

SFS Race Report Sat 13th February 2021

by Bob Chapman, 15 Feb 2021.

Race 16 of the 2020-21 Season, the Port Jackson Championship, Race Three (Final) of the Club Championship and Race Five (Final) of the Summer Point Score. An early morning southerly change with rain and cooler temperatures provided the foundation for the day's sailing with seven skiffs on hand and a number of changes of skipper - Peter Legrove made a welcome return to take the helm of Britannia with usual skipper Ian Smith wearing his forward hand's hat, Chris Buckland would take the helm of Yendys and Marshall Flanagan would steer Scot. The breeze was not consistent with variations of no.2 or no.3 the rig choices.

The race got underway from a scratch start in Athol Bight on the no.4 Sth course into a puffy 12-15 kt southerly that fluctuated in direction and strength with a run-out tide. The adverse weather had an upside with a distinct lack of pleasure craft and boat-wash affecting the waterway. The skiffs got away from a well-contested start with Yendys best away from the favoured pin-end with Aberdare on their hip, The Mistake from middle of the line and Scot well positioned near the boat-end.

Yendys worked the shifts to establish a good lead for the beat up to Clark Island, where they were first to round for the free run to Chowder Bay followed by The Mistake, Australia IV, Scot, Britannia, Tangalooma and Aberdare. Some good rides down this run for the lead skiffs in the puffs along with some slow going in the lulls as the breeze was very erratic.

Yendys was first to round at Chowder for the beat up to Shark Island closely followed by The Mistake, then a gap to Australia IV, Scot, Britannia, Tangalooma and Aberdare. The skiffs shared the rounding mark at Chowder with a fleet of yachts causing some "congestion" issues for Yendys, whereas The Mistake had a clearer run after rounding the mark. The breeze kicked-in up this beat with The Mistake moving into the lead off Steel Point, while both lead skiffs had to pick their way through the yacht fleet to stay in clear air, and then sailed side-by-side on approach to the mark.

The Mistake was first to round at Shark Island for the reach back to Kurraba, closely followed by Yendys, then Australia IV, Britannia, Aberdare, Scot and Tangalooma. The lead skiffs set peak-head spinnakers for this run and both crews had their work cut-out with some challenging but fast sailing. Aberdare had an issue when setting their spinnaker in the testing conditions coming out of Rose Bay that ended in the bow going under and a terminal fill-up.



The Mistake and Yendys getting headed as they approach Kurraba (courtesy Adrienne Jackson)

The Mistake was first to round at Kurraba for the beat up to Clark Island with 1 min lead to Yendys, then a gap to Australia IV, Scot and Tangalooma. Britannia retired from the race at this point due to concerns with an injury to one of the crew (...all ok in the end). The Mistake applied a good cover on Yendys up this beat with both skiffs making numerous tacks in the puffy/switchy breeze.

The Mistake was first to round Clark Island for the run to the finish off Kurraba, followed by Yendys, Australia IV, Scot and Tangalooma. The skiffs enjoyed a no-frills run to the finish, mindful of the puffy wind conditions, adjacent keelboat racing and coffee-cruise boat obstructions with no changes of position for The Mistake to take the gun followed by Yendys, Australia IV, Scot and Tangalooma.



Last run to the finish / beat to Clark Island with the odd puff (courtesy Adrienne Jackson)

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Stu, Suzy, Robert, Russell, Reece, Chuck and Glen; Nick and Capt. Rob on the Regal, along with COVID Marshalls Tomoko and Nicki. With mark rounding details and on-water observations provided by Peter Notley. We look forward to seeing you down at the Squaddie next week.

Results for Sat 13th February 2021.

Race 16	06-Feb-21		Scr Start	Sth Course	STH	12-18kts						
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	0:02	14:30:00	16:02:26	1:32:26	1:30:26	0		0:02:00	1:30:26	1	
Yendys	C. Buckland	0:00	14:30:00	16:03:20	1:33:20	1:33:20	0		0:01:00	1:32:20	2	
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:07	14:30:00	16:09:58	1:39:58	1:32:58	6	1	0:01:50	1:38:08	3	
Scot	M. Flanagan	0:15	14:30:00	16:29:51	1:59:51	1:44:51	15		0:05:00	1:54:51	4	
Tangalooma	N. Turbit	0:15	14:30:00	16:34:19	2:04:19	1:49:19	15		0:05:00	1:59:19	5	
Aberdare	J. Tickner	0:15	14:30:00	DNF			15					
Britannia	P. LeGrove	0:15	14:30:00	DNF			15					
Top Weight		0:13	DNC				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	35	9	0
Alruth	0	0	0
Australia	0	0	0
Australia IV	54	21	15
Britannia	29	13	9
Myra Too	0	0	0
Scot	34	11	0
Tangalooma	25	12	0
The Mistake	52	18	11
Top Weight	18	13	3
Yendys	32	22	11

Yendys is the winner of the Summer Point Score from Australia IV and The Mistake.
