



NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1993

RL24 - It's YOUR kind of boat

RL24 OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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FROM THE CHAIR

August already and we are about to launch into yet another season of competition, cruising or whatever takes your fancy. All would agree that the 1992-93 season has been a great success when after a great National Series in Brisbane RLs went on to record notable performances in open fleets around the country. Most outstanding performances were those of Peter Hackett and Len Spooner who won Divisions A & B respectively, of the Victorian Trailables with Peter being the outright winner. Other notable performances included heat wins by Wal Curry and Alex Kosting in the NSW and Queensland Trailable Titles.

The first National Trailable Championships were conducted at Toronto on Lake Macquarie over Easter, and although we didn't bring home the bacon, the four RLs that competed ensured that those present were reminded that RL24s are still highly competitive.

Organisation of the 21st National RL24 Title is well under way with the team of Michael Stevens, Kevin Troy and Viv Davenport working towards ensuring that the series receives a high profile and is as successful, if not more so, than the event held at Mannering Park three years ago. Mark Pinnuck has been permitted to take time off from forward hand duties on Streetcar, to work on a computer based handicapping system. The aim is to give all competitors a fair crack at the Handicap title, irrespective of the weight, sophistication and age etc of equipment. We are looking to reward the crew that performs consistently and shows improvement throughout the series. The bottom line is - Veterans dust the cobwebs off your RLs and get along to Lake Macquarie in December. To those that have avoided the titles in the past because you've believed your not competitive, here's the opportunity to join in, compete with the past champions on equal terms and above all, have a great time.

You will notice that the series has been programmed over seven days with two heats being run on days two and six. The rationale behind this is:

1. To accommodate those who have limited time off over the Christmas/New Year break.
2. By scheduling morning heats, we hope to provide a better variety of sailing conditions.
3. To give those with more time available, the opportunity to relax after the series, and cruise the magnificent waters of Lake Macquarie, without having to spend excessive time away from home.

An RL's Perspective of the 1993 Queensland Trailable Titles by
Alex Kostin, (Townsville Trailable Yacht Club) RL 'Minki'

Why is it that the vagaries of the wind and a Championship Yacht Regatta go hand in hand? Well, it did with the Queensland Trailable Titles anyway! The Capricornia Cruising Yacht Club hosted event attracted 42 mono trailables and 4 multihulls. Given that the event was held mid point on the long East QLD coast it still attracted 3 boats down from Townsville and approximately a dozen up from Brisbane. The other two dozen or so boats were from the local region. For us from the deep North it meant a 10 hour towing trip and for those from metropolitan Brisbane 9 hours.

Unfortunately (maybe fortunately) there was only one other RL24 in the event and that was a swing keeler owned by Russel Girle of Yepoon. (I say, "fortunately" because there's a good end to this tidbit)

The first race consisted of a one and a half mile work to a windward mark and then three legs around a very large triangle; roughly twenty miles all up. The race started in 6 knots of breeze, Minki got a good start with clear air and was eighth around the first mark and looking good! The next leg was a eight mile kite run to Miall Islet; the Beale, Rosses and Spiders absolutely cleared out! Huh! You'd think they didn't want to race with us! Unfortunately the wind died out with the race fleet four miles up the leg. Now, the guys on the extreme left and the extreme right fell into hole and those in the middle 'sort of' ghosted along. Man; it was a pain! Anyway, the upshot of this was that a Ballina based Beale 8.6 ghosted along on its own wind and made it over the shortened course in three and three quarter hours. The boat that was most hard done by was a 7.8 Elliot from Sydney with a CBH rating of .900. At one stage of the race seventy five percent of the fleet passed it as its sails hung limply with its bow pointed in the wrong direction. (that's happened to all of us at some time, hasn't it!) We were lucky enough to scratch a tenth on CBH corrected time. Well, so much for race one.

0830 Sunday morning and a cold twenty five knot breeze heralded the onset of a Southerly change. You beauty!

Race two, the Olympic buoy course started in twenty two knots of breeze and finished in fifteen knots of breeze. Our revamped 14/6 sq.mt. sail combination worked like a ripper and managed to reap old 'Minki' a first on CBH corrected time. We were tickled pink and even more eager for the afternoon 1330 Olympic buoy start.

The race started in six knots of breeze and steadily dropped to one knot. It's amazing how you can go from an alltime high to the absolute pits! Well anyway, the Beale 8.6 and the Elliot 7.8 did the course in one hour and eighteen minutes, and for the rest of us, weeee!!!!!!!!!!!!

Unfortunately the race instructions said the race would finish at sixteen hundred hours. This meant that thirteen boats, the slowest of which was a Sonata 6.7 (.727), managed to get a finish time. We, and the rest of the fleet, obtained a DNF. Oh well, life's like that!

Attempts will made to alleviate this anomaly for next year's Titles methinks!

One highlight of the whole 'happening' was the developed friendship (although he might regret it!) with the other RL owner, Russell Girle. Russell is a wayward RL owner who loves the class but has, like so many others, lost touch with current innovations and the RL Association. I'm sure there are other owners who are in the same boat (no pun meant) but just need to be contacted. We have just got to hang in there and keep hunting.

Well, I'm burnt out now so I'd better sign off from Queensland and paraphrase that old cliché that still blows me out!

"give em hell in an RL"

FIRST NATIONAL TRAILABLE YACHT CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Inaugural Australian Trailable Yacht Championships were hosted by the Royal Motor Yacht Club at Toronto on Lake Macquarie over the Easter holidays. The venue was excellent and generally the racing was well conducted. One does wonder though at the reasoning behind setting starboard hand courses, which resulted in the expected prangs at the windward mark. A possible explanation was that the sponsor got better value, with the wing mark being laid close to spectator areas. Incidentally, Epiglass proved to be an outstanding sponsor and provided an extensive range of its boating products as trophies. Prizes were given out in both divisions down to about 15th position.

The fleet of 96 was divided evenly into two divisions that included a good cross section ranging from Young 780s and Elliot 7.8s to Hartley 18s.

Four RL24s sailed in Division B where we competed with the likes of Masrm 720s, Blazers, Magnum 8.5s, and the outright winner, Blithe Spirit, a Young Six on a CBH of .635. The report in July's Australian Sailing stated that Blithe Spirit had won some races by two to three minutes and that the handicapper felt it could have been more heavily handicapped. In fact she won two races by over six minutes and it's interesting to note that Streetcar was unable to break through her during a beat from Pulbar Island to Belmont 16 Club. This was in a reasonably fresh breeze where boat speed and not tactics, seemed to be the problem. For the record Hartley 16s were on a CBH of .640.

Generally, in the light flukey conditions that prevailed for three of the five heats the RLs were found wanting. However in the first heat, which was sailed in 10 to 15 knots, RLs did show their potential with Streetcar finishing third outright on corrected time, and Slippery When Wet, sixth.

RL24 FINAL RESULTS:

Streetcar (SK)		John Wood	6th
Slippery When Wet	(DK)	Kevin Troy	15th
Amazing Grace	(SK)	Wal Curry	21st
Mereki III	(SK)	John Porteus	45th

DROP KEEL CBH: .750

SWING KEEL CBH: .713

MAGNUM 8.5 CBH: .792

HARTLEY 18 CBH: .600

RL24 OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

NOTICE OF RACE

21ST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

MANNERING PARK AMATEUR SAILING CLUB

PROGRAMME:

Wednesday	29th	1320 hours	3 race invitation series.
Thursday	30th	1020 hours 1420 hours	Race one Race two
Friday	31st	1250 hours	Race three (long distance)
Saturday	1st		Lay day
Sunday	2nd	1320 hours	Race four
Monday	3rd	1020 hours 1420 hours	Race five Race six
Tuesday	4th	1320 hours 950 hours	Race seven (provisional) Provision for resail

ENTRIES:

On the entry form enclosed- return no later than Friday 10th December 1993 to Michael Stevens 1A Davidson Ave WARRAWEE 2074.

ENTRY FEE:

\$80 per boat. Late entries will be accepted with an additional \$10

ELIGIBILITY:

Entries will be accepted from owners of RL24 Trainable Yachts as defined in RL24 rules and regulations, 1977, as amended.

RULES:

All races will be conducted under the current racing rules of the IYRU and the prescriptions and safety regulations of the AYF category 6 as amended by the sailing instructions. ... incl rule 26 appendix 14

RACE HEADQUARTERS:

Race headquarters shall be the Mannering Park ASC Clubhouse.

RACE RESULTS:

Results shall be posted on the regatta notice board as soon as possible after each race. The notice board will be located in the MPASC club house.

BRIEFING:

A briefing will be held at regatta headquarters 1100 hours on Wednesday 29th of December. This briefing will be of a general nature and will not discuss the sailing instructions.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Sailing instructions will be available at the race headquarters to all owners that have entered. Copies will be mailed to owners that enter by the 10th December 93.

SCORING SYSTEM:

The Olympic scoring system, addendum "A.1" will be used.

TROPHIES:

Trophies will be presented for 3 divisions.
Overall handicap prize
Drop keel champion 1,2,3
Swing keel champion 1,2,3
Non spinnaker/family champion 1,2,3
There will also be seven heat prizes on handicap

FAMILY CREW:

Considered to be husband and or wife and other direct members of the family under 21 years of age.

MEASUREMENT:

All owners and skippers are to provide to the organising committee a copy of the current measurement certificate of their yacht at any time during the championship. Any protests on measurement must be made prior to race three.

COURSES:

There will be six races sailed over an olympic triangle. Each course shall pass from the start line around marks 1,2,3,1,3,1,2,3, then to the finish. Course rotation will be indicated on the starting vessel's mast by a red or green flag as per rule 4 in the AYF prescription. Race 3, the long distance race, will be sailed in the southern waters of Lake Macquarie as detailed on the attached map.

ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES:

The 720 degree turn will apply, as per Appendix 3.1

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the RL24 Owners Association of Australia will be held at the club house of the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club Inc., on Sunday 2nd January at 1800 hours.

Proposals for changes to the constitution or class rules must reach the Association Secretary by 15 November 1993, to allow circulation of changes to members in accordance with the constitution.

Items for inclusion in the meeting agenda should also be submitted by that date.

MANNERING PARK TITLES ACCOMMODATION

MONTEREY CARAVAN PARK
MANNERING PARK 2259
(Beside Sailing Club)

PHONE 043 591033

NOTE: Check with park management re onsite vans.
Availability may be limited this year as the current economic climate has forced some owners to take up permanent residence in their vans.

CHAIN VALLEY BAY VAN VILLAGE
FINDLAY AVE
CHAIN VALLEY BAY 2259

PHONE 043 588767

TERAGLIN LAKESHORE & MOBILE HOME VILLAGE
MULLOWAY RD
CHAIN VALLEY BAY 2259

PHONE 043 588267

MECCA CARAVAN PARK
71 RUTLEYS RD
WYEE 2259

PHONE 043 591248

CHECK NRMA & RACV ACCOMMODATION GUIDES FOR MANY OTHER OPTIONS IN THE AREA.

LONG DISTANCE RACE, RACE 3, MARKS (as shown on MSB map May 1988)

START in vicinity of MPASC to windward mark, orange buoy
MPASC leave to port.

Then to SHALLOWS passing all CARDINAL marks to starboard,
staying outside a line between all marks.

Thence to ISOLATED DANGER mark approx 1.2k's due east of
Shingle Splitters Point, leave to starboard.

Then to GASLIGHT mark leaving PULBAH ISLAND to starboard.
Gaslight mark is due EAST of PULBAH ISLAND and is approx 1k
from shore and is left to Starboard.

Thence to PULBAH ISLAND, again left to starboard.

Leave ISOLATED DANGER mark (approx 1.2k's off Shingle
Splitters Point) to Port.

Thence to FINISH off MPASC



RL24 ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

21st NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP of AUSTRALIA

WEDNESDAY 29th DECEMBER to 4th JANUARY 1994

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Wednesday 29th	1830	Welcome night B-B-Q to be held in the club house. Tickets Adults \$12 Children \$6 To be subsidised by the Association 50%
Sunday 2nd	1800	AGM of RL 24 Association to be held at the club house, followed by sausage sizzle for all members and families.
Tuesday 4th	1930	The presentation Dinner to be held in the Mannering Park Community Hall. Menu Bernard King's Spit Roast Tickets Adults \$15 (inc one red and one white wine per table) Children \$7.50

Mannering Park Amateur sailing Club bar prices:

Beer	\$1.50
Wine	\$.80
Soft drink	\$.80

Mannering Park

Mannering Park is situated on the southern shores of Lake Macquarie, Australia's largest salt water non tidal lake. The township is approximately 10 minutes drive north of Doyalson on the Pacific Highway on the NSW Central Coast.

The town is small but self contained and offers everything that visitors might require for a short stay.

FOOD SUPPLIES.

There are two take away food shops selling fish, chips, hamburgers etc and a chinese take away, hot bread shop, two general stores, butcher shop, fruit and vegetables and a local fishing co-op which sells fresh fish daily. The town also has a post office, newsagency, two hairdressers, a TAB and a chemist shop.

ALCOHOL SUPPLIES.

The sailing club will be providing refreshments for sale each day, however, the town also has a licensed bottle shop. The bottle shop has all the facilities for credit card withdrawals from all Australian banks, building societies and credit unions. The bottle shop is open from 9am until 9pm 7 days each week.

BOAT RAMPS

There are three boat ramps in the area. One at "The Point", a recreation and picnic ground which will be quite busy during the titles. There is limited parking around this area and it would be advisable to return your car and trailer to the camp site rather than try and find parking at the ramp each day.

There is also a ramp on the shores of the Monterey caravan park as well as the ramp facilities of the sailing club.

MEDICAL NEEDS

There is a doctor's surgery in Mannering Park which is open Mon-Friday. Wyong hospital is a 15 minutes drive while the Ambulance station is situated at Doyalson.

The chemist shop is directly opposite the doctor's surgery and is open Mon-Friday and Saturday mornings.

The club house will also have a first aid kit on hand for emergencies.

MANNERING PARK AMATEUR SAILING CLUB INC.

Mannering Park Sailing Club is on the southern shores of Lake Macquarie. The club is run and worked by volunteer members. Club members are prepared to cook light breakfasts, lunches and teas each day at a minimal price. Liquid refreshments, coffee, tea and soft drink will also be available at all times. For any assistance you may require don't hesitate to ask one of the club members who will be able to offer directions.

We wish all competitors success and hope that everyone who attends these titles enjoys themselves during the racing and at the various social functions.

CRAB COOKING FACILITIES AVAILABLE.