

SFS Race Report Sat 6 th February 2021

by Bob Chapman, 8 Feb 2021.

Race 15 of the 2020-21 Season and Race Three of the Australian Championship. Overcast skies and the occasional misty rain shower in the boat park with nine skiffs on hand for the day's racing. Not a lot of wind initially but the forecast indicated a gradient NE breeze would prevail. Rig choices were split between no.2 and no.3 rigs, with some choices dependent on available crew numbers.

The race got underway from a scratch start off Double Bay on the no.1 NE course into a 14 kt NE breeze and run-in tide, from an evenly set line. A well contested start, with Yendys claiming the boat-end while The Mistake chose the pin-end, with Tangalooma starting well down from the boat. Aberdare crossed the line far too early and returned to re-start near the boat-end.



The start (courtesy MVS)



Starboard leg to Bradley's after the start (courtesy MVS)

The skiffs sailed a long starboard leg to Bradley's Head where The Mistake was first to tack onto port and converge with Yendys, wherein Yendys crossed ahead and tacked onto port for a well-executed "slam-dunk" cover on The Mistake – great stuff. The lead skiffs then sailed a long port tack towards Nielson Park with Tangalooma also sailing very well at this stage.

The wind strength was adequate but not entirely stable or predictable with some skiffs working the western shore while others sailed the middle and eastern side of the harbour. Yendys held a comfortable lead, sailing the middle, as the skiffs worked down harbour towards the Beashel Buoy, with Tangalooma moving into 2nd place after coming off the eastern side at Nielson Park on starboard to cross The Mistake. The Mistake continued to sail on port up to Watson's Bay before making a long starboard leg to the top mark.



The lead group on a long port hand leg (courtesy MVS)

When the skiffs converged at the top mark, Yendys was first to round for the square run to Shark Island with a 2 min lead from The Mistake, then Tangalooma, Alruth, Australia IV, Britannia, Top Weight, Scot and Aberdare.



Beashel Buoy, Tangalooma about to round in 3rd, Alruth 4th (courtesy MVS)



First run, heading for Shark Island (courtesy MVS)

The skiffs enjoyed a fast run down to Shark Island where Yendys was first to gybe for the free run to Clark Island, followed by The Mistake, Alruth, Tangalooma, Australia IV, Britannia, Top Weight, Scot and Aberdare. The breeze had filled-in a little at this stage making for some exciting sailing under big spinnakers for the two lead skiffs down this run.



Britannia, Top Weight and Scot approach the Shark Island mark after the first run (courtesy MVS)

Yendys was first to round at Clark Island for the beat up to Chowder Bay, with their lead reduced to 40 secs, from The Mistake, Alruth, Australia IV, Tangalooma, Top Weight, Britannia, Scot and Aberdare. The skiffs enjoyed a good beat upwind in the slightly fresher conditions, but the approach into Chowder Bay would prove to be challenging with a large (and very high-sided) naval ship berthed at the wharf. Yendys approached the mark at Chowder from a low lay-line and had issues in the fickle winds when attempting two tacks to make the mark, losing time in the process, while The Mistake came in from a higher course with no issues.

Yendys was first to round at Chowder for the run to Shark Island with a 1 min 40 sec lead from The Mistake, then Australia IV, Alruth, Tangalooma, Top Weight, Britannia, Scot and Aberdare. Yendys sailed a high course to Shark Island while The Mistake sailed a lower more direct course for the mark, when the skiffs converged at the mark The Mistake was able to gybe inside Yendys and take the lead for the final run to the finish.

The Mistake went on to consolidate their lead and take the gun ahead of Yendys, then Australia IV, Alruth, Tangalooma, Top Weight, Aberdare, Scot and Britannia. Tangalooma capped off a good day's sailing with a win on handicap from The Mistake and Alruth.

Yendys secured the overall win for the Galloping Ghost Trophy for 2020-21, with The Mistake taking out the overall handicap for the Raw Meat Trophy. Well done to the skipper and crew of Yendys – Josh Porebski, Adrian Dunphy, Wes ?, Grant Wakefield, Pierre Joubien, Andrew Buckland, Don Buckley and Russell Debney.

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Christian, Russell, Suzy, Robert, Peter, Chuck and Bill; Steamer and Capt. Rob on the Regal, along with COVID Marshalls Tomoko and Michael. With mark rounding details and on-water observations provided by Peter Notley and photos by Michael Van Stom. Also thanks to Michael for cranking up the Bar-B-Q and feeding the masses post-race, and a very special mention to Tomoko for her diligent work in selling the club and regatta merchandise. We look forward to seeing you down at the Squaddie next week.



The Mistake leads the way to the finish (courtesy MVS)



Yendys, H18 Australian Champion 2020-21 (courtesy MVS)

Results for Sat 6th February 2021.

Race 15	06-Feb-21		Scr Start	NE Course	NE	14-18kts						
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	New Hcap	Ring tail	AHSSA Rating	Rating C'Time	Rating Place	
The Mistake	J. Winning	0:04	14:30:00	16:02:02	1:32:02	1:28:02	3	1	0:03:30	1:28:32	1	
Yendys	J. Porebski	0:00	14:30:00	16:03:09	1:33:09	1:33:09	0	1	0:02:30	1:30:39	2	
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:09	14:30:00	16:08:35	1:38:35	1:29:35	9	1	0:01:30	1:37:05	3	
Alruth	M. Carter	0:13	14:30:00	16:11:52	1:41:52	1:28:52	13		0:03:00	1:38:52	6	
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:15	14:30:00	16:12:45	1:42:45	1:27:45	13		0:05:00	1:37:45	5	
Top Weight	A. Robertson	0:14	14:30:00	16:13:49	1:43:49	1:29:49	14	1	0:06:30	1:37:19	4	
Aberdare	J. Tickner	0:15	14:30:00	16:20:16	1:50:16	1:35:16	15		0:00:00	1:50:16	9	
Scot	J. Watt	0:15	14:30:00	16:20:38	1:50:38	1:35:38	15		0:05:00	1:45:38	8	
Britannia	I. Smith	0:15	14:30:00	16:23:13	1:53:13	1:38:13	15	1	0:08:30	1:44:43	7	
Myra Too		0:07	DNC				7					
Australia		0:06	DNC				6					

Gallop Ghost Trophy – Overall, based on AHSSA Rating

Overall	Skiff	Skipper	H1, 23/1	H2, 30/1	H3, 6/2	Points
1	Yendys	J. Porebski	1	1	2	4
2	The Mistake	J. Winning	2	2	1	5
3	Australia IV	T. Stewart	3	4	3	10
4	Top Weight	A. Robertson	5	3	4	12
5	Scot	J. Watt	4	6	8	18
6	Tangalooma	J. Lewis / N. Turbit	6	8	5	19
7	Britannia	I. Smith	7	7	7	21
8	Alruth	M. Carter	12	5	6	23
9	Aberdare	J. Tickner	12	9	9	30
	Australia		12	12	12	36
	Myra Too		12	12	12	36

Raw Meat Trophy – Overall, based on Handicap

Overall	Skiff	H1, 23/1	H2, 30/1	H3, 6/2	Points
1	The Mistake	3	5	2	10
2	Australia IV	4	3	4	11
3	Top Weight	5	2	5	12
4	Yendys	1	6	6	13
5	Tangalooma	6	7	1	14
6	Scot	2	4	8	14
7	Alruth	12	1	3	16
8	Britannia	7	8	9	24
9	Aberdare	12	9	7	28
	Australia	12	12	12	36
	Myra Too	12	12	12	36

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