

## 2020 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter – SRC Report

Whilst the pandemic has declined in most western countries this is not the case across the World and indeed in some countries it has come back as a second spike. It would seem that at least northern latitude countries are not clamouring for replacement virtual races from SOL or, if they are, they are fitting into our existing offerings where we have seen increased participation. Or they may just be laying up their yachts for the winter.

Turning now to the results for the Series racing in 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter they were as follows.

### **Ocean Series.**

With our three races for this Series – ‘Auckland to Uruguay’, ‘Maryland to Alaska’ and ‘Melbourne to Osaka’ we took our sailors twice to the Southern Ocean with a sail over the top of Canada in the middle.

The Auckland race formed part of our Round the World Series in our 125’ catamaran this time over about 23,500 nautical miles. We offered the sailors a chance to navigate the inner channels at the tip of South America and many yachts took up this invitation. This race was won by **SimeMali** with **NagaJolokia** chasing him and **Leelu22** in third.

The saunter over the top of Canada proved to be a light air affair much of which was on the nose in our 90’ monohull. The race was some 4,600 nautical miles and was won by **SimeMali**, with **SKOVSER** second and **Sax747** in third. Maybe more use could be made of the eastern coast of USA in future Ocean races.

Back in the Southern Ocean we took our Riptide 50 from Melbourne up to Osaka in Japan on the actual race course. A few comments requesting an Open water finish for Ocean races have been noted so the next time SRC set up this race it should be to ‘Japan’ with an offshore finish. The fleet was almost 230 boats but despite having to navigate through a myriad of channels in the Indonesian archipelago, the fleet emerged generally tightly grouped and then the race up the Sea of Japan began. Three main groups formed West/Central/East and over the passage up to Japan fortunes fluctuated between each group. In the end, as well written up in his race report, **Corners** prevailed from the Western group followed by **SilentWarrior** and **BadgerOne**. It was great to see some new names lead across the finish line.

The outcome of the Ocean Series failed to include a single podium yacht named above! The Series was won by **RICOTINA** with a 9<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in the three races, followed by **rafa** with 15<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> and third was **StIngFI** with 4<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. The message here being slightly uncertain save for a result in the teens or even the 20s does not preclude a Series podium result. Of course SRC is open to SYC members proposing Ocean courses in the open waters of the Pacific.

### **SYC Series**

The three races for this Series comprised ‘City Traverse City’, ‘Round White Island’ and ‘Galway to Dublin’, a set of races in inshore USA, New Zealand and the Republic of Ireland.

The City Traverse City race was a late substitution for a proposed Mackinac race and proved to be an excellent race with good winds on the lake for our Reichel/Pugh 66 and the leaders got around the 360-mile course in about 24 hours. The race was won by **sassy63**, closely followed 35 seconds later by **WRmirekd** and only 44 seconds later by **robert1**. A splendid finish that would have been exciting for the spectators.

The Round White Island race was held with due remembrance for the lives lost in the recent volcanic eruption. A fairly new yacht in the marina our RC 44 was used by the 125 SOLers in this race. **rumskib** was our winner with **knockando60** in second and **Bimmer** in third.

The third race was a SOL classic from Ireland's west coast at Galway, past the Fastnet rock and finishing off Dublin on Ireland's east coast. Our progress around the coast was accompanied with a true tourist guide from bonknhoot whose surely edited memories highlighted our sailing. **bonknhoot** enjoyed visiting his old haunts so much that he won the race, closely pursued by **Kipper1258** just 21 seconds behind with **SimeMali** in third a further 38 seconds behind Kipper.

The Series winner for these SYC races was **rafa** with 22<sup>nd</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place, second was **calmxy** with 20<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and third was **Pit8008** with 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Once again not one of the Series podium winners was on a podium for one of the races and each of them counted one or more result in the 20s. There is hope for the also-ran!

### Timed Series

Our Timed races for this quarter were placed well apart. One was at the Southern tip of Greenland and the other was between the North and South Islands of New Zealand.

Our Iceberg run was in the J-80 and was won by **rafa** with **Kipper1258** just 22 seconds slower. Three other yachts were within a further minute of elapsed time with each run made on the same day.

The Foveaux Strait race was sailed in our Seacart 30 trimarans with equally close finish durations. **bonknhoot** was the winner here with **rumskib** just one second slower.

The Series winner was **rafa** with a 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> but second was **batatabh** with a 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Sprint Series

The Block Island Sound race was between two yacht clubs in the Long Island Sound – namely Devon YC and Stonington Harbour - in another boat new to our fleet the MC38 with 138 boats in the race. This race was won by **Kipper1258** just 21 seconds ahead of **bonknhoot** who in turn was just one second ahead of **rumskib**. Four more boats finished with a further 15 seconds.

As a reasonably short race, the SSANZ Triple Series Lewmar 50 PIC was chosen to double up from the SSANZ Series (see more below) and become a Sprint Series race. Sailed over a 39-mile course in the Young 88, traditionally used for the SSANZ Triple two-crew race, this race was won by **fastpassage39** with **bonknhoot** just 8 seconds behind and **calmxy** a further seven seconds behind in third.

The third race was the Walyalup Sprint off the Freemantle coast in the X-362 sports boat. This was a 30-mile race and again our podium was only seconds apart. The winner was **Wolff** with **sassy63** nine seconds behind and **brewman** a further eleven seconds behind in third.

Our fourth sprint took us inside San Francisco Bay Bridge for the first time with a fine sight-seeing tour in our rarely raced Fox 9.50. **calmxy** mastered this little flyer with a win, followed by **bonknhoot** eighteen seconds later with **SimeMali** just three seconds further back.

The Series result for the Sprints this time included individual podium placers from each race. The Series winner was **bonknhoot** (2<sup>nd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>), second was **calmxy** (16<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>) with **sassy63** third (8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>).

## Other Races

### Tall Ships

With three races offered to buddy in Europe from **Sail Training International** and a further two buddy races based out of Japan and up to Russia, two Series (Europe and Asia) were proposed for these Tall Ships.

The three race Series in Europe comprised 'Lisbon to Cadiz', 'Cadiz to Sagres' and 'A Coruna to Dunkirk'. All three races counted for the Series. **knockando60** won races 1 and 2 but was only 5<sup>th</sup> in race three. This was enough for **knockando60** to win the Tall Ships Europe Series. **nacrr** achieved 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the three races gaining 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Series and **rafa** had 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> thus claiming 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Series.

The two race Series in Asia had to be replanned as the Asian organisers cancelled the actual racing due to the pandemic and did not support a virtual race. So a new two leg race between Vietnam and Singapore via the Riau group of Islands in our Class B Tall ship was set up. Both races counted and **nacrr** achieved a 4<sup>th</sup> and a 6<sup>th</sup> to gain a Series win. **knockand60** had a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> to be second.

### Shetland Series

This two-legged race, this time starting from **Bergen**, was raced in First 44.7 boats. **SimeMali** was 4<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> to win the Series and **Sax747** was 1<sup>st</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> to gain second.

### Pacific Cup 2020

SOL was invited to participate by **Pacific Cup Yacht Club** in a virtual buddy race from San Francisco Bay to Oahu's east coast in the Hawaiian Islands. Almost 400 yachts signed up so this was a big fleet. This time it was a soldier's course. **aner59** won with **Kipper1258** second and **outlaw** third all separated by just over two minutes.

### SSANZ Triple

Once again SOL joined **SSANZ** for this triple race series in Young 88s that is sailed with two crew in real life. **calmxy** won this Series with results of 6<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. **rafa** was second with results of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> whilst **batatabh** as third with results of 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Silverrudder 2020

SOL sailed this time in our Seascope (First) 27 modified to solo trim to match the 17 boats entered in the real-life race. In an excruciatingly slow race for the real single-handed sailors 56 of our 74 actual starters finished the virtual race with the last finisher being more than 2½ days behind the winner. Unfortunately, the real sailors had a finish deadline so that they could get back to work and only 29 real yachts beat the deadline of local noon on the Sunday (after 49 hours of single-handed racing). The virtual race winner was **SimeMali**, 15 seconds ahead of **bonknhoot**. **Zorba777** was third.

## Caribbean Rum Run

Raced on this occasion in a Clipper 240, as suggested by Rainbow Chaser and more akin to the pirate vessels of old, 146 pirates signed on for this 2,200+ mile marathon collecting Rum for delivery to the North American mainland.

A small group of about a dozen leaders snuck away from the pack in the light airs prevailing at the start when the wind had been sucked away by an adjacent hurricane. These yachts looked to be fighting it out for the last leg to the finish until **Davy\_Scoundrel\_Dunkin** (also known as **WRmirekd**) pulled a flyer on the other leaders by routing North to the finish in a move that left his chasers stranded. **Davy\_Scoundrel\_Dunkin** won this race by an astonishing 11 hours 10 minutes ahead of **Chipspitter** who in turn was 12¾ hours ahead of third place **Mrs\_Cheng** (also known as **AL53\_SSIta**).

**Ranking by Nations.** Our Sailing Co-Ordinator continues to update the Ranking by Nations. At the end of September, the 2020 situation for **Individual Ranking by Nations** continues to have **Poland** leading but now followed by **Australia** who have overtaken **the Netherlands**. **Italy** remains in 4<sup>th</sup> place. On a **Team** basis **USA** has overtaken **Australia** who are still followed by **Italy**.

Richard Hardcastle / Go4iT

Chair – SRC

7<sup>th</sup> October 2020