

SFS Race Report Sat 20th October 2018

by Bob Chapman, 22 Oct 2018.

Photographs by Bruce Kerridge.

Race 2 of the 2018-19 Season and Heat 2 of the Spring Point Score. Warm humid conditions with overcast skies prevailed early in the afternoon as 6 skiffs prepared for the expected moderate NE gradient breeze, with all skiffs electing to carry intermediate rig. The forecast also mentioned a late afternoon / early evening thunderstorm. In addition, all skiffs carried a black ribbon to mark the passing of SFS Patron Ian Kiernan AO.

The breeze eventually filled-in as expected with the race getting underway from a handicap start off Clark Island on the no.1 Northeast course into a patchy ENE/NE breeze varying from 10 – 16 kts on a modest run-in tide. Top Weight was first away off 13 mins, followed by Tangalooma (12) and Alruth (11) with Scot (11) missing their start whilst pre-occupied with their pre-start warm-up (...back in the old days, when betting was prominent, skipper Kay would have been summoned to appear before the club committee to explain such actions!). Next skiff away was Australia IV (7), then Scot off 4mins, finally Aberdare off scratch.

The skiffs had solid breeze from the ENE for the early section of the first beat but halfway down the beat the breeze became patchy and variable in direction as the skiffs approached the Beashel Buoy, where Alruth was first to round for the square run to Shark Island, followed by Top Weight, Australia IV, Tangalooma, Aberdare then Scot.



Top Weight was first to gybe at Shark Island for the run to Clark Island, followed by Alruth, Aberdare, Australia IV, Tangalooma then Scot. The skiffs enjoyed a fast run down to Clark Island, with Aberdare running hard to make up time on the leaders. Top Weight was first to turn at Clark Island for the beat to Chowder Bay, followed closely by Alruth then a gap to Aberdare, Australia IV, Tangalooma and Scot.

The skiffs worked upwind in fresh conditions but on approach to Chowder Bay the breeze became unsettled (the western side of the harbour in particular), no doubt due to the influence of developing thunderstorm activity, making for a difficult approach to the mark in light and fluky conditions. Aberdare managed the final approach well to pass Top Weight and turn first for the run to Shark Island, with Alruth slipping into 2nd place, then Top Weight, Australia IV, Scot and Tangalooma. Aberdare continued to build a good lead downwind, setting a ringtail for the final run to the finish for a comfortable win from Alruth, Top Weight, Australia IV, Scot and Tangalooma.



The skiffs had a slow sail back to Careening Cove as the approaching thunderstorm became all too obvious, with all skiffs and support craft returning safely for a quick un-rig then back into the boatshed, along with the b-b-q and Gaetano's motor bike, as the storm finally arrived.

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Russell, Terrie, Adrienne, Peter, Stu, Chuck, Bill, Louise on the BBQ and Margot on the raffle. We look forward to seeing you down at the Squaddie next week.

Results for Sat 20th October 2018.

Race 2	20-Oct-18		Hcp Start	#1 Course	NE/ENE	8-16kts		
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	New Hcap	Ring tail
Aberdare	J. Winning	0:00	14:30:00	15:59:21	1:29:21	1:29:21	0	1
Alruth	J. Tickner	0:11	14:19:00	16:04:11	1:45:11	1:34:11	12	
Top Weight	A. Robertson	0:13	14:17:00	16:06:19	1:49:19	1:36:19	15	
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:07	14:23:00	16:10:44	1:47:44	1:40:44	9	
Scot	G. Kay	0:11	14:19:00	16:13:16	1:54:16	1:43:16	13	
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:12	14:18:00	16:15:54			14	
Britannia	I. Smith	0:15	DNC				15	
Yendys	B. Watson	0:03	DNC				3	
Myra Too	P. Barnett	0:07	DNC				7	
The Mistake		0:07	DNC				7	
Australia		0:06	DNC				6	
FD Sail-no 9	M. Moore	0:00	14:31:00	DNF				
FD Sail-no 32	D. Ham	0:00	14:31:00	DNF				

Skiff	Spring Point Score	Ringtail Point Score
Aberdare	10	1
Alruth	10	0
Australia	0	0
Australia IV	6	0
Britannia	1	1
Myra Too	0	0
Scot	4	0
Tangalooma	3	0
The Mistake	0	0
Top Weight	10	0
Yendys	0	0
