

SFS Race Report Sat 12th December 2020

by Bob Chapman, 14 Dec 2020.

Race 10 of the 2020-21 Season, Heat Two of the Summer Point Score and the 129th SFS Anniversary Regatta. The SFS Anniversary Regatta is an event to commemorate Mark Foy's visionary approach to race management when he formed the SFS in 1891 that involved 3 sprint races on a shortened triangle course from a handicap start, in order to enhance interest and spectator appeal for 18 foot skiff racing. Conditions on the day were warm with a persistent gradient breeze from the East / Southeast, possibly a bit stronger than predicted. Rig choices for the day varied between no.3 and no.2 configurations, with some choices dictated by available crew numbers.

Racing was scheduled to start from 2.00pm, with 3 races on a triangle short course from a handicap start with each skiff's handicap reduced to a third of their usual club handicap, and the day's results based on the cumulative performance over the 3 races. The course for the day would be an off-wind start off Double Bay, run to Taylor Bay, beat to Shark Island and run to the finish off Double Bay.

Race 1.

The first race was delayed for approx. 20 mins in order for the skiffs to make their way to the start. The long beat from Careening Cove to Point Piper proved to be a challenge – plenty of wind and quite a bit of harbour traffic to negotiate. Unfortunately Tangalooma suffered a terminal fill-up and was unable to make it to the start. The wind strength varied between 12 – 18 kts, swinging around between ESE and SE, with a run-in tide.

The off-wind start made for a great spectacle with Britannia first away followed by Top Weight, Scot and Aberdare, then Australia IV, The Mistake and Yendys (having missed their start). Some skiffs elected not to set a spinnaker for this run, while Australia IV set a peak-header, with The Mistake setting a small mast-header. Britannia was first to round at Taylor Bay for the beat to Shark Island followed by Top Weight, Aberdare, Australia IV, Scot, The Mistake and Yendys. Scot was forced to retire at this stage with a broken rudder gudgeon. Plenty of breeze for the beat up to Rose Bay with some skiffs carrying their rig well into the top-end of the wind range.

Australia IV was first to round at Shark Island in close company and followed by Britannia, Aberdare, The Mistake, Top Weight and Yendys. Plenty of breeze for the shy run to the finish with most skiffs electing to run main & jib, with The Mistake setting a small spinnaker halfway down the run. Australia IV went on to win comfortably from Aberdare, The Mistake, Britannia, Top Weight and Yendys.



Race 1. Beginning of the run to the finish (courtesy Tricia Smith's video clip).



Race 1. Australia IV first to finish (courtesy Tricia Smith's video clip).

Race 10 / 1	12-Dec-20		Hcp Start	Short Course	E/SE	12-18kts	
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	Ring tail
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:02	14:23:00	14:51:14	0:28:14	0:26:14	
Aberdare	J. Tickner	0:04	14:21:00	14:51:52	0:30:52	0:26:52	
The Mistake	J. Winning	0:00	14:25:00	14:51:55	0:26:55	0:26:55	
Britannia	I. Smith	0:05	14:20:00	14:52:07	0:32:07	0:27:07	
Top Weight	A. Robertson	0:04	14:21:00	14:54:58	0:33:58	0:29:58	
Yendys	M. Flanagan	0:00	14:25:00	14:57:10	0:32:10	0:32:10	
Scot	J. Watt	0:04	14:21:00	DNF			
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:05	DNS				

Race 2.

Only 4 starters for this race, Scot was forced to retire from Race 1, while Top Weight and Yendys elected to retire from racing after Race 1. Britannia was first away followed by Aberdare, then Australia IV and The Mistake. The Mistake set a peak-head spinnaker this time to good effect. Britannia was first to round at Taylor Bay for the beat to Shark Island into plenty of breeze followed by Aberdare, Australia IV and The Mistake.



Race 2. Britannia leads at Taylor Bay (courtesy Tricia Smith's video clip).

The skiffs enjoyed good close racing in the fresh conditions as they worked upwind. Unfortunately Britannia suffered a runner block failure along with damage to the runner control line making their rig

unstable and forcing them to retire. Australia IV was first to round at Shark Island for the reach to the finish followed closely by Aberdare and The Mistake. The Mistake set a small spinnaker to overtake Aberdare, with Australia IV holding on to win by 3 secs from The Mistake then another 27 secs to Aberdare – quite a close finish, Mark Foy would have enjoyed that.

Race 10 / 2	12-Dec-20		Hcp Start	Short Course	E/SE	12-18kts	
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	Ring tail
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:02	15:03:00	15:29:08	0:26:08	0:24:08	
The Mistake	J. Winning	0:00	15:05:00	15:29:11	0:24:11	0:24:11	
Aberdare	J. Tickner	0:04	15:01:00	15:29:38	0:28:38	0:24:38	
Britannia	I. Smith	0:05	15:00:00	DNF			
Top Weight	A. Robertson	0:04	DNS				
Yendys	M. Flanagan	0:00	DNS				
Scot	J. Watt	0:04	DNS				
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:05	DNS				

Race 3.

Just 3 starters for Race 3, with Aberdare, Australia IV and The Mistake away with 2 minute intervals between them. Aberdare was first to round at Taylor Bay followed by Australia IV then The Mistake. On the beat up to Rose Bay, Australia IV moved into the lead with the skiffs closely bunched as they swapped tacks into the mark at Shark Island, with Australia IV first round just ahead of The Mistake then Aberdare. The Mistake set a small spinnaker to move into the lead approaching the finish to go on and win from Australia IV and Aberdare.



Race 3. Close racing into top mark (courtesy MVS)



Race 3. Approaching the finish (courtesy MVS)

Race 10 / 3	12-Dec-20		Hcp Start	Short Course	E/SE	12-18kts	
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	Ring tail
The Mistake	J. Winning	0:00	15:40:00	16:05:30	0:25:30	0:25:30	
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:02	15:38:00	16:05:49	0:27:49	0:25:49	
Aberdare	J. Tickner	0:04	15:36:00	16:06:11	0:30:11	0:26:11	
Britannia	I. Smith	0:05	DNS				
Top Weight	A. Robertson	0:04	DNS				
Yendys	M. Flanagan	0:00	DNS				
Scot	J. Watt	0:04	DNS				
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:05	DNS				
Alruth		0:15	DNC				
Myra Too		0:07	DNC				
Australia		0:06	DNC				

Summary.

After 3 races, Australia IV was the winner on the day followed by The Mistake, Aberdare, Britannia, then Top Weight, Yendys and Scot. The racing was close, challenging and hopefully entertaining. Well done to the start team on the KILLO, good job.

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Stu, Russell, Tomoko, Bentley, Michael, Peter, Robert, Chuck, and Bill; along with COVID Marshalls Michael, Tomoko and Nicki. With mark rounding details and on-water observations provided by Peter Notley and Michael Van Stom. We look forward to seeing you down at the Squaddie next week.

Results for Sat 12th December 2020.

129th SFS Anniversary Regatta, 3 Race Sprint Series, Overall								
	Race 10	12-Dec-20		Hcp Start	Short Course	E/SE	12-18kts	
Place	Skiff	Skipper	Prev Hcap	Race 1 Points	Race 2 Points	Race 3 Points	Total Points	New Hcap
1	Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:06	1	1	2	4	5
2	The Mistake	J. Winning	0:00	3	2	1	6	0
3	Aberdare	J. Tickner	0:12	2	3	3	8	13
4	Britannia	I. Smith	0:14	4	dnf	dns	18	15
5	Top Weight	A. Robertson	0:12	5	dns	dns	23	13
6	Yendys	M. Flanagan	0:00	6	dns	dns	24	1
7	Scot	J. Watt	0:13	dnf	dns	dns	26	13
8	Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:15	dns	dns	dns	27	15
	Alruth		0:15					15
	Myra Too		0:07					7
	Australia		0:06					6

Note, "dnf" = no. of starters + 1; "dns" = no. entries + 1 (ie 9pts);

Skiff	Season Point Score	Summer Point Score	Ringtail Point Score
Aberdare	30	4	0
Alruth	0	0	0
Australia	0	0	0
Australia IV	41	8	7
Britannia	24	8	4
Myra Too	0	0	0
Scot	27	4	0
Tangalooma	15	2	0
The Mistake	42	8	5
Top Weight	13	8	0
Yendys	16	6	4
