

SFS Race Report Sat 16th January 2021

by Bob Chapman, 18 Jan 2021.

Race 12 of the 2020-21 Season and Heat Four of the Summer Point Score. Warm and dry conditions in the boat park with eight skiffs on hand for the day's racing. The breeze was moderate to fresh from the W/SW early in the day following an overnight southerly change with the expectation it would lighten off and come from the SE for the afternoon. Rig choices were split between full-size no.2 rig and big rig, most favouring big rig. Top Weight had rigged early, but due to a shortage of crew was unable to launch / start.

The race got underway from a handicap start off Kurraba Point in ideal sailing conditions on the no.2 East course into a steady 10-12 kt E/SE breeze and run-out tide. Tangalooma and Britannia were first away off 15 mins, then Aberdare and Scot (14), Australia IV (6), Yendys and The Mistake together off scratch. The first beat to Shark Island was reasonably straight forward, with the skiffs opting to work up the middle section of the course and utilize the run-out tide.



Britannia leads Scot around Shark Island (courtesy MVS)

Britannia was first to round Shark Island for the square run back to Kurraba, closely followed by Scot, then Aberdare, Tangalooma, Australia IV, Yendys and The Mistake. The skiffs carried their spinnakers very square on port pole looking to the run-out tide to assist in making course to the bottom mark. Meanwhile Yendys sailed a hotter angle towards Garden Island with the intention to gybe halfway down the run and carry their spinnaker on starboard into the mark. On approach to Kurraba the lead group of skiffs had trouble holding course to the bottom mark when the breeze began to move left into the east. Scot, Britannia, Aberdare and Tangalooma were forced to drop their spinnaker early then gybe over and approach the mark on starboard under main & jib, while Australia IV under big sails and ringtail had sailed a deeper course early and could now sail direct to the mark, making up a lot of time on the lead group.

Scot was first to round at Kurraba for the beat to Clark Island, followed by Australia IV, Britannia, Aberdare, Tangalooma and then a gap to Yendys and The Mistake. When Yendys rounded the bottom mark they had the good fortune to pick up a significant lift as the breeze moved further to the left. Yendys then carried this lift upwind to the lead group, making up considerable time. As the skiffs approached Clark Island the change of breeze into the E/NE made for a number of changes of position. Scot was first to round for the leg up to Shark Island closely followed by Australia IV, then Yendys, Britannia, Aberdare, Tangalooma and The Mistake.



MV Radar on station at Kurraba for bottom mark rounding (courtesy Adrienne Jackson)



Britannia leads Aberdare across to Garden Island (courtesy MVS)

Yendys continued to power along and was first to round Shark Island for the square run to the finish at Kurraba closely followed by Australia IV, then Scot, Tangalooma, Britannia, The Mistake and Aberdare. With the breeze now E/NE spinnakers were carried on starboard pole with the tighter angle making for a fast downwind run. Yendys held on to take the gun by 15 secs from Australia IV, then Tangalooma, The Mistake, Scot, Britannia and Aberdare.



Yendys crosses the finish in 1st place (courtesy MVS)



Australia IV crosses the finish in 2nd place (courtesy MVS)

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Stu, Russ, Robert, Peter, Emma, Michael, Chuck and Bentley; along with COVID Marshalls 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 16th January 2021.

Race 12	16-Jan-21		Hcp Start	East Course	E/SE	10-12kts		
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	New Hcap	Ring tail
Yendys	J. Porebski	0:00	14:30:00	16:10:44	1:40:44	1:40:44	0	2
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:06	14:24:00	16:11:00	1:47:00	1:41:00	7	2
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:15	14:15:00	16:14:37	1:59:37	1:44:37	15	
The Mistake	J. Winning	0:00	14:30:00	16:15:26	1:45:26	1:45:26	2	2
Scot	J. Watt	0:14	14:16:00	16:15:29	1:59:29	1:45:29	15	
Britannia	I. Smith	0:15	14:15:00	16:16:39	2:01:39	1:46:39	15	1
Aberdare	J. Tickner	0:14	14:16:00	16:18:12	2:02:12	1:48:12	15	
Top Weight	A. Robertson	0:13	DNS				13	
Myra Too		0:07	DNC				7	
Alruth		0:15	DNC				15	
Australia		0:06	DNC				6	

Skiff	Season Point Score	Summer Point Score	Ringtail Point Score
Aberdare	34	8	0
Alruth	0	0	0
Australia	0	0	0
Australia IV	49	16	11
Britannia	28	12	7
Myra Too	0	0	0
Scot	31	8	0
Tangalooma	23	10	0
The Mistake	46	12	8
Top Weight	18	13	0
Yendys	28	18	8
