

2018Q2 – SRC Review

Q2 featured the superb Melbourne 2 Osaka double-handed race where, for the first time in my 45 years of sailing, the Race Committee suspended the actual race and required all competitors in the danger area (an intense tropical depression off Queensland Australia) to seek immediate shelter. That was a nightmare for competitors and a logistic challenge for the poor Race Committee, with whom I sympathise. I do also wish to congratulate that Race Committee as they seem to have resolved the restart with competitors returning to their declared 'retirement' location for a restart to the satisfaction of all. The wisdom of Solomon must have been on their shoulders. Anyway SOL had a great M2O race won by **Billy** and that tropical depression just gave us more speed!

We watched the Round the World Race in real life to its conclusion at the Hague with a nail-biting race that could have given the overall race result to Mapfre, Dongfeng or Brunel. In the end and after a bit of a flyer up the Dutch coast on the last leg Dongfeng took the Series. What this might do for yacht racing in the Orient could be astounding. As for the SOL racers in our Sailonline's Round the World series **aner69**, **Dingo** and **DIKKHENK** finished in that order and each of them only counted single figure race results in their points total (after dropping two results) – awesome consistency.

The Timed series saw **Bonknhoot** win from **Kipper** and **rumskib**, while the Sprint series was won by **rafa** with **sassy63** and **Little Surprise** chasing. **rafa** also won the Ocean series with **JoeB** second and **aner69** third. It is good to see some new boat names on the podium.

The Tall Ship races have started and, to date, are going well with 'nice' winds. Do please recall that there is a fourth Tall Ship race in Q3 and this time we are sailing from Japan up to Russia – best behaviour please. There are more Tall Ship races in Q3 where SRC has set the Shackleton Challenge.

At the beginning of Q3 SOL will be the buddy partner of the (9? month) Golden Globe Race that SOL will run in two legs from Les Sables D'Olonne to Storm Bay in Tasmania and then, after a compulsory 90 minute stopover, a second leg back to Les Sables. Some 55 yacht skippers have signed up to sail this race under **Seat Of The Pants** parameters – only what you have with you on-board. **IF YOU WANT TO JOIN US – SIGN UP IN FORUM BEFORE THE SCHEDULED START OR YOU WILL BE TOO LATE.**

In Q3 SOL is celebrating its eleventh birthday and a Balloon race will run from North America towards Europe. Please read the rules carefully, as I will have to, because it is new to me but it will be a different challenge.

Sailonline Race Committee
29th June 2018