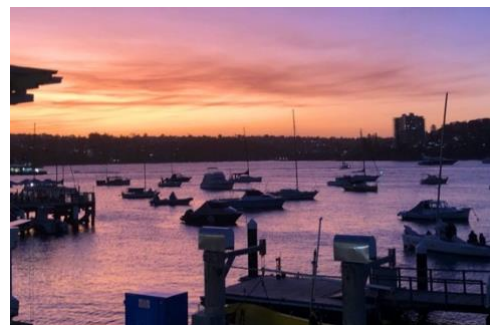
Closest to the start - *Kia Kaha* and *Shear Magic*, both on 1 second and *Mondo* on 2 seconds.

THANK YOU

Peppertree Wines and The Quays Marine for your generous sponsorship.



"jackpots"! Karl (4th *Madama Butterfly*), Neil (2nd *Ming the Merciless*), Stephen (*Shear Magic*), Tomas (3rd *Moonraker*) with RD Jason



PEPPER TREE WINES

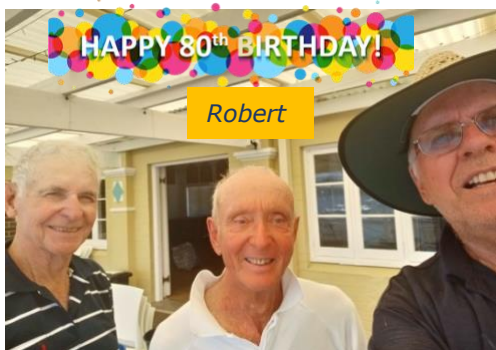


THREE AT THE BEE



An underwhelming response but good work done by new member Jim, old member Robert, and Club Manager Barry. The front entrance area cleaned up and more than half the chairs scrubbed.

There is always maintenance work to do around the club, so if you have spare time during the week, check in with Barry so that he can schedule around venue hire bookings.



COFFEE ROASTERS

COFFEE ROASTERS



Race Director Ian (*Ratty Tooley*), David (*Ten Sixty*) and new member Jim made up the race committee for the last Marathon race of the series.

Sirius, *Lost Horizon* and *Enigma* set off in division 1 and *Stock Car*, *Okavango Delta*, *Cheap Thrills* and *Ça Va* in division 2.

Breezes past the Sydney Harbour weather station recorded southerly between 17-23 knots for the shorter course 2 and the predicted showers held off.

Division 1 results : *Sirius*, *Enigma*, *Lost Horizon* with *Lost Horizon* fastest around the course.

Division 2 results : *Ça Va*, *Okavango Delta* and *Cheap Thrills* with *Ça Va* fastest around the course.

Thank to our generous sponsors Seven Miles Coffee Roasters and Ashwood.

Images courtesy of *Sirius* crew and [Engima Sailing](#) FB.

RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/1784/races>



THANK YOU

NEED A BREAK FROM SAILING?

WHY NOT CHILL OUT IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS...

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MOUNTAIN COTTAGE
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Enquiries: Contact Barry on 0423 519 863



Will (2nd Div 2 *Okavango Delta*), Scott (3rd Div 1 *Lost Horizon*), Jason (2nd Div 1 *Enigma*), "the fire hose reel", Phil (1st Div 2 *Ça Va*), Mark (1st Div 1 *Sirius*), Barry (3rd Div 2 *Cheap Thrills*)





**PEPPER TREE
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	Wrattenbully Pinot Gris
	Cool Climates Chardonnay
	Cool Climates Merlot
	Cool Climates Shiraz
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ON TASTING	Region	Vintage	Bottle Price	MYC Bottle Price	Quantity Bottles	MYC Case Price	Quantity Cases	Total
Limited Release 'Topaz' Riesling	Orange	2021	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
Limited Release 'B17' Pinot Gris	Wrattenbully	2021	\$25.00	\$21.25		\$255.00		
Single Vineyard 'Venus Block' Chardonnay	Orange	2018	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
Limited Release Pinot Rosé	Wrattenbully	2021	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
Limited Release 'Venator' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2018	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Limited Release 'No Bull' Tempranillo	Wrattenbully	2021	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Limited Release Cabernet Sauvignon	Coonawarra	2019	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
CASE SPECIALS								
Mixed Case Special - 20% off retail prices	1 x Riesling 2 x Pinot Gris 1 x Chardonnay 2 x Rosé 2 x Shiraz 2 x Tempranillo 2 x Cabernet Sauvignon					\$320.00		
Platinum Range						12 Pack		
'Coquun' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2014	\$130.00	\$110.50		\$1,326.00		
'Coquun' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2018	\$90.00	\$76.50		\$918.00		
'Tallawanta' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2014	\$155.00	\$131.75		\$1,581.00		
'Robustum' Shiraz	Wrattenbully	2018	\$130.00	\$110.50		\$1,326.00		
'PJP' Cabernet Sauvignon	Wrattenbully	2016	\$175.00	\$148.75		\$1,785.00		
Single Vineyard Range						12 Pack		
'Venus Block' Chardonnay	Orange	2018	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'Stone Mountain' Riesling	Orange	2021	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'8R' Merlot	Wrattenbully	2017	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'The Gravels' Shiraz	Wrattenbully	2017	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'Tallavera' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2018	\$60.00	\$51.00		\$612.00		
'Elderslee Road' Cabernet Sauvignon	Wrattenbully	2016	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'Rock Knob' Cabernet Sauvignon	Wrattenbully	2019	\$60.00	\$51.00		\$612.00		
'Block 21A' Cabernet Sauvignon	Wrattenbully	2016	\$60.00	\$51.00		\$612.00		
Limited Release Range						12 Pack		
'Home Block' Verdelho	Hunter Valley	2021	\$25.00	\$21.25		\$255.00		
'Casuarina' Semillon	Hunter Valley	2021	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
'Fruitloop' Viognier	Wrattenbully	2021	\$25.00	\$21.25		\$255.00		
Viognier	Orange	2021	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Fiano	Wrattenbully	2019	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
Shiraz Pinot	Orange	2019	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Aglianico	Wrattenbully	2019	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
'The Pebbles' Shiraz Viognier	Wrattenbully	2019	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$29.75		
Dessert & Fortified Wine						12 Pack		
Vin de Vie	Fortified	N/V	\$70.00	\$59.50		\$714.00		
Sticky Pig' Late Harvest Pinot Gris	Wrattenbully	2021	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
NOTES -								
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Card Type: Visa Mastercard Diners Club American Express								
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