

GOOLWA to WELLINGTON RACE

April 13, 2019

The Race

The day started with little to no wind and what wind there was, came from the East. Unfortunately the conditions discouraged the multihulls from competing but we still had 9 boats entered as well as Serenity cruising with the racing fleet. Prior to the start, the racing fleet of 9 reduced to 8 due to a retirement because of the uncertain conditions. This left 5 boats in the spinnaker division and 3 in the non-spinnaker including 3 visiting boats from Clayton. The PRO decided to have the fleet motor upstream for as long as it took to affect a good start with the prospect of reaching Wellington before dark. It was the right decision but meant we were past Point Sturt before we could turn off our motors and start the race.



The COW Perpetual Trophy

When the race finally started, both divisions started

together in about 4 knots of breeze. The course was shortened just over 2 hours later with the fleet not quite reaching Narrung.

Destination

Wellington was still about 3 hours motoring away but we reached the hotel landing in good time to relax on board and socialise for an hour before heading up the hill to the pub for dinner. With our two tables for ten, the dining room appeared to be fully booked. The menu was extensive and the food was great.

Presentation

The prizes for the two divisions were the customary glasses. First place in spinnaker division went to Anoqua, Geoff & Julie Perry and in the non-spinnaker, Isabelle Grace, Klaus Schulz with crew Peter Lomman.

The inaugural Cow Perpetual Trophy for the fastest on corrected time across both divisions requires some explanation. Harry Cooper has been pestering the crew of Anoqua for about 6 months to donate a cow as overall first prize. The logistics of the task made this unlikely so the solution was to present a cast metal statue which actually comes from Pamplona in Spain. Yes, they do have cows in Pamplona as well as bulls! The deal is that it is retained by the winning skipper until the next Wellington race (it will not be appearing in the Club's trophy cabinet). Unfortunately the trophy went to Anoqua so the cow finds itself back (albeit temporarily) in Hahndorf. (see above)

Thanks to the three boats and their crews from CBBC for making this iconic event a success...Craig and Gill McPhee on Paris, Klaus Schulz (with Goolwa crew Peter Lomman) on Isabelle Grace and Fred Meuring and Garry Jongewaard on Shimmer.

Thanks also to Rick and Juris on Regatta 1 for starting, finishing and shadowing the fleet the 37 nautical miles to Wellington.



