

## **2021 Q1 SRC Report**

Having begun the New Year, SOLers were looking forward to a new virtual season out on the water. With this quarter offering more open water racing than previously, as requested by our sailors, they were rewarded with fairly decent winds on the Ocean Races (Cape Town to Rio, Wellington to Lima, Lanzarote to Grenada and Sao Vicente to Colon) whilst the more coastal races encountered far lighter or more fickle winds (Shetland Winter (aka Up Helly Aa), Naples Triangle, Bora, Bangkok to Singapore and Singapore to Ko Tapu).

Fortunately, SRC had provided fast boats for these lighter wind races enabling some speed to be maintained but also permitting the more slippery competitors to escape the pack. SRC has to choose courses and boats up to three and a half months in advance of Wx forecasts, so please be tolerant.

Now moving on to the Quarterly Series winners and podiums.

### **Ocean**

This series of races included a very welcome brand-new addition to our calendar from **Royal Cape Yacht Club**, along with a brand-new boat (C2R74 by Mills), namely the **Cape Town to Rio** virtual race 2021 along with the Wellington to Lima race in the SOL Trimaran and the Lanzarote to Grenada race across the Atlantic in our Xp-55 that joined our fleet for the Bermuda race in 2020.

The C2R race was won by **Henrys**, second was **Cippalippa** and third was **Mullionman**. These yachts had rebuffed the regular route of going towards the South Atlantic high and had opted for the southerly route which proved more successful. Will it be the right choice for 2022 and the real race in 2023?

The Wellington to Lima race was sailed in our Trimaran and, as always with this craft, wind and thus speed was the essence of success. The race was won by **HappyHour**, second was **nordee** and **sassy63** was third. Over 200 boats competed in this race and so SRC may be meeting a demand here.

This race from Lanzarote took us across the Atlantic to the Caribbean island of Grenada with some 2865 miles of sunshine sailing. This time **Cippalippa** improved from her second place in the C2R race with a win, followed by **moritz382** and **aner59**. More than 230 boats started this race so maybe the demand for open water racing is increasing.

The winner of the Quarterly series was **aner59** with a set of 7, 8 and 3. **Cippalippa** was second with 2, 17 and 1. **sassy63** was third with 25, 3 and 14.

### **SYC**

This series commenced with a race off the Brazilian coast to celebrate one SRC member's recovery from Covid19 and a small ¼ tonner was used as light winds were predictable. The series continued with the New Hebrides Slalom in our Italia 14.98 and then the Naples Triangle.

Adriano's Brazil Coastal race was won by **WRmirekd**, with **NagaJolokia** second and **Vida\_Matilda** third. Adriano in his **batatabh** boat was 5<sup>th</sup>. A challenging coastal race mixed with some offshore work. I expect that we shall return.

The New Hebrides Slalom was won by **nacrr** with **WRmirekd** just one minute behind and then **bonknhoot**.

The Naples Triangle was sailed in our Carkeek 40s and the race encountered some very fickle winds. Patience was the key attribute and was mastered by **azur** with a win, he says it was his first win in thirteen years which gives hope for us all, followed by **TarassBoulba** and **batatabh**.

The SYC Series went to **WRmirekd** with 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Second was **nacrr** with 9<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and **CippaLippa** was third with 10<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

## Sprint

With the names of new courses chosen by a free-thinking member of OPS this four-race series comprised the Kingston Reggaeta 2021, the Nisi Astypalaia Sprint, the Lady Barron's Dogs 2021 race and the Quahog Cup taking us back to Newport.

The Kingston Reggaeta was sailed in our First 40.7 yachts and was won by **Vida\_Matilda** with **bonknhoot** 30 seconds behind and **Hirilonde** just 4 seconds further back. No doubt the fleet enjoyed the rum and reggae-fuelled après-racing party in Kingston Town after the race.

The Nisi Astypalaia race takes the fleet around the secluded island in the southern Aegean Sea on a 30 nm race. The race was won by **Sadlersailing** just one second ahead of **rumskib** who in turn was 10 seconds ahead of **brewman**.

Lady Barron is the main town in the Furneaux Group located north of Tasmania. The other islands in the group are called 'the dogs' whence 'Lady Barron walking the dogs' with a 26 nm circuit in our MC38s. The race was won by **fastpassage39**, 15 seconds ahead of **Vida\_Maldita** who was a further one second ahead of **bonknhoot**.

For the 4<sup>th</sup> race we returned to Newport for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quahog Cup sailed in the Sunfast 3600. Once again **Vida\_Maldita** showed her speed and finished 26 seconds ahead of **calmxy** who was 11 seconds ahead of **rumskib**.

The Sprint series went to **Sadlersailing** with 4<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Second was **sailj29** with 8<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and third was **bonknhoot** with 2<sup>nd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Timed

This two-race series comprised a passage from Boston to Newport and the Aland Sea race which is located between Sweden and Finland.

The Boston race was sailed in our Reichel Pugh 66 and was won by **Kipper1258** one minute faster than **Sax747**.

**Sax747** got his revenge in the Aland race raced in the Club Swan 50 that he won this time 9 seconds faster than **rumskib** with **Kipper1258** 4<sup>th</sup> some 45 seconds behind **Sax747**. Clearly these boats enjoy the challenge of Timed Races.

These results gave 1<sup>st</sup> overall to **Sax747** with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> with 2<sup>nd</sup> overall to **Kipper1258** with 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Other Races

### Foiling Wellington to Ushant

It would be remiss of me not to mention our Foiling Race from Wellington to Ushant when we chased the single handed Imoca 65s in our own Foiling Imoca. We seemed a bit slower than the real-life sailors but much respect must be paid to those men and women for the endurance and sheer guts in meeting the challenge. After more than a month of sailing the race was won by **Chipspitter**, followed by **weekend** and **StingFI**.

### Equator SOL Round the World

Leg one of this race series took the fleet from the Eastern Mediterranean out of the western end at Gibraltar and down to the Cape Verde group in Ker 40s. This leg was won by **aner59**, second was **TeamSailing** and third was **FreyjaUSA**.

### San Diego Island Sprint

Partnered with **San Diego Yacht Club**, SYC raced in their TP52s from Long Beach around Catalina Island and down to San Diego. The real boats in the fleet, some much longer than our TP52s, easily lead into San Diego. The leader in our virtual race was **calmxy**, with **WRmirekd** second (3 seconds back) and **rumskib** third (seven seconds back).

### Newport Beach to Cabo San Lucas

Racing in our Santa Cruz 70 yachts SOL was delighted to newly partner with **Newport Harbor Yacht Club** for this 800 nm race down to the end of the Yucatan peninsula. Our virtual race was won by **Chipspitter** just ten seconds ahead of **WRmirekd**, with **FreyjaUSA** just 44 seconds further back. This race was an interesting challenge between rhumb line and stronger winds.

### Passages

Observant readers will have noted a new class on our recent Race Calendars where we have included passages for yachts following interest from the Cruising Club of America ('CCA'). These passages are just that. They are not racing, but delivery passages set up in the Timed race format, that enables skippers to start at their own time with a view to enjoying their passage and then reaching the destination by a time limit. As this is intended to be peaceful cruising the selected boats (Santa Cruise 52 and the Passport Cruise 40) have been detuned for strong winds and have a limited motoring capacity. The idea is to encourage visits to coves and quiet anchorages on the passage which can be viewed with Google Earth. The passages in 2021Q1 involve a passage either North or South of Newfoundland and have attracted about 100 entrants each although most

people's instincts seem to have been to get to the destination as fast as possible. A five-port passage in the North Atlantic is scheduled for 2021 Q2.

### **Observations**

Sailonline Race Committee is encouraged that the SOL Rules of Racing ('SRR') 2021 [SOL RULES OF RACING 2021.pdf \(sailonline.org\)](http://www.sailonline.org/static/var/sphene/sphwiki/attachment/2021/03/18/Netiquette_Heading_in_SOL_Chat_and_Forum_2020-10_Rev_1.pdf) and the Netiquette Rules [http://www.sailonline.org/static/var/sphene/sphwiki/attachment/2021/03/18/Netiquette Heading in SOL Chat and Forum 2020-10 Rev 1.pdf](http://www.sailonline.org/static/var/sphene/sphwiki/attachment/2021/03/18/Netiquette_Heading_in_SOL_Chat_and_Forum_2020-10_Rev_1.pdf) appear to be valued and respected by the vast majority of our sailors. SRC has provided web links above and if you have a few minutes to spare whilst waiting for a Wx update to download and/or a routing to resolve then I would encourage you to read them.

I notice from Race Chat that some skippers have spotted SRR 2 that enables a skipper to invite a skipper in another time zone to assist in downloading a weather update by boat-sitting and using that update to amend navigational commands to their boat while the boat skipper gets some needed bunk time! A possibility must exist here for reciprocity but that must be allied with a measure of some mutual trust!

**Richard/Go4iT**  
**Chair-SRC**

**5<sup>th</sup> April 2021**