

2021 Q3 SRC Report

Now we are almost out of the Pacific Ocean with our fleet exiting towards the Gulf, thoughts are turning to the racing for 2022. Are we ready for 6 races around the Indian ocean in 35' to 50' yachts once again avoiding intermediate marks – as far as possible?

Turning now to our report on the 2021Q3 racing with the winners and podiums:

Ocean

The Ocean series in this Quarter had three races, two from the PAC6 series and the middle race from the ESRW series.

The first race was from Kiritappu to Elfin Cove in Alaska in the Volvo 70 and while allegedly in open water there were plenty of SLIs to catch us out. This race was won by **Sax747** followed by **SCARABOCCHIO** and **bonknhoot**.

The second race was part of the ESRW Series from Port Noumea into Singapore in the SOL Maxi Trimaran. Here the Indonesian Archipelago provided some islands as obstructions giving us a choice of courses but we had fair and medium winds for almost all of the course. This race was won by **RICOTINA**, with **Zorba777** second and **aner59** third.

The third Ocean race took the fleet from Elfin Cove in Alaska (had the fleet drunk the tiny town dry by then?) down to Kaneohe in Hawaii still in our Volvo 70s to try and find a bar with some drink left after several visits from our fleet. First into Kaneohe to search for a well stocked bar was **HastySlug**, followed by **rafa** and **Mediterranean**.

With no boat getting a regular podium position in the Series, it came down to consistency where **Dingo** won out with 7th, 5th and 12th, followed by **bonknhoot** with 3rd, 9th and 13th and **aner59** was third with 4th, 3rd and 19th. In the end there was a quarterly podium with accumulated points of 24, 25 and 26 from three races just emphasizing that every place counts.

SYC

The three race SYC series saw SOL join **Lake Ontario Offshore Racing** on their LO300 nm race in a First 36.7, then moving to Australia for a night time Brisbane escape up to Hamilton in a Carkeek 40 and finally the classic Vineyard Race on the east coast of USA.

This LO300 race was a real challenge as the border between Canada and the USA was closed to non-commercial traffic and so was an obstruction to the real boats but our virtual fleet was not detected. The weather across the lake was far from consistent, as usual? The race was won by **SlideRule** with **bonknhoot** second and **Sax747** third.

A night time exit from Brisbane for the majority of the SOL fleet resulted in a good run up to Hamilton. This race was won by **Cippalippa** who was chased by **Dingo**, just 24 seconds behind, and **GREATSKUA**.

The 2021 running of the Vineyard race, run in conjunction with **Long Island Stamford Yacht Club**, had 110 skippers in their J-122 boats on a course that gave good but shifty winds. The race was won by **WRmirekd**, second was **rafa** and third was **FreyjaUSA**.

The Q3 winners were **FreyjaUSA** who shared their total of 22 points with **batatabh**, despite no podiums in the Series, but who won due to a best score of a 3rd. **Bonknhoot** was third just one more point behind.

Sprint

The four race Sprint series twice took us to join the **Short-handed Sailing Association of New Zealand**, once into the North Sea for a Norwegian race and then up the mountains in South America for a mountain lake.

The first race took us to Auckland and our trusty Young 88 for a 50nm dash out to Motuora Island and back via the Haystack. **Tyger** was the winner here finishing after 04:24:34 with **Kipper1258** just 2 seconds behind. **bonknhoot** was a further 4 seconds behind Kipper. Tight racing in what was a good blow.

The second race was the North Sea challenge where we joined **Vestland Seilkrets** in Sunfast 3600 in a fleet of 111 boats to find and round the Troll oil platform on a 97.7 nm race. Once again good winds greeted us. The winner was **GREATSKUA** with **bonknhoot** just 28 seconds behind and **knockando60** a further 17 seconds behind.

For our third race we were back in Auckland with the **SSANZ** in their Young 88 boats for an 80 nm race that produced another tight finish. **bonknhoot** was the winner with **sassy63** second, just 12 seconds behind, and **sailj29** was third a further 13 seconds behind. There is intense concentration required in these SSANZ race.

Isla del Sol is in Lake Titicaca on the border of Peru and Bolivia at an altitude of 3812 m above sea level. A short race of 26 nm was scheduled for 26th September in our Fox 9.50 boats. Unfortunately, the running of this race was interrupted mid race by a disrupted IT link between SOL and the Server which meant that several boats were unable to control their boats for about 30 minutes. SRC considered this event and decided to cancel the result of this race and to re-run it later. Unfortunately (again) there was no suitable space in the Q3 Calendar and so an early race in Q4 'Charlottetown' was shifted from the Q4 Series to the Q3 Series to provide the fourth race. This Charlottetown race was run on 2nd October, with no disruption. This race was sailed in SOTO30 boats and was won by **calmxy**, with **Sax747** just two seconds behind and **sassy63** third a further one second behind. For

those that wish to visit Lake Titicaca the race around Isla del Sol will be re-sailed on 23rd October once more in our Fox 9.5 m boats.

With the slight change in relevant races the Quarterly Series was won by **bonknhoot**, **Sax747** was second, **sassy63** was third and **sailj29** was fourth.

Timed

Our two Timed Series races in this Quarter were Round Texel and Sol's Bermuda Triangle.

The Texel race was sailed in the Cape31 and 204 boats had a run. The fastest run was by **rumskib** in just under three hours with **Kipper1258**, on a different day, just 14 seconds slower and **rafa** on the same day as rumskib but 16 seconds slower. Good to see a Timed race having more than one opportunity for a fast run.

The SOL Bermuda triangle was run this time in Open 60s. The winning window was on 23rd September when the podium of **StIngFI** won in 6:52:09, **FreyjaUSA** was second 38 seconds slower and **Pit8008** was third just twelve seconds slower at 6:52:59.

The Q3 Quarterly went to **Kipper1258** with a second and a ninth and **Pit8008** claimed second with a tenth and third. **Cippalippa** also scored 13 points but the tie was decided in favour of **Pit8008**'s lower best race.

Other Races

Q3 had a multitude of Tall Ships Races with three races in the Baltic, two more in Asia and two more in Europe. These Tall Ship races were sailed in our Clipper 240 and the Barque 90. The best six out of seven series was won by **bonknhoot** with 31 points, ahead of **Sax747** with 35 points. **Olev** and **WRmirekd** were tied with **Sax747** but the multiple tie for 3rd place was separated by considering the best score of each yacht (Sax747 1, 2, 4, Olev 1, 3 & 6 and WRmirekd 2, 2 & 4).

Once again SOL joined SSANZ in their short-handed races out of Auckland in their Young 88 yachts. The three-race series was won by **bonknhoot** ahead of **Tyger** and **sassy63**.

The Caribbean Rum Run was sailed in our luxury Falkun with plenty of room to store our rum and the suitable surroundings to consume it – just as tasters of course. Suitable winds for the course helped the leaders finish in just over seven days lead in by **TarassBoulba**, with **DavyScoundrelDunkin** chasing his stern and **rafa** a further six hours behind. Pirate names can be used by SYC members for this race.

Finally, the Silverrudder 2021 was sailed on 17th September and once again we were reminded of the loss of Bimmer who did so much to bring us into Silverrudder. A tough race for SOLers and an extreme race for the real sailors. However the real sailors had the better wind and seriously beat us home. The leading SOLer was **Zorba777** who was followed by **WRmirekd** and **rafa**.

Other matters

Once again can I please encourage SOLers stuck in front of their screens, waiting for a weather forecast to download or a routing to resolve itself, to consider a quick read of the Sailonline's Racing

Rules and SOL Netiquette (how to behave when on SOL)? Both are instantly available on the home page, where you can find the time to the next race.

Richard/Go4iT
Chair-SRC

10th October 2021