

2021 Q4 SRC Report

It is still with us (Covid19) but it has not stopped us racing wherever we want and in whatever class we choose so let us be thankful for that. Our numbers in SOL and in SYC, where you can accumulate Series race scores that count towards prizes, continue to show growth which is encouraging.

A few changes to Sailonline Racing Rules ('**SRR**'), to Netiquette enforcement and to the Sailonline Membership Paid Forward ('**SMPF**') scheme were made at the beginning of 2022 and these changes are in new posts on the SOL Home page and expanded upon at the end of the annual SRC report.

Reverting now to the more mundane, in summarising the results for the Series racing in the 4th Quarter 2021, they are as follows.

Ocean Series

The three races for this Series were the last leg of the Equatorial SOL Round the World Series from Singapore up to Kuwait in our 90' Mono, joining the fleet for the 6th and last leg of the Pacific Series 2021 and then sailing the Christmas Island to Christmas Island race in our VO70_v4.

The last leg of the ESRW series was won by **HastySlug** with **Mediterranean** and **Dingo** both just 2 minutes behind after 4100 nm.

Mediterranean improved his tactics for race 2 from Honolulu to Wellington NZ with a win followed just 18 seconds later by **Sax747**. **FreyjaUSA** was 3rd.

The third race in the Series took us back to a perennial favourite when we race from Christmas Pacific to Christmas Indian islands and the fleet had to make a huge choice of a) north of the Philippines Island group, b) through the Indonesian archipelago or c) south of Australia. This year each choice was exercised with the podium coming from the Northern group. The race was won by **WRmirekd**, with **SCARABOCCHIO** second and **Kipper1258** finishing third in this 7,700 nm race.

All of these varied faces on the Ocean podiums gave us quite a jumbled podium for the 4th Quarter Series result. This Quarter was won by **SlideRule** with a 6th, 6th and 14th result, followed by **RICOTINA** with 11th, 10th and 9th. Third overall was **HastySlug** with 1st, 4th and 30th. **Aner59** was on the same total points as HastySlug but lost out on **HastySlug's** 1st. Once again, this Series result shows that despite a '*would like to forget that result moment*' these Series races can still be won with persistence.

Sprint Series

The four races for this Series were Charlottetown, Round Robben Island, Illa Cies and Bleaker Island.

The Charlottetown race was sailed in our SOTO30 in the waters around Prince Edward Island, Canada's smallest province. The race was won by **calmxy** with **Sax747** second and **sassy63** 3rd.

The Round Robben Island race off Cape Town was sailed in our Cape 31 from the board of Mark Mills and was won by **brewman**, chased by **bonknhoot** and **Vida_Maldita**.

The next race took the fleet to the northern shores of the Iberian Peninsula facing the Atlantic in our Melges 40 for a 30-mile coastal race. **TarassBoulba** won this race with **calmxy** chasing just 1 second

behind and then **brewman** was a further four seconds behind in 3rd. All three finished within 5 seconds.

The race around Bleaker Island in the Falklands was in our J30. The race was won by **Pit8008** with **WRmirekd** second and **FreyjaUSA** third. Seven seconds covered the top three with unfortunate **Jez** 4th, 1 second out of 3rd place!

Consistent placing in the races gave the Series win to **bonknhoot**, with **TarassBoulba** second and **WRmirekd** third.

SYC Series

Three races for this series comprised a visit to the Baltic for a race from Stockholm to St Petersburg, a race from Plymouth up to the Isle of Islay, the Queen of the Hebrides, for single malt whiskey in our graceful Italia 14.98 yachts and then concluding the season in our new C2R74 racing from Cape Town around to Port Elizabeth.

The Stockholm to St Petersburg race was held in our Imoca 60 Foiling yachts so some speed was predicted. The race was won by **WRmirekd**, followed by **rafa** and **Sax747**.

WRmirekd won the race to Islay to restock his whiskey rack followed by **bonknhoot** and **Taffarazzi**.

The third race from Cape Town up to Port Elizabeth, an almost continuous beat into the weather in the C2R74 was won by **Vida_Maldita** followed by **Cippalippa** and **bonknhoot**.

Consistent placing on the podium in these races gave the Series to **WRmirekd**, second was **Cippalippa** with a 2nd and two 5^{ths} and third was **bonknhoot** who had to carry a 13th result from one race.

Timed Series

We had two Timed Races in this quarter. The Hormuz race took us through the Gulf of Aden. There were about 80 runs in our X-35 OD and it was won by **Cippalippa** with **aner59** 2nd and then **calmxy**.

The second timed race was sailed out of Lisboa. Again, only about 80 runs were made around the course. The fastest run was by **Kipper1258** in 6 hours 00 min 41 seconds for 117.6 miles. Second was **Pit8008** just one minute slower and then **Cippalippa**. This seemed to be a tough course to get a fast time.

The Series winner was **Cippalippa**, closely followed by **Kipper1258** with **rafa** third.

Other Races

Two other races merit a mention and these are the **Sail around Turkey** including those tormenting narrow straits of Bosphorus and the Dardanelles between Europe and Asia and the **Gray Whale Migration** from Alaska to Mexico.

The **Sail around Turkey** race was sailed in the Open_60 which proved very suitable with the wind strengths and directions encountered - limited tacking or gybing challenges in the two straits. The race was won by **Zorba777**, second was **WRmirekd** and third was **Sax747**.

The **Gray Whale** migration reminds us of the huge effort and risk taken by Gray Whales to raise their calves. The race was sailed in some of the most favourable winds for many years in the Mono 90'. The race was won by **aner59**, followed by **FreyjaUSA** with **Dingo** third.

CLOSING COMMENTS for 2020

Before moving on to the SRC report for the Annual Series and Nation rankings, may I please express my sincere thanks to Piero Meda of Winston 4, who as SOL's Co-ordinator continues to do a huge amount of work in recording and processing our racing results for quarterly and annual Series (30 in all in 2021) as well as for National Individual and Team results and keeping an overwatch on SRC. It is a large volume of work which includes producing and issuing a huge volume of certificates as well as ordering and posting many medals around the world in these pandemic times. This work is possibly underappreciated by our sailors – but not by SRC!

Richard/Go4iT
Chair-SRC

13th January 2022