

Pittwater Sailors

AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER

**Next Race Sunday 13th September. Start Time 12.00 midday
Chicken Dinner 6.00pm.**

Hi Everyone,

The forecast was for a developing NE breeze from midday, dying in the evening. So, hope was high that we would have wind for a good race. The Start Boat selected course 2 but there was some concern as boats meandered around in little wind before they started. However, as it turned out by the time most boats were well on their way to the first mark at Stokes Point the breeze was progressively filling in from the NE. As the race progressed the yachts found almost ideal conditions and made excellent progress. The upstart of the fleet got their comeuppance as the handicapper had finally caught up with them!

Thanks to Rohan Smith in ACARA for being our start boat and Ron Seldon our Race Officer and Andrew Latimer and Bernard Kannelly. Special call out for Ron for sticking with his course selection given there was little breeze before midday. Rohan is not available for the October race, so we are looking for a backup start boat.



Looking good with new rigging and fast!

It was wonderful to see Andrew Bray back on deck looking so well following such a serious medical problem. His and Vicky's oversight of the evening BBQ dinner was appreciated by all. With a fair bit of effort by Kim Russell and others we coped in their absence, but it was

just great to have them back. We must remember however that Andrew is on light duties and many hands with preparation and clean-up are invaluable.

Prior to announcing the race results I briefed everyone on the changes with the season calendar of races for the new 2026/27 season. For those sailors that could not make it to the dinner please note.

Following consultation with 2026 series entrants I was able to contact, people were supportive or neutral for changing our sailing calendar of races to September to August for the 2026/27 season onwards. This change has the following benefits.

1. Aligns our calendar with the other sailing clubs on Pittwater thus placing us as a potential club to sail with. Sailors on Pittwater, generally consider their sailing options and commit by start of season by September each year.
2. The committee would like to change from end of season with the December race as it inevitably leads to rushing the race and series results on the night. (We did have an error a couple of seasons ago which can now be avoided.) The work involved with getting the permanent trophies returned and buying the individual series and special trophies and above all the engraving and the distribution of plaques during the holiday season is a trial. All this work can be done during September to December. Leaving the committee members free and relaxed to enjoy the Christmas Dinner.

The current 2026 and 2026/27 seasons first four races will run concurrently for September, October, November and December 2026 races. We will hold our end of season Christmas Dinner for the current 2026 series following the December race as normal.

There will be only the Winter Series results for the 2026/27 series. The Spring series results and trophies will be awarded for the current 2026 season. The Spring series will be conducted as usual in the 2027/28 season.

Sailors were asked to apply before the September race as entrants in the 2026/27 season using the new Application Form that can be found on the PAC website. You need to be a paid-up entrant in the new 2026/27 season to be considered an entrant for the series as per the Sailing Instructions. BYRA have advised that the next registration will be required for each entrant for the 2027/28 season.

Please note that, Cat.7 audit will be required by the due date probably, prior to February 1st, 2027 and the currency of insurance as usual.

I was able to attend the BYRA AGM on Saturday evening and get an insight into their activities supporting kids getting into sailing. I was practically impressed with the timber boats that various kids were building and will sail when finished.

I had an opportunity to talk about Pittwater Sailors and invite any yacht owners who were interested to consider sailing in our series. From the audience I had the impression that they liked the fact that we had a start boat and Race Officer etc. and that our races are Australian Sailing Sanctioned. I had some flyers with me and six were taken up. People were interested

in the idea of our post-race dinners, and BYRA member Rob Warnes joined us for Sundays BBQ dinner (thanks to everyone who made him so welcome). He went out of his way to say he appreciated it and that he would be entering our races.

The placegetters in Yellow Division were, First Cruzen, second was Sumomo and third was Sisu and for Blue Division, first was Spirito, second was Rhythm and third was Alfresco.



Sumomo finishing nicely!

The raffle had its usual amusing moments.

Volunteer Rollcall, for the Dinner for Sunday 5/7/2026.

<u>TASK</u>	<u>Volunteer 1</u>	<u>Volunteer 2</u>	<u>Volunteer 3</u>
<u>Sailing Captain</u>	<u>John Marshall</u>		
<u>Race Officer</u>	<u>Ron Seldon</u>		
<u>Handicapper</u>	<u>Frans De Wilde</u>		
<u>Treasurer & many other things.</u>	<u>Kim Russell</u>		
<u>Start Boat</u>	<u>Rohan Smith</u>	<u>Ron Seldon</u> <u>Bernard Kennelly</u>	<u>Andrew Latimer</u> <u>(race pics etc)</u>
<u>Catering etc</u>	<u>Vicky Bray</u>	<u>Andrew Bray</u>	<u>Kim Russell</u>
<u>Club-room table setup</u>	<u>Roger Mail</u>	<u>Paul Toomey</u>	
<u>Barbeque</u>	<u>Bob Cooper</u>	<u>Bernard Kennelly</u>	<u>Roger Mail</u>
<u>Supermarket</u>	<u>Vicky Bray</u>		
<u>Meat / Chicken order and pickup</u>	<u>Rick and Sue Murry</u>		

<u>Raffle Ticket Vendor</u>	<u>Frans and Jenny deWilds</u>		
<u>Helping with cleanup is greatly appreciated</u>	<u>Everyone.</u>	<u>Many others bogged in one way or the other</u>	

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the many tasks not mentioned above and importantly with the clean-up.

Post Race Dinners:

The food for the dinners is purchased/ordered on the Thursday morning. If you have a permanent booking but you (or your permanently booked partner) won't be attending the Sunday evening post-race dinner, please advise Kim Russell (0490 347 465 or kimrussell44@bigpond.com) by Wednesday evening. Similarly, if you (or a partner or friend) don't have a permanent booking but would like to attend, let Andrew know by Wednesday evening, and indicate how many people will be in your party. This ensures there is enough to go around but also helps minimise waste.

Regards,
John Marshall, Sailing Captain.



Mr. Handicapper has got us sorted!!