

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1994/95

The 33rd Australian Championships for the Flying Fifteen International were hosted by the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron and sailed on the inner Olympic course, Waterloo Bay.

Sailed over 7 races with one race to drop, a smaller than expected but high class fleet participated comprising 4 boats from each of Western Australia and Canberra, 8 from Queensland, 9 from Victoria and 2 internationals making up 27 in total.

The series started with two invitation races on the new trapezoid Olympic course with wind increasing from the south east to 30 knots. Breakages and discretionary retirements were the order of the day.

Ashley Smith/Phil Will from Qld in Fathom struck the first blow in race 1 from Craig and Ian Rainey with James Flower/Steve Tyrrell third.

Races 2 & 3 were sailed the following day with James Thomson/David Sanders clear winners in race 2 from Graeme Lillingston/Edmond Repsevicius and the Raineys third.

Graeme Lillingston won race 3 by over 1 minute from Ashley Smith with Bill Shand/Stuart Wood a close third. An unfortunate incident at the start saw James Thomson complete the race with a split in the deck one metre long and a severely bent mast amazingly finishing in 6th place and later being awarded average points for this race.

The mid-week lay day saw James and David first trying to straighten the mast with the assistance of Bill Shand finally deciding to re-build an old spar for the following day. The deck repair was hastily completed by fellow Victorians.

Race 4 saw a change in conditions with gusty 20 knot winds and a strong tidal influence causing sharp chop and big gains for those quick enough to pick the big lifts around the island. Adrian Jensen/Ross Hunter won from Graeme Lillingston and association president Nils Blumann third.

James Thomson made amends for race 3 with a good win in race 5 from Graeme Lillingston and UK visitor Ian Cleaver/Mark Holmes.

Again in race 6 James Thomson closed the narrow gap as Graeme Lillingston remained consistent with a second and our visitor from the UK James Flower/Steve Tyrrell gaining third.

At this stage of the regatta the scenario was set for a close final points standing, with two fleets made up of the quick and not so quick, separated by a matter of 150 metres, of the lesser experienced and more distinguished in the second half of the fleet any opportunity or tactic was utilised in a field of oneupmanship to improve ones position, good fun.

Race 7 turned out to be Ashley Smiths from Graeme Lillingston and Dave Meldrum/Michael Brown scoring well.

Final points :

Ffiddle Dee Dee	15
Graeme Lillingston W.A.	
Ruffa Gruffa	24
James Thomson Vic.	
The Fathom	35
Ashley Smith Qld	
Think Big	50.1
Craig Rainey Vic.	
Ffidelity	56.7
Adrian Jensen Vic.	

Chris Donnelly

1995

Flying Fifteen News

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS : Three Canberra Flying 15s, *Rustler*, *Snabb Fisk*, and *The Boat Comes Ffirst*, made the long trip to Brisbane to compete in the 33rd Australian championship series on Waterloo Bay out of the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron over the period 31 December to 7 January. The Squadron dates back to the 1880's and displays memorabilia to prove it, including a panel of photographs of every former Commodore and Yachtsman of the Year. Club facilities and service are excellent and the racing was conducted in a very professional manner - I guess that the presence of a full time, paid, Sailing Secretary helps in that respect.

The sailing program provided for an invitation race comprised of two back to back races, each of about one hour duration, over the trapezoid style course, followed by 7 heats, including 2 heats on each of 2 days over the old Olympic style course (with a windward leg of 1.2 nautical miles). Twenty six boats representing 4 States competed including 3 former Australian champions, with some 12 Australian titles between them!

The invitation race was sailed in winds in excess of 30 knots from the SE, resulting in half the fleet deciding that one of the two races was a sufficient warm up for the series, but the remaining races were sailed in 15 to 18 knot N to NE winds which provided for great sailing, especially on the reaching legs. There were four different heat winners but the ultimate winner, Graeme Lillingston from WA, won only one heat - but was second in five heats. James Thomson from Victoria finished second, with three heat wins, followed by Ashley Smith, from Queensland, with two wins. Generally, racing up at the front of the fleet was close and highly competitive. For instance, in heat 6, less than 1 minute separated the first four boats, after 2 hours of racing.

Racing was also competitive elsewhere in the fleet, and we each found our own group of competitors. *The Boat Comes Ffirst*, sailed by Peter Forster and Mick Roche, tended to be on its own between the front and the back group and finished in 15th place overall. Colin Brown and Nigel Grime, sailing *Snabb Fisk*, won the handicap event sailed in conjunction with the series and finished 19th overall in the championship. The big disappointment for us was that Peter and Phillip Russell were unable to compete further after the invitation race because of a sciatic nerve problem suffered by Phillip.

While in Brisbane, we sold the virtues of Canberra as a sailing venue for the next big Nationals, in January 1996, for which planning has already started, and as a popular and worthwhile tourist destination. We confidently expect a fleet of more than 40 Flying 15s to compete in the Canberra series - aspiring entrants from other classes in Canberra would be well advised to start their Flying 15 sailing this season if they want to be competitive in 12 months time! As a result of discussion in Brisbane, we will be looking at the feasibility of using the trapezoid style course on LBG and we are likely to provide for, say, 12 shorter races, rather than 7 long ones (in Brisbane, each heat took the fleet at least 2 hours to complete).

Peter Forster
February 1995

ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT SQUADRON

FLYING FIFTEEN AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

AFTER RACE 7 1 RACE DROPPED

ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT SQUADRON LTD FLYING FIFTEEN AUST/CHAMP'SHIP

RESULTS AFTER 1 RACE DROPPED				SCRATCH RESULTS			FINAL POINTS ORDER				
PL	SAIL NUMBER	YACHT NAME	SKIPPER	TOTAL POINTS	1 02/01	2 03/01	3 03/01	4 05/01	5 05/01	6 06/01	7 07/01
1	AUS3095	FFIDOLE DEE DEE	GRAEME LILLINGSTON	15.0	8.0	3.0	0.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
2	AUS3113	RUFFA GRUFFA	JAMES THOMSON	24.0	10.0	0.0	4.0	11.7	0.0	0.0	10.0
3	AUS3480	THE PHANTOM	ASHLEY SMITH	35.0	0.0	14.0	3.0	14.0	10.0	8.0	0.0
4	AUS3257	THINK BIG	CRAIG RAINEY	50.1	3.0	5.7	11.7	10.0	11.7	11.7	8.0
5	AUS2328	FFIDELITY	ADRIAN JENSEN	56.7	34.0	13.0	14.0	0.0	8.0	10.0	11.7
6	AUS2975	INSTANT REPLAY	JAMES FLOWER	60.4	5.7	18.0	15.0	8.0	13.0	5.7	13.0
7	AUS2755	GUNNWOOD	DAVID MELDRUM	69.2	15.5	10.0	8.0	18.0	15.0	15.0	5.7
8	GBR3312	CLAPPED OUT TOY BOY	IAN CLEAVER	73.7	13.0	8.0	13.0	17.0	5.7	17.0	34.0
9	AUS3444	BRILLIANT IN PATCHES	KILLS BLUMANN	74.2	15.5	16.0	10.0	5.7	14.0	13.0	34.0
10	AUS3488	PATCHES OF BRILLIANCE	WILLIAM SHAND	81.7	18.0	15.0	5.7	15.0	16.0	16.0	14.0
11	AUS3254	SOGGY SOX	RON WALKER	92.7	11.7	19.0	16.0	20.0	17.0	14.0	15.0
12	AUS3494	CATCH ME IF YOU CAN	CHRISTOPHER WELLS	94.7	17.0	11.7	17.0	13.0	18.0	19.0	18.0
13	AUS3224	CRUCIAL MOMENT	LEN HOAD	99.0	14.0	17.0	18.0	16.0	19.0	18.0	16.0
14	AUS3101	FLYING FOX	KEITH CORBETT	118.0	23.0	20.0	21.0	19.0	20.0	21.0	17.0
15	AUS3100	THE BOAT COMES FIRST	PETER FOSTER	125.0	19.0	21.0	20.0	22.0	21.0	23.0	22.0
16	AUS3306	FFENOMINAL	RODNEY ALSOP	131.0	20.0	34.0	23.0	23.0	22.0	24.0	19.0
17	AUS3097	SUMMIT	JOHN WILSON	132.0	34.0	22.0	19.0	21.0	24.0	20.0	26.0
18	AUS3489	EXOTHERMIC	LEANNE BARNES	143.0	24.0	23.0	22.0	26.0	27.5	29.0	20.5
19	AUS2905	SWABB FISK	COLIN BROWN	149.5	26.0	24.0	26.0	27.0	26.0	28.0	20.5
20	AUS1203	CONCORD	GRAEME DOBSON	153.0	22.0	28.0	24.0	28.0	29.0	22.0	34.0
21	AUS3261	CITY LIGHTS	MICHAEL CLARK	157.0	27.0	27.0	34.0	30.0	23.0	25.0	25.0
22	AUS2912	CORANG	GRAHAM BAKER	158.0	34.0	34.0	25.0	24.0	25.0	27.0	23.0
23	AUS3260	FFOXY II	NIGEL PECK	158.0	25.0	25.0	27.0	25.0	30.0	26.0	34.0
24	AUS2676	FORMULAR I	RON WHEELER	164.5	28.0	26.0	34.0	29.0	27.5	30.0	24.0
25	AUS2906	FFRUTEBATT	KEVIN HENDRY	189.0	34.0	29.0	34.0	31.0	34.0	34.0	27.0
26	AUS2835	RUSTLER	PETER RUSSELL	191.0	21.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0
27	AUS1375	SEAMIST II	PETER FULLAGER	204.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0

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ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT SQUADRON LTD
FLYING FIFTEEN AUST/CHAMP'SHIP

CREW LIST
*** Sorted on Sail Number ***

SAIL NO	YACHT NAME	CLUB	STATE	SKIPPER	CREW 1	CREW 2
AUS1203	CONCORD	ROYS	QLD	GRAEME DOBSON	PAUL CLAUSAN	
AUS1375	SEAMIST II	CYC	ACT	PETER FULLAGER	DAPHNE FULLAGER	
AUS2328	FFIDELITY	DBYC	VIC	ADRIAN JENSEN	ROSS HUNTER	
AUS2676	FORMULAR I	ROYS	QLD	RON WHEELER	ALAN CLAUSAN	
AUS2755	GUNNADOO	RYCV	VIC	DAVID MELORUM	MICHAEL BROWN	
AUS2835	RUSTLER	CYC	ACT	PETER RUSSELL	PHILIP RUSSELL	
AUS2905	SNABB FISK	CYC	ACT	COLIN BROWN	NIGEL GRIME	
AUS2906	FFRUTEBATT	ROYS	QLD	KEVIN HENDRY	BLAKE Mc KIMMIE	
AUS2912	CORANG	ROYS	QLD	GRAHAME BAKER	BRIAN DEMNAR	
AUS2975	INSTANT REPLAY	RN&SY	UK	JAMES FLOWER	STEVE TYRRELL	
AUS3095	FFIDDLE DEE DEE	RFBYC	WA	GRAEME LILLINGSTON	EDMOND REPSEVICIUS	
AUS3097	SUMMIT	RFBYC	WA	JOHN WILSON	JOHN PEIRCE	
AUS3100	THE BOAT COMES FIRST	CYC	ACT	PETER FOSTER	NICK ROCHE	
AUS3101	FLYING FOX	ROYS	QLD	KEITH CORBETT	NIC GRAAE	
AUS3224	CRUCIAL MOMENT	ROYS	QLD	LEN HOAD	SCOTT WARTON	
AUS3254	SOGGY SOX	ROYS	QLD	RON WALKER	PETER HALL	
AUS3257	THINK BIG	LWGL	VIC	CRAIG RAINEY	IAN RAINEY	
AUS3260	FFOXY II	DBYC	VIC	NIGEL PECK	GEOFF BUTT	
AUS3261	CITY LIGHTS	DBYC	VIC	MICHAEL CLARK	ANDREW CLARK	
AUS3306	FFENOMINAL	DBYC	VIC	RODNEY ALSOP	CHARLES ALSOP	
AUS3313	RUFFA GRUFFA	RYVY	VIC	JAMES THOMSON	DAVID SANDERS	
AUS3444	BRILLIANT IN PATCHES	EBYC	WA	NILS BLUMANN	DAVID SWAN	
AUS3480	THE PHANTOM	ROYS	QLD	ASHLEY SMITH	PHIL WILL	
AUS3488	PATCHES OF BRILLIANCE	GLYC	VIC	WILLIAM SHAND	STUART WOOD	
AUS3489	EXOTHERMIC	RYCV	VIC	LEANNE BARNES	CHRISTOPHER DONNELLY	
AUS3494	CATCH ME IF YOU CAN	EBYC	WA	CHRISTOPHER WELLS	GREGG HOCKEY	
GBR3312	CLAPPED OUT TOY BOY	LEYC	UK	IAN CLEAVER	MARK HOLMES	