

Challenging river sailing for revived QLD States

The five-race series run at Noosa Yacht and Rowing Club on 5 and 6 October attracted a field of nine – a healthy fleet given the long recess that the QLD States has suffered as an independent event.

Six swing keel and three drop keel boats started in all five races for the Title. Previous winner Andrew Pike (Slyfox #302) was unable to join the fray and was missed.

Day 1 started in light breezes of up to 7 knots from NNE and Shrek #140 with Max Marian at the helm and sporting a brand new set of Yancy Smith sails quickly establishing her dominance of the fleet.

The deceptively simple river course proved challenging for a number of sailors but tight racing was order of the day. A total of just eight minutes separated first and last boats with the margin between first place (Shrek) and second place (NYRC local Charlie Brown #143) falling under a minute in Heat 1.



Heat 2 saw Shrek extend her lead over Charlie Brown and the fleet as a whole. Shrek led Charlie Brown home by a margin of 4 minutes and 6 seconds. The next six placegetters finished within the next four and a half minutes providing a great spectacle for sailors and visitors alike at the Noosa Yacht and Rowing Club bar.

Day 1 ended with an uncharacteristically quiet bull session at NYRC and it was clear to organisers that most skippers were taking it seriously and saving their strength for Sunday under a forecast for freshening winds and clear skies.

The BOM delivered as promised on Sunday 6 October with sunny skies and early hints of a good breeze rising. Breakfast was provided on site by the generous donation of Noosa Yacht and Rowing Club. Commodore Grenville Snowdon rallied the troops (including members of his family) to cook up a storm and fuel willing crews.



As Heat 3 commenced, SE breeze of around 5-6 knots prevailed providing enough pressure for some tight works to the top mark with a good crop of spinnakers flowering at the turn.

Even tighter racing prevailed in the Sunday opener with just two minutes separating the first five placegetters.

The stars of this show were again Shrek and Charlie Brown with each boat placing first and second in each of the three heats to this point.

Freshening breeze up to 8 knots and gusting higher gave other boats a chance to excel. While Shrek was not headed in any heat, the second placegetters in heats 4 and five were Ataraxia (#808 Petra Berringer) and former NYRC favourite, Apache (#161 Geoff McNamara).



Young sailor, Max Marian and his crew certainly gave some older salts a lesson in regatta sailing with 5 first place results out of five. An impressive three out of five second across the line results for John Symmonds on Charlie Brown converted into corrected time based places of (2,2,2,5,5) making them a close second with Costalot (#602 Damien Van Deudekom) just one point overall behind in third (3,3,5,3,3).

A sunset BBQ provided by the ever-generous NYRC finished a perfect day while, evidence from our spies suggests that the night finished much later.

Both NYRC and Lake Cootharaba SC have expressed interest in hosting again. We all look forward to a great year of sailing and the ongoing revival of the Queensland Title.

Special mention must be made of the very generous support given by NYRC. Timekeepers, safety crew, BBQ team and a fully subsidised meal schedule were all provided. Commodore Grenville Snowdon and his team have set a very high bar for the host of the next titles in 2020.

Martin O'Shannessy



RL24

Queensland State Titles 2019 Final revised result

Overall											
					Heat 1	Heat 2	Heat 3	Heat 4	Heat 5	Overall	Overall
NAME	No	SKIPPER	SK/D K	CBH	POINTS	POINTS	POINTS	POINTS	POINTS	POINTS	PLACE
Apache	161	Geoff McNamara	SK	0.725	6	7	8	9	2	32	6
Ataraxia	808	Petra Berringer	DK	0.76	7	5	6	2	6	26	5
Charlie Brown	143	Jon Symmonds	SK	0.725	2	2	2	5	5	16	2
Costalot	602	Damien Van Deudekom	SK	0.725	3	3	5	3	3	17	3
OCTANTIS	315	Martin O'Shannessy	DK	0.76	10	10	4	4	7	35	8
Shrek	140	Max Marian	SK	0.725	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	3.75	1
Summer Dream	447	Rod Smith	SK	0.725	8	8	9	7	9	41	9
Tad Over	431	Tony Grudzinski	DK	0.76	5	6	7	8	8	34	7
Touche	464	Peter Lynch	SK	0.725	4	4	3	6	4	21	4