

Wednesday Night: July 8, 2020
Report by Tony Brogan
Pictures by Peter Toby

Before turning to Tony's Report, I received another update from Damien. He said, and I quote, the circumnavigation has been a 'harrowing ordeal'. He is currently near Tofino and will be home next week. It sounds like there will be some stories. - FCR

The wind was forecast to 10 knots plus gusts diminishing by 7 pm to 4 knots and so it turned out to be.

FCR for the night was Bob Jones and he called a course of Welbury Spar, Horda Shoals and Ganges shoals all to (S) and finish. 7 pm time limit was set. It would be a short course at Ganges Shoals, if required..

This night my crew was John and John. Otherwise known as port and starboard. Welcome to the inaugural sail for John deBruyn.

The wind was a steady 10-14 knots prior to the start. Doing a couple of trial runs we needed only a minute from the turn to the starboard starboard end of the line so we did a couple of runs up and down the line, counting 10 or eleven boats out.

The start was close and we turned at 90 seconds to find ourselves wind shadowed and blanketed by Oasis and Second Wind, causing us to be slow over the line and 30 seconds late. Both boats ahead took off.



On the left were the fleet leaders, including Imp and Sorcery X in a cluster. Oasis early tacked to the right, soon followed by Radiant Heat, both looking for clean air.



The fleet tacked up the harbour. Ogoopogo and Caliente battled for the lead with Sorcery X hunting them down. Radiant Heat short tacked past Second Sisters to save some distance. Second Wind and Oasis long tacked but still beat Radiant Heat to Welbury Spar. Imp was dropping back.

So far it was a big boat race.

We all ducked the Welbury reef and then tacked to clear the mark. Hardening to close hauled we crossed toward Horda. Mindful of a flood current most boats tacked early to get a final push up to Horda, but Oasis continued deep into the Captain's Passage, long tacking against the current to Horda.

What current? Oasis came swooping down on a dead run to Horda still ahead. Adding insult to injury Second Wind came in a rush on the windward side to pass the Mark ahead as well.

We rounded and set a broad reach to study the wind. Shortly we decided a spinnaker was good and up she went. A moment of oops as there was a turn in the sail, but we dropped the jib and the spinnaker shook out.

Oasis and Second wind both stayed with white sails and were keeping pace in the 12 knot breeze. Ahead Ogoopogo and Caliente had spinnakers up but not SorceryX.

Gradually the wind eased as forecast and the white sail big boats all slowed. With ten knots and then 8 knots of wind, we gradually over hauled the two, and gained on the third. There was a widening gap with the boats behind. Imp flew white sails to the finish as well.

Passing Ganges Shoals the wind was lighter still and we were now gaining on Sorcery X. The wind went dead inside the harbour and we made best use of a deep, deep reach while most others had to hot up the angle and gybe again and again down the harbour.

We left a gap with the following boats and finished in a declining breeze which for the last boats dropped to the 4 knot range.



Star Gazer struggled with the declining wind, and while coming much closer to finishing with each race, was DNF. But not for long, with every race Doug is improving and will soon be placing.

All in all it was a great evening for a 90 minute sail. Warm enough to be pleasant. Windy enough to get us all moving and time for a quick chat and a beer, covid style.

2020 is turning out to be a good sailing year. See you all next Wednesday.

Wed July 8th

Club			Finish	Corrected	Rating for	club	
Rating	Boat	Skipper	Time	Time	Place	Next Race points	
241	SECOND WIND	van Soeren	18:32:45	01:19:13	1	229	100
100	CALIENTE	Andersen	18:20:22	01:24:15	2	91	90
212	YOLANDA	Grange	18:38:00	01:27:01	3	206	80
47	OGOPOGO	Faget	18:16:44	01:27:58	4	44	70
120	RADIANT HEAT	Brogan	18:28:07	01:29:30	5	120	60
68	SORCERY X	Slakov	18:25:52	01:34:55	6	71	50
369	PHOENIX	Lipsett	19:12:11	01:36:39	7	375	40
155	OASIS	Jones	18:42:20	01:38:33	8	164	30
123	IMP	Leitch	18:42:14	01:43:21	9	135	20
300	STAR GAZER	Manton	dnf		9	300	10