

SSANZ RNI 2020

Leg 1

Hi Team,

I know you mentioned to possibly wait for the 4 series races to complete but I'm enthused enough to make comment now. Given that this was my maiden race.

I only recently joined up. Been checking out your site for a couple of years but never felt I had the confidence, understanding or time to take part. However bit the bullet earlier this month after observing the Melbourne-Hobart race.

My wife is a sailor IRL at the Royal Perth Yacht Club (we own a boat in IRL also called Addiction), while I get involved with various sail administration and photography, so have gained a reasonable understanding of sailing without actually getting on a boat to crew. So this has been a wonderful way to get involved. My wife laughs a little since she is actually quite heavily into major ocean events off Perth. So I have now been able to say that I also know the gruelling efforts involved 😊

Race started at a very reasonable 9am, Saturday morning Perth time and finished at 2am Sunday. I was glued to the screen far too much. Not sure I could continue to do that ongoingly, especially when I note most of the races, on your program, start around 1 or 2am in the morning.

Happily I feel like I went pretty well – didn't take too many risks (other than last bit to see if I could get a couple more places) and I think read the course with a little help of those ahead of me. Was hovering around 46th early in race (although it was all pretty close start to finish at the front) but eventually made it to 18th over the finish. I'm very happy with that.

General

I suspect I may have had some beginners luck or else some setting in your server must be looking after the newbies on their first race 😊

My other results were maybe more in keeping with what one would expect for me, hovering in the high 50's or 60's. I'm still quite OK with all that, its at least giving me a proper sense of where I really sit. Doesn't stop me complaining to my sailor wife that I must be seeing different weather reports than the leaders – of course, I'm joking.

I keep a boat list of the highest 20 ranked competitors in the race and take my hats off to them in the way they are reading and setting courses. I don't like the idea of just follow the leaders and tried alternative strategies but can see I have a lot to learn from others.

Cheers, Richard
'Skipper' of Addiction