

TS16 2020/21 season report
by Asa Wahlquist

The TS16s 2020/2021 season was shortened at the beginning by the NSW Government's Covid-19 related restrictions on sporting activities, and at the end by foul weather and the resulting water pollution.

Overall 17 races were sailed, with the 18th abandoned due to lack of wind. The first races were fairly small, with some crews deciding not to mix due to the pandemic, but over the season numbers built up to a fleet of 11.

The season presented some other challenges with a number of light days, including one race that was abandoned and another that was shortened, and a race in December when the thermometer hit 40.8 degrees.

Uncle Norm, skipper Eric Partland and crew Gary Wills, again won the Club Championship. Eric has won the club championship every season since 2005/6, with only two exceptions, the latter three seasons ago when Eric and Gary took the season off. They returned with Uncle Norm, and again had a highly successful season.

Uncle Norm won all four championship races, won the fastest point score, and came second in the season point score, winning two handicap races from scratch

Annette, skipper Ron Johnston and Ben Speed, is another repeat winner, again winning the Season Point Score and two races.

Aeolian, Darren and Kylie Chignell, in their second season with the club, won the Spring Point Score and came third in the Championship and Fastest Point Score, and won two races. Tranquil, Neil Johnson and Brett Pollitt came second in both the Championship and Fastest Point Score and won one race.

Helen Joy, skipper Chris Giaquinto who sailed with several crew in different races, including John Whitelock and Ross Pollitt, won the Summer Point Score and the Jack Gilliard Memorial Point Score. Helen Joy also won two races.

Murphy's Law, David and Russell Johnston, has also enjoyed past success in the point score. This season they won the Don Jelfs Memorial Award, came third in the Season Point Score and won one race.

The Drummoyne TS16 team won the Lake Macquarie Challenge in March. The competition is held between boats of DSC, Saratoga and Lake Macquarie. In one of the closest finishes of the season, David and Russell Johnston, sailing in Vinca for the first time, were overtaken at the last moment and beaten by one second by local boat Freudian Slip.

Uncle Norm won the NSW TS16 Championship in April. David and Russell, sailing this time in Annette, came second on handicap. The National Championship was cancelled due to Covid.

The Club welcomed newcomer Peter Deall, and returnee Pete McSullea. Peter Deall decided to celebrate his retirement by buying a TS16 named Merlot. Curiously, Merlot was also the name of his construction company. The plan was that he would sail with wife Linda, and last season they did a DSC learn to sail course. Peter soon realised that crewing on a yacht hadn't taught him enough to skipper, and Linda decided she would rather play golf on a Saturday.

Pete McSullea has a long history with DSC in Sabots, 16s and a TS16 called Kookburra. After a break of 12 years he missed sailing. During the winter break last year he rang club president, Neil Johnson, asking if there were any opportunities to sail. There was, with Peter

Deall in Merlot and the two enjoyed a successful first season, with three wins, one second and two thirds.

Tempo, Peter Dallas and Ian Campbell, and Ten, Ken and Ian Caldwell, both recorded two wins. Hironnelle, Peter Barnes and Geoff Smith spent more time off the water than sailing, but continued to be competitive.

Several boats and sailors didn't make it onto the water this season. Neil Bilsborough sold Ultimately Sinister and spent the season completing his latest TS16, Totally Sinister, which is rumoured to be even more exquisitely built and finished than his last boat. Neil took his turn on the support boat. He is an experienced sailor, and continued to be very generous with his advice of other sailors. His crew, Denis McDermott, attended every week, manning the winch before and after every race.

John Gilliard, who skippers Xtremely Sinister, missed his first season at DSC since he started sailing Sabots due to ill health. We hope to see him back on the water next season.

Joe Horinek has sailed his last race in Pelican, which he has sailed since 1994, but he promises to come back and crew occasionally.

The Club would like to thank Race Official Ken Nagle, Denise Walsh and Mandy Wills for their tireless efforts, week after week, that enable the Club to race.

2020/2021 final Results

Championship Point Score

Uncle Norm, Eric Partland and Gary Wills
Tranquil, Neil Johnson and Brett Pollitt
Aeolian, Darren and Kylie Chignell

Season Point Score

Annette, Ron Johnston and Ben Speed
Uncle Norm, Eric Partland and Gary Wills
Murphy's Law, David and Russell Johnston

Fastest Point Score

Uncle Norm, Eric Partland and Gary Wills
Tranquil, Neil Johnson and Brett Pollitt
Aeolian, Darren and Kylie Chignell

Spring Point Score

Aeolian, Darren and Kylie Chignell
Annette, Ron Johnston and Ben Speed
Murphy's Law, David and Russell Johnston

Summer Point Score

Helen Joy, Chris Giaquinto and Ross Pollitt and John Whitelock
Uncle Norm, Eric Partland and Gary Wills
Annette, Ron Johnston and Ben Speed

Jack Gilliard Memorial Point Score

Helen Joy, Chris Giaquinto and Ross Pollitt and John Whitelock
Tempo, Peter Dallas and Ian Campbell

Aeolian, Darren and Kylie Chignell

Don Jelfs Memorial Trophy

Murphy's Law, David and Russell Johnston

Annette, Ron Johnston and Ben Speed

Uncle Norm, Eric Partland and Gary Wills

Uncle Norm won the NSW TS16 2020/21 Championship, and Annette sailed by David and Russell Johnston, came second in the handicap.