

Wednesday Night Report

July 7, 2021

*Reports by Tony Brogan, Martin Herbert, Robert DeRoos, and John Tulip
Picture by Sam Keating*

Wed pm there was a call from the FCR. Some people are not coming because of the wind. Don't be surprised if it is cancelled.

A quick review of the forecast showed 8-10 knots forecast with gusts to 24 knots easing some by 6-7 pm . See you at the dock and we will decide then.

In the event, on arrival at the dock, the instrument said 12-14 knots , the club flags whispered 15 -20, the whitecaps on the water splashed maybe 20 knots.

On the Beaufort Scale it called it a Fresh Breeze

11 4-1 6	Moderate Breeze	Small waves 1-4 ft. becoming longer, numerous whitecaps	Dust, leaves, and loose paper lifted, small tree branches move
17 4-2 1	Fresh Breeze	Moderate waves 4-8 ft taking longer form, many whitecaps, some spray	Small trees in leaf begin to sway

A short course was suggested of Ganges shoals and back, and repeat.

A longer course was then suggested of Batt Rock((P), U 62 (P) and home. This was agreed to.

8 boats ventured forth to test their sailing skills. The wind was in the mid to high teens . The boat class varied from the large tri to a sailing dinghy. This reflects the wide range of sailing expertise and handicap ratings within our modest fleet.

Most boats had some form of reef or reduced sail as did RH.

The start was as expected. The majority of the fleet at the starboard end. Poco and Ptubodactyl further to the left . Kay D starting well was just ahead of us.

The two foot chop slowed the boats, first tacking across was Ptubodactyl. Then came Poco who opted to tack back to the far shore under the lee of RH rather than ducking our stern. Other boats a little further back were port hand tacking passing our stern.

"Water , we need water!" was heard urgently from Poco. Immediately we hailed back, "You tack" and immediately, we tacked away. We were too busy to do anything other than sail the boat and make sure we were clear of others.

The beat out to Batt Rock was a slog and the boats staying close to and tacking up the SS shore had the advantage over those heading out into the channel. As usual Pturbodactyl was long gone. Then around was Shingebiss, followed in close order by several others. Then a gap was followed by RH and then Firefly. (Douglas having fun singlehanding)

During whole beat for Radiant Heat she felt slow and we seldom were over 5 knots of speed overground and were often knocked over.

Reflection says I need more experience sailing in 20 knot winds. it also concluded the main was set too tight. The boom needed to be eased to leeward and the boat allowed to foot off more.

It is often reported that other venues sail in 15 -25 knots regularly and so we should be able to sail those winds up to 30 knots without any trouble. We live in a light air place so the norm is 2-10 knots not 15-25. So I at least need more practice out there in brisker conditions.

After the turn at Batt Rock it was a close reach to U62 and all took off like scalded cats. For many it was a joyful release from the pounding of the previous beat.

At U62 was the downwind broad reach turn back to Sisters after the gybe around. Only Kay D put up the spinnaker at first. Rampart set the asymmetric before Sisters. Others began to show entering the harbour and RH waited for single digit apparent wind before hoisting the Sunburst.

The wind was eased a little in the harbour and we gained a little on the leading boats. Finally we finished a short distance behind Rampart who seemed to have spin problems and finished under mainsail alone.

Getting the spinnaker down after the finish was the next bit of fun as the halyard came down quickly and dumped the sail in the water.

All I talked to afterward enjoyed the wind and the sail.

Radiant Heat

It was fun out there today. We were bolting an outboard bracket onto the boat with about 40 mins to go so it all got a bit tight to the start. Thanks to Tony for giving us the course on the radio. Anyway off with one reef and probably top end of the big jib. A reach on the limit to U62 from Batt Rock but then we should probably powered up a bit on the way back to the finish.

No breakages, and good to shake out some breezy cobwebs.

Pturbodactyl

Sorry you missed 18 to 20 across the deck at times. we again were very disorganized at the start but did cross at the Windward end and ended up behind but to windward of everyone else. As 45 year old Rampart doesn't point as well as the others we slowly overtook Most of the fleet by going a bit faster. This became a problem as we didn't know what the course was and Pterodactyl was too far away to see where they had gone. Radiant Heat kindly informed us as to which way to go. At about that point I wanted our partially furled Genoa ground in a few more turns and with two of us on the handle we managed to have the 1/2 Samson line part in mid line. Things went downhill from that point as I lost my glasses overboard during the rigging of a spare. Having rigged the Shute for a port rounding not a port gybe set didn't help either. Then a gybe went completely wrong sheets under the boat etc. Never did get it up again. Finished at ? As we forgot the time but about 20 sec ahead of Radiant Heat.

Rampart

The conditions were Yummy, solid white caps across the harbour, sun and enough wave action to guaranty that we would be soaking wet upwind and surfing downwind. In short, perfect. Tony and I got out early to enjoy the wind just in case it died out as often happens on Wednesday Nights.

The course was a bash upwind to Batt Rock, a close reach over to U62, a reach to the Sisters and a run home. The wind was very steady and thus a total pleasure. Just before Batt Rock there was one 15 degree lift on Starboard tack which moved us up a few places and made the reach over to U62 broader and thus favouring the Flying Fifteen. I made an error in being too cautious in raising the spinnaker after the gybe at U62, reaching high with white sails before hoisting. I should have hoisted immediately and used any lulls to come up to the lay line for the Sisters and blasting below the lay line in the gusts at top speed. I used to know this by heart but that was last century when I was young and fearless.

Still, we had a good race, staying close to Poco and driving the boat hard. The wind stayed up and we were able to have some fun surfing on the way home. Our time was 18.28.45. a perfect evening on the water.

Kay D



Club			Finish	Corrected		Rating for
Rating	Boat	Skipper	Time	Time	Place	Next Race
27	PTURBODACTYL	Tulip	18:07:40	01:20:24	1	18
191	KAY D	Herbert	18:28:45	01:21:08	2	185
186	RAMPART	DeRoos	18:28:30	01:21:29	3	183
137	SHINGEBISS	Keating	18:25:09	01:24:15	4	137
156	RADIANT HEAT	Brogan	18:28:54	01:25:29	5	159
99	POCO	Faget	18:26:31	01:30:51	6	105
138	FIREFLY	Woolcock	18:35:16	01:34:07	7	147
315	THING ONE	Arnoldus	dnf		8	315
