

## Tasman Double 2017 - Race 2 - Hobart to Sydney

Following my 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the Race 1, I knew that I wanted to improve on my 2016 4<sup>th</sup> place result in the series. The start time for this race was a little late for my time zone, meaning a bit of a late night as we maneuvered our way down the Derwent River, but if I was going to do well, I was going to need to catch the 0430 weather update anyway, so no worries there.

I wasn't impressed with my technical sailing as we came out of the harbour. I didn't have a great plan, and ended up going very wide around the iron pot. At times, I was just playing follow the leader in order to get where I was going. Distracted, perhaps. I did get things tightened up a bit as the night went on, and managed about 5<sup>th</sup> place as we rounded Tasman Island.

From there, the wind gods smiled on us all the way home. A couple of gybes here and there (mind the performance loss!), chase the wind back and forth across the Tasman Sea, and make the final turn to port to bring us in to Sydney.

After Race 1 I'd fancied about moving 1 spot on the podium, and I guess I did. Mind you, not in the direction I'd hoped, but with this deep a field, I'll gratefully take third, and offer congratulations to **Alexandria** and **Kipper1258** on their excellent races.

Thanks to the SOL for putting this series on each year. It is a great race to mark the end of 2017, and the start of the 2018 racing calendar.

*-longreacher  
January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018*