

Wednesday Night, September 9, 2020
Report by Tony Brogan

The wind forecast was 4-8 knots from the North, but the dock Windexes said otherwise, and at 1530 it was east or was that south at 4-6 knots.

1545 was the roll call by acting fleet captain Bob Jones and only RH answered. Maybe people can't handle 29C, but where betterplace to be than on the water?

Bob and I decided to go for a sail anyway and Crew Damian agreed. Just as we were leaving the dock Doug Manton appeared and Stargazer was enrolled as the third boat and we had a race!! (*Wonderful to have Doug back from his motorcycle adventure. I look forward to some stories on the dock at Port Browning on the 19th - FCR*)

Bob set a course . Start, Ganges Shoals (P), Yellow buoy that used to be used by the tug Breeze (P), ((across from Grace point on the other side of the harbour where Breeze sat until she just about bubbled)), and finish.

Radiant Heat went looking for said yellow buoy and locating it turned back to the line close hauled with 5 1/2 mins on the clock. We edged behind the starboard end pin and with a minute left turned for the line close hauled on starboard watching Oasis ahead of us go over early! BUT checking the time we realized our timer was set a minute slow.

We crossed 35 seconds late but at good speed. Stargazer, closer to the Port end, was having trouble getting any speed and was immediately lagging. RH kept out of weaker pressure on the left leaving it to Oasis and tacked early to the right.

Two crossings later and we were just three boat lengths back of Oasis as we crossed her stern as she headed to the left side for the third time. Passing by we tacked 5 boat lengths later and noted a peculiar thing. Oasis's course was nearly 10 degrees lower than ours and so we stayed in the better pressure and she caught the remnants of the lesser pressure as well as being 100 yard further down the harbour. (*I am thinking we should all download raceQs and use it. We could then use the output as a learning tool in terms of who did what, when, and what worked, and what didn't. It would be very helpful for us who are still learning - FCR*)

We tacked over to Boulder Bay skimming along the 30 depth line on the plotter until we were headed and a useful nagging little buzzer told us we were in 20 feet of water or less (*Note Doug - you and I should do the same and not have another thing to worry about - FCR*). A quick tack on to the starboard tack and a turn to the left had the 17 feet of water behind us, but we still could not fetch the mark. Oasis was a good hundred yards away on parallel course. One more tack and we were close but still 5 boat lengths away we took the final tack to make the rounding.

As we eased away on a broad reach we were passed by Osis with two more tacks of her own to get around.

Damian went on the helm and your's truly became foredeck. In a reasonable time (not as efficient as John) the spinnaker was raised and set and we doddled off near dead down wind and looked at Oasis under whitesails creeping closer up behind us.

We gybed left as we did not like the right side of the harbour while Oasis stayed center right. We still ran into our patch of light air and the spinnaker backwinded as we slowed to 2knot ground speed. We slowly eased down the left side to stronger pressure and the oasis ran out of one small puff into a much bigger hole.

We lengthened our lead.

Stargazer was viewed still approaching the Ganges Shoal mark.

RH gybed to the right and followed the wind toward the yellow buoy marker and decided on an earlier takedown before we tangled with any moored boats on that side.

Damian executed a passable spinnaker take down and we made the last 100 yards under genoa before turning to the line in a gentle breeze.

Oasis radioed a withdrawal . We made one long tack and one short tack before the final 50 ft tack inside the pin end line to finish.

Stargazer radioed a withdrawal so that was the end of the racing for this week.

What a beautiful day. Good breezes. Pleasant company. What could be better. 29C temperature.

Why may I ask were there only three boats out? Beats me.

See you next week maybe. (I will be out of the mountains and on the water for the next race. I am looking forward to it. I believe John and Pturbodactyl is back too - FCR)

Club			Finish	Corrected		Rating for	club
Rating	Boat	Skipper	Time	Time	Place	Next Race	points
129	RADIANT HEAT	Brogan	17:30:39	01:15:46	1	129	100
393	STAR GAZER	Manton	dnf		2	393	33
179	OASIS	Jones	dnf		2	179	33