

## 2023 Q1 SRC Report

As some of you have noted, a few races in Q1 suffered from light winds and frequently what wind there was, was on the nose! It has been said that anybody can sail when the wind blows but the champions can handle both strong and light winds.

Unfortunately, those races with light winds, like all races set by SRC, were set between 5 – 17 weeks in advance. SRC is unaware of any meteorological service in the world that it can consult to ensure a medium wind from a suitable direction in each future race. Of course, when faced with these challenges each sailor has the option to TWA=0 and sit out that race or to go ashore for a BBQ, a drink or sightseeing at any time rather than elect to berate SRC for the vagaries of nature.

SRC will continue to try and do our best to provide you all with a variety of races, in a variety of locations world-wide in a variety of boats providing a range of race formats.

With SRC's best wishes for the balance of 2023, I shall proceed to review Q1 of 2023.

### **OCEAN SERIES**

The three races for this Series were the Cape Town to Rio race in the C2R74 yacht, the Melbourne to Hong Kong race in an OD65v3 and the Lanzarote to Grenada race in the XP55 yacht.

The Cape Town to Rio race was completed by the leaders in 11 days after a major tussle over going south and then north as the optimum route changed in the South Atlantic. The race was won by **Aner59** with **Sax747** second, just 8 minutes behind, and **Patrick70119** third.

**SCARABOCHIO** won this 6.300 nm race from Melbourne to Hong Kong in 17 days having rounded the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines to port. Second was **RICOTINA** just one minute and forty seconds behind with **Mullionman** in third a further five seconds behind.

The third race in this Series took us once again across the pond to the Caribbean from Lanzarote to Grenada. In just fifteen days **ita10267** finished in Grenada after 3,325 nm of sailing. Second was **Dingo** with **nordee** finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Appearing consistently just off the podium in these Ocean races gave **FreyjaUSA** the Series victory for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Series with two 4<sup>ths</sup> and one 5<sup>th</sup>. Second was **Sax747** with a 2<sup>nd</sup>, a 4<sup>th</sup>, but a 29<sup>th</sup> place on the race to Grenada was costly. Third in this series was **Kipper1258** with two 6<sup>ths</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Yet again, this Series result shows that despite another '*would like to forget that result moment*' these Series can still be won with persistence.

### **SPRINT SERIES**

The three races for this Series held in Asia, starting at times amenable to the region, were the Seoul to Seoul sprint, the Simushir PYOC and the Seto Inland Sea race.

The Seoul race in South Korea was a 70 nm race in our J-130. In about 3¾ hours of racing **WRmirekd** was first over the line with **Patrick70119** second (21 seconds behind) and **FreyjaUSA** was third just 6 seconds later.

The second Sprint race was around Simushir a large island in the Sea of Okhotsk in our Seacart 30. **FreyjaUSA** showed the fleet the way home this time in just under six hours to complete 35 nm. Second was **sassy63** on the same elapsed time but separated by the server and third was **brewman** just two seconds behind. SRC is glad that our Race Officer (our server) was wide awake at 04:53 UTC!.

The third race was set in the Seto Inland Sea in our SOTO 40 that had not been used for a while. The race was won in 8 ½ hours by **WRmirekd** with **sassy63** in second just eleven seconds behind **WRmirekd**. Third was **rafa**, eighty-eight seconds behind.

Consistent placing in these races gave the Sprint Series win to **FreyjaUSA** with 1<sup>sts</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> with **sassy63** second (2<sup>nd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>) these boats were split by their best result, and **Kipper1258** (two 5<sup>ths</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) was third.

### ALL ROUND SERIES

Three races for this series using our Maxi high sped monohulls were the return delivery trip from Hobart to Sydney, the Buenos Aires to Rio race and our frequent Sail around Turkey.

**Ita10267** led the fleet into Sydney harbour in our 100' Maxi yachts and took about 1½ days for 660 nm, followed 98 seconds later by **FreyjaUSA** and thirty-six seconds later by **Vida\_Maldita**.

The second race was up to Rio from Buenos Aires in our 90' monohull. The race took 5½ days and was won by **Pit8008**, followed by **FreyjaUSA** and **bmd** third.

The third race, sailing IMOCA 60 Foil yachts – a risky selection with the narrows of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles ahead - was nearly 1,700 nm around the whole of Turkey from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean. **WRmirekd** showed the fleet the way home closely followed just 9 seconds later by **SlideRule** followed by **Pit8008**.

Consistent placing on the podium in these races gave the Series to **FreyjaUSA** with two 2<sup>nds</sup> and a 4<sup>th</sup>. Second was **Pit8008** with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and a 5<sup>th</sup> and third was **Vida\_Maldita** with 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

### TIMED SERIES

After a change at the end of the year we have three Timed Races in each quarter for 2023. The Iceland timed race took our sailors around the south coast of Iceland (in January – cruel?) in Orange 125' catamarans. The second race was in the Aland Sea in a classic Swan 50 and the third race was from **Auckland to Russell** in a Seacart 30 catamaran.

The Iceland race was won by **Kipper1258** in 5 hours 41 minutes and 50 seconds with **Pit8008** second just 7 seconds slower and then **calmxy** a further 4 seconds slower.

The second timed race was sailed in the classic Swan 50 monohull off Stockholm over a 78 nm course in the Aland Sea. The fastest run was by **calmxy** in 6 hours 16 min 22 seconds. Second was **rafa** just nineteen seconds slower and then **Never\_Again\_11** was 32 seconds slower.

The third timed race was buddied to the course of the **NZ Multihull Club**. First was **WRmirekd** in 7 hours 26 minutes and 12 seconds. Second was **FreyjaUSA** in 7hrs 28 minutes and 4 seconds and third was **rafa** in 7hrs 28 mins and 7 seconds.

The Series winner was **calmxy** with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and a 6<sup>th</sup>. **Kipper1258** was second with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and a 7<sup>th</sup>. **WRmirekd** was third with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place, separated from Kipper by the result of their last race.. It is tight racing at the top!

### Other Races

To provide a more complete report on SOL racing in 2023 Q1 I should include the Round North Island (of NZ), the Ice Races – partly in 2022 and completed in 2023 and the Sinbad races sailed to date.

### 2023 Evolution Sails Round North Island (New Zealand)

After Cyclone Gabrielle hit North Island it was unsure if this race would progress given the damage to the infrastructure in the country and its impact not just on sailing operations but also on the roads and houses. In the end and much to their credit it was decided by **SSANZ** to offer a race from Auckland to Mangonui for a short stop over and then to do a long leg from Mangonui to Waikawa on the north shore of South Island. At Waikawa the final leg of East side or West side of North Island on the way home to Auckland would be debated and decided. Probably due to a combination of debris in the waters of the East coast and the impact of the cyclone on the shore facilities of the East coast, a West coast return was chosen with a final 620 nm leg for the double-handers.

Leg 1 saw **WRmirekd** lead the fleet home in our Class 40, followed by **bonknhoot** 17 seconds later and **Vida\_Maldita** third 2 minutes later.

Leg 2 was a repeat performance from **WRmirekd**, with **TarassBoulba** in 2<sup>nd</sup> 61 seconds behind and **bonknhoot** 3<sup>rd</sup> less than a minute behind. An honourable mention to **rafa** for being 4<sup>th</sup>, 11 seconds behind **bonknhoot**.

Leg 3 saw **bonknhoot** displace **WRmirekd** in the lead to finish 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> by 35 seconds. **Kipper 1258** finished 3<sup>rd</sup> with **SAX747** deserving an honourable mention for being 4<sup>th</sup> just 5 seconds behind **Kipper1258**.

These results gave the Series to **WRmirekd** with two 1<sup>sts</sup> and a 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Bonknhoot** claimed second with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 3<sup>rd</sup>. Third in the Series was **TarassBoulba** with a 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and a 5<sup>th</sup>.

### 2023 DN Ice Yacht Racing

A series of 4 DN Ice yacht races were scheduled with one race at Baker Lake in 2022 and the balance at Lake Khovsgol, Iliamna Lake and Lake Baikal in 2023. To maintain reality, these DN Ice yachts have no performance loss when changing direction and so they are fast!

The Series was won by **Pit8008** with the same score at **WRmirekd**. Both yachts had 8 points, but they were split by the second level tie break as per Appendix A, A8 of WSRR as **WRmirekd** won the last race they raced. (See <https://www.sailonline.org/board/thread/17771/2023-special-series-and-prizes/?page=1#post-17793>) Third was **Garagiste** with a score of two 4<sup>ths</sup> and a 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **SINBAD (moves west!)**

Sinbad has moved west to visit the Indian Ocean and surrounding waters to stretch our exploration of their coastlines. Once again, Sinbad has seven races with which to amuse and frustrate us with two discards for the Series result.

The result of two races have been posted at the time of this report and **FreyjaUSA** is leading with a 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Second to date is **bonknhoot** with a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and third is **rafa** with a 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. There are five more races, so this Series is far from decided.

## **RANKINGS BY NATION AS AT END OF Q1**

National Team and Individual rankings as at the end of 2023 Q1 can be viewed in detail at: -

[INDIVIDUAL BY NATION MAIN BILLBOARD AND PUBLICATION AREA 2023.xlsm \(sailonline.org\) and](#)

[https://www.sailonline.org/static/var/sphene/sphwiki/attachment/2023/04/07/MAR23 -  
\\_YTD\\_NATION\\_RANKINGS\\_SKIPPER\\_SITUATION.pdf](https://www.sailonline.org/static/var/sphene/sphwiki/attachment/2023/04/07/MAR23_-_YTD_NATION_RANKINGS_SKIPPER_SITUATION.pdf)

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

**17<sup>th</sup> April 2023**