

the Mainsheet

February 2023

11-12 March	NSW VX One Championship - Hosted by CSC
18-19 March	Harbour Weekend
26 March	Last day of dinghy racing - CSC BBQ
1-2 April	MG14 State Titles - Hosted by CSC
15 April	Last day of yacht racing - CSC BBQ
23 April	Newcastle to Port Stephens Race
24-29 April	Sail Port Stephens

REAR COMMODORE (yachts) REPORT

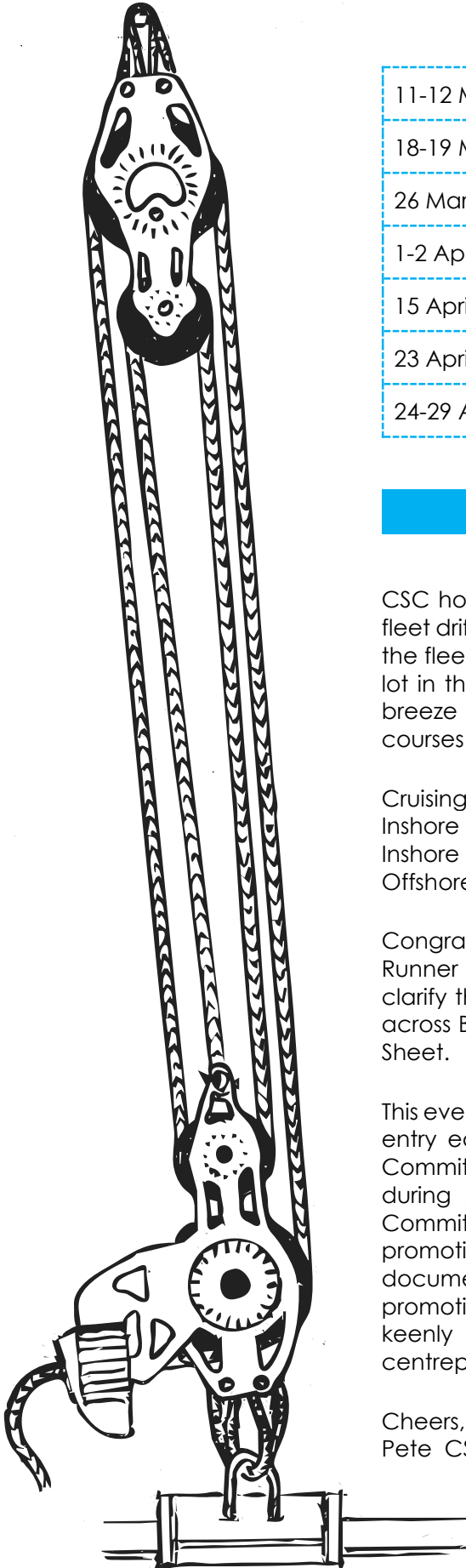
CSC hosted the 2023 Navigators' Cup in mid-February. The initial start saw half the fleet drift over the start line in a strong ebb tide, however after a short postponement, the fleet got underway in a fluky breeze before most of us gathered in a big parking lot in the middle of Bate Bay. Wouldn't you know it, just after six boats retired, the breeze filled in and the patient remainder managed to all get around the various courses well before sunset. Four fleets had finishers.

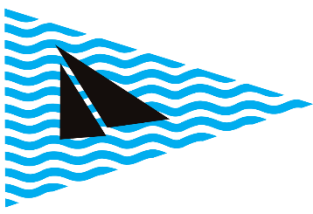
Cruising Division	Etre Jeune	Richard Stock	RMYC-PH
Inshore Div 1	No Mercy	Burke Melia	CSC
Inshore Div 2	Sailmates	Steve Arnold	CSC
Offshore	Kite Runner	John Zagame	CSC

Congratulations go to all division winners and notably John Zagame and crew on Kite Runner for their 2023 Navigators' Cup trophy win. I'll just jump in at this point and clarify that, yes, John is our Handicapper, but they had a blinder of a reach home across Bate Bate to finish strongly. John tells us all about it later in this month's Main Sheet.

This event attracted outside entries from our neighbours RMYC-PH and an enthusiastic entry each from Botany Bay and the Harbour. It is the desire of the CSC Sailing Committee to promote and grow the 2024 Navigators' Cup event. Accordingly, during 2023 CSC will form a Regatta Organising Committee (ROC) and Race Committee (RC) structure that will manage and grow the event, distribute promotional content and in a timely manner prepare and issue formal race documents under Australian Sailing guidelines. Enthusiastic members with promotional skills, management skills, or just good old fashioned enthusiasm are keenly sought on these committees. Let's build the Navigators' Cup into CSC's centrepiece Regatta.

Cheers,
Pete CSC RC:yachts





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2023 NAVIGATORS' CUP – KITE RUNNER'S VIEW

The Navigators Cup is a yacht race commemorating Australia's historical sailing links with Botany Bay – our first port. It celebrates the outstanding achievements of those great navigators, Lieutenant James Cook and Le Comte Jean-François Galaup de La Perouse, both later died terrible deaths so let's not go there. Kite Runner's goal was to finish within 27 minutes to Sea Hawk, 10 minutes to Flash Dance 2 and ahead of last years winners, Brand X.

The day arrived for the much anticipated 25th running of the Navigators Cup but the breeze just didn't want to cooperate at first. At the scheduled starting time there was barely a zephyr and a runout tide pushing the fleet over the starting line so the AP pennant was flown. There was some weather happening with passing squalls and just 10 minutes later the call to Huey was answered with enough wind to commence the starting sequence. With the preferred starter boat end looking crowded we on Kite Runner opted for the pin end and got off to a nice clear start. We could hear some worrying sounds from afar as some of the fleet were bunching and "touching" at the other end of the line.

However, after a nice reach out past Osborn Shoal the breeze just vanished. We all just came to a halt. The tide taking over again as Neptune reaching up from below was tickling our keels and poking out rudders, sending some of us into circles like we were caught in his whirlpool of torment. The frustration levels were high when the radio was lighting up with traffic communicating withdrawals one by one... but the Kite Runner crew could see the rain squall coming from the east... age and optimism whispered to us that sometimes wind will follow. We decided to stay put. Our reward was just a few drops of rain followed by a sweet Force 4 ENE'er. Before long the remaining fleet was scooting along with Spinnakers flying doing 6-8knots boat speed.

We entered into Botany Bay alongside Ambush, Marri Nuwi and the in-form Brand X, as Flash Dance 2 and Sea Hawk were exiting. Gybing once turned at the Captain Cook transit line to work back out of the heads, with our Coach barking instructions from his floating white palace. We gave Cape Banks' reef just enough clearance to be respectful, but I wouldn't dare go close in a big swell, and turned left for Coogee.

As we passed Boora Point we had enough leeway to crack the Code Zero, and what a beautiful sight that was. This Ian Short made furling gennaker sail is a weapon on its day and she paid for herself during this race. The sail was amazing... it's like having a silver bullet. It doesn't get used often but when it's on, it's ON!

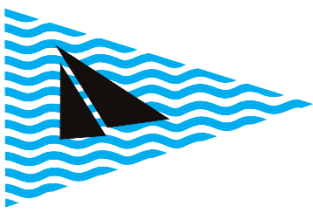
With the Code Zero up at this tight apparent wind angle we were on the edge the whole way, scraping past Mistral Point to near the ever popular swimming baths, Mahon Pool, and around Wedding Cake island.

Brand X was in the rear vision mirror when we rounded the reef to return home. The Code Zero was on display again heading 180 and then 200 degrees as we passed Botany Bay nicely timing a container ship exiting Port Botany.

We could see Flashdance and Sea Hawk now flying spinnakers ahead of us. The Code Zero was losing its potency as we bared away so out came the snatch block and a spare spinnaker sheet. Our crew hoisted our "Kite Runner" blue A2 spinnaker at Potter Point and peeled the Code Zero and accelerated once again coming in to the finish line at Port Hacking Estuary.

Finishing we thought that we had a chance for a place but never ever expected to win this race. As I said at the presentation afterwards, 30 years ago sailing with the PHOYC I would never have dreamed of winning this race with my own yacht. Kite Runner had a huge race and our crew were faultless with sail handling and even performed a sharp spinnaker peel from Code 0 to Assy Spinnaker to get us home across Bate Bay. We all just didn't stop working hard to keep the boat moving as fast as possible. This has always been my favourite race with its fantastic scenery, and this has just cemented that sentiment! Thanks to my awesome crew Greg Spencer, Jim Bennett, Alex Naylor, Matt Lohmeyer, James Naylor, Chris McGoldrick and Pete Evans. Whooohooo!

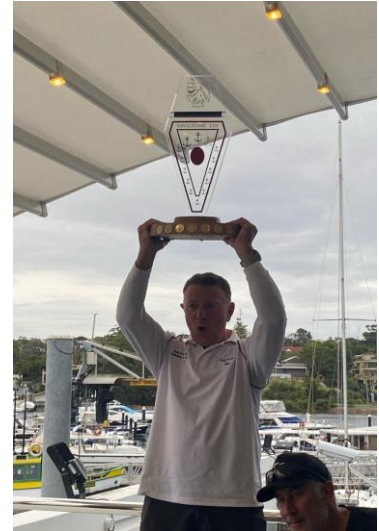
John Zagame



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2023 NAVIGATORS' CUP CONTINUED...

KITE RUNNER



FLASH DANCE

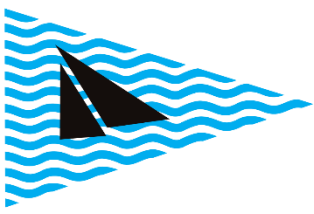


SEA HAWK



CRUISING DIVISION 2

We are still seeking more entrants in Cruising division 2. The racing in this division has been ideal this season for newcomers for Saturday Bay racing. We are encouraging more entrants. Our courses will keep crews involved...no broken spirits. If you would like to discuss entry into this fleet or find out more details please contact Jim Ley (Class Captain) on: 0414 062 536.



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KURNELL CUP

On the 11th and 12th of February 5 juniors attended the 'Kurnell Cup' in the Open Skiffs. The regatta attracted 59 registrations spread among 3 fleets: Gold, Silver and Green. Tom and Sophie battled it out in the Gold fleet and Casey, Blake and Kiva in the Silver.

Saturday saw all fleets hit the water together. The gold and silver fleets completed 2 races before the wind picked up and the silver fleet were sent back to shore. The winners of the day were the ones who managed to stay upright on the downwind leg and bottom-mark gybe and stay out of the smack of jellyfish in the water.

The forecast for Sunday was for 28 knots from the South from around 9am. The officials decided to start the day with an adventure paddling race whilst they monitored conditions. The sailors were put into pairs based on their positions from the previous day. Blake and his partner were quick off the start line and finished first and Casey and Sophie, who were randomly paired together, finished a very close second.

Officials decided to run short sprint races close to shore in the protected waters. The gold fleet completed 4 sprint races with lots of screaming reaches. Some sailors from the silver fleet jumped onboard with a gold fleet boat for a bit of fun and they finished the day with a parent/child race.

The presentation was a lot of fun with lots of prizes being handed out. Jesse, who was there to support his brother, won a prize for a drawing competition and Casey managed to score the biggest prize of all, a lego Sail GP boat.

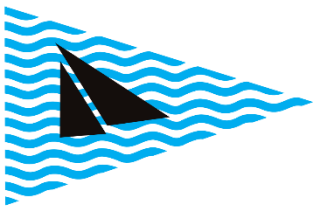


JUNIOR SAILING AT CSC

Due to the huge demand for a steppingstone between 'Learn to Sail' and 'Off the Beach Racing' we have introduced 'In the Bay Sailing'. The purpose is to allow sailors the opportunity to improve their skills and have fun sailing.

Our first week was a huge success with 12 juniors hitting the water. We practiced some starts and had a few short races but had to return to shore due to the impending storm.





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VX-ONE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

CSC is hosting the VX-One State titles at CSC on 11th and 12th March 2023. This is a relatively new and exciting class with a small but growing fleet. The Championships will be held near the Port Hacking estuary and promises to be quite a spectacle from the Bass and Flinders monument. We are told there are a few boats that can be acquired for the event, so all you legends out there, psych your crew up and enter now. For more information visit the [CSC website](#).



SYDNEY HARBOUR WEEKEND

Cronulla Sailing Club, in the company of RMYC-PH, enthusiastically announce the return of Cat4 keelboat racing from Port Hacking to Port Jackson and return over the weekend of 18th and 19th March 2023. CSC will be running its own point scores and concurrently we will run race IC3 and race IC4 of the 2022/2023 Fleet 1 Interclub Trophy Series.

This event is open to Offshore, Inshore 1, Cruising division 1 and other member yachts with Cat4 safety certification. We are excited to be joined this year by the RMYC-PH fleet. If you don't receive a race information email in the following week, contact Pete VR, RC:yachts.

Last year's races and sleepover at the CYCA was high adventure and great fun, although I do recall there were a few dusty looking bodies wandering around on Sunday morning! CSC has traditionally extended an invitation to inshore and dinghy club members wanting to join a boat for the amazing sailing experience on Sydney Harbour, numbers are obviously limited, so have a chat with your favourite skipper without delay. We are looking forward to your participation.

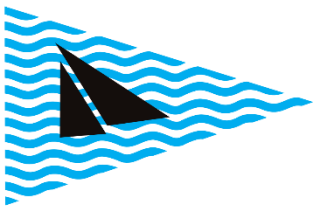
MG14 NSW STATE TITLES

CSC is hosting the MG State titles at CSC on 1st & 2nd April. You can find the [Notice of Race here](#). We are expecting up to 35 boats. We are always looking for volunteers to help out on a range of jobs. If you have some time to spare and you are interested in helping please email Craig Smith mg14@cynetics.net.au



INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

We are on the lookout for instructors to work in our various Learn to Sail programs across the club. Currently, we are specifically looking for someone who is available on Tuesday afternoons from 12-3pm. If you are a qualified instructor or you are interested in becoming one, please contact Marty Janes marty@otium.com.au



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LASER PARTS NEEDED

In its various training programs, CSC owns and maintains a fleet of Lasers, Opties, Bics, MJ, F11, and MG dinghies. Many of them were graciously donated, thank you. Lately we have been wanting to use the CSC Laser fleet for training and club racing purposes but have found that our small Laser fleet is particularly lacking in 4.7 sails and matching masts. If anybody has these or any other usable Laser parts or a whole Laser boat to donate, please let us know. We are however a bit fussy, so please talk to your favourite Board member first! Thanks.

PROTEST CULTURE

You may have noticed that CSC and our membership are becoming very involved in regatta events again. For this very reason, in recent months we have talked a lot about how important it is for our sailors to understand the Racing Rules of Sailing and the intricacies of protesting and being protested, specifically [RRS PART 5](#). It doesn't stop there, it is also vital that we strengthen our Protest Committee culture and become more efficient in processing hearing requests.

To this end we all need to be aware that lodging a hearing request form comes with **Sailing Instruction time limits** that will in the majority of cases be **strictly enforced**. Within that time limit the protester must complete and lodge a valid current Australian Sailing [Protest Hearing Request Form](#). At CSC, to reduce the burden on the protest parties, witnesses, and jury members, the protest hearings will in most cases be held on the day immediately following any Arbitration attempt. Please don't make the job of the hearing committee any harder, that means that the Protester, the Protested, and all Witnesses must standby ready to attend. CSC's goal will always be to swiftly arrive at a clear, fair and RRS rules based decision.

Of course, all these good intentions rely heavily on CSC's ability to convene a Jury Panel that holds no conflict of interests. To streamline this process we need CSC members to be ready and willing to stand as Jurors. The CSC Protest Group was formed about a year ago to encourage, educate and upskill our current and prospective jury members.

Just one of the resources available to us is the free and very informative Australian Sailing [Protest Committee Online Course](#). This qualification is a great way to fast track your knowledge of protests and at the same time support your Club, it's easily completed in multiple sessions or you can do the whole course in less than one rainy day!

Please contact either Rear Commodore for further information on joining the CSC Protest Group.

LISA BLAIR TALK

At 7pm on 28th February at the RMYC-PH, Lisa Blair will tell us about how she became the fastest person to solo-sail, non-stop and unassisted around Antarctica. What an amazing feat!

Book now on the RMYC-PH sailing website, entry is by a \$20 donation.

MORE RUBBISH

Members are reminded that CSC is regularly forced to pay considerable additional rubbish fees for contaminated waste. By contaminated waste we refer here to general rubbish poked into the blue lid paper + cardboard bin or general rubbish dumped in yellow recycling bins.

Treat your sailing club like you would your home, under no circumstances are piles of your rubbish to be left on the hardstand, particularly broken boat bits, dispose of them at home please.