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Australian Sports Boat Association National Titles 2020

Hosted by Royal Motor Yacht Club Toronto

The 2020 ASBA National Titles have been run and won at the Royal Motor Yacht Club Toronto with a range of 11 Sports Boats competing in the 11-race series. The series couldn't have been run without the help of our sponsors, Harken Australia, Evolution Sails Gold Coast, Marine Outlet, Wet Tech Rigging, Bar Karate, and Ted Tec. The bulk of the fleet were made up of a Leech 650, Shaw 650s, The REO 7.2 and 7.7s, a T7, Viper 640, A K8 with a semi ridged wing for a mainsail and a Boat Speed 23. Unfortunately, Andrew Wiklund's "Crank" an Egan 7m was a non-starter due to damage sustained to the boat in the previous weekend racing leading up to the regatta.

The crew from "The Stig", Shaw 650, claimed the ASBA National Titles for SMS which is their 2nd in a row. The crew from Depth Charge Ethel claimed the 1st ever ASBA LTP (Long Term Performance) win, which is a new division that the ASBA has decided to run alongside of the SMS rating. The regatta was mainly sailed in light and shifty conditions for the bulk of the regatta, with the first and last days presenting great sports boat sailing conditions.

The first day (Sunday) greeted sailors with cloudy, light to moderate conditions. 3 races were run with wins on SMS going to The Stig, Re-Heat, and REO Speedwagon. On ASBA LTP REO Speedwagon and Depth Charge Ethel both enjoyed wins. After racing the ASBA held the AGM where Andrew Clauson, Malcolm Dean, and Jamie Berndt were voted in as the President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer respectively for the forthcoming year.

Day two (Monday) was a stormy wet day. With constant storms rolling through for the majority of the day, the Race committee had no option but to call racing off for the day by 1 pm. With the sailors settled into the bar, the beer and rum flowed along with a sausage sizzle before retiring back to our various accommodations to get ready for day 3.





Day three (Tuesday) was a different story. With a few dusty heads on boats, there was a light breeze to get 4 windward/leeward races in. With racing under way there were winners and losers all over the course with the light and shifty conditions. I am sure the best wind conditions were between races where it would come down off the surrounding hills for about 5 minutes and die out again. A good

day was had by our winners on SMS -Fly and The Stig and on ASBA LTP- Fly, Depth Charged Ethel and REO Speedwagon. Tuesday night brought some pretty bad and severe storms with tornado warnings late at night. Mick from Buckle Up, Tony and Otis from Spank, and Barry and Jamie from Situation Normal were all running around securing sails, boats and gear. There were reports that people saw funnel clouds in the lightning on the other side of the lake but thankfully all the fleet and competitors got through without any damage.

Rolling onto day four (Wednesday) saw another sunny day of light and shifty conditions with 3 windward/leeward races being held. The big story of the day was the wrap up of SMS champion from Malcolm Dean on The Stig with a day to spare. Luke on Re-heat came to grief hitting the rocks on an upwind beat. Luckily, they were able to get off the rocks fairly quickly and continue racing. Again, winners and losers over the field trying to pick the shifts and wind. The winners of the day were. SMS- Re-heat and The Stig. ASBA LTP- Reheat, Situation Normal and The Stig.



The last day (Thursday) with the SMS championship all wrapped up the minor places were still to be decided and ASBA LTP was still yet to be locked in on the podium. The Race committee sent the fleet on the scheduled passage race around Pulbah Island and back to Toronto. A few boats opted to miss out on a great sail down the lake, coming back with kites flying for an extended period of time. From Wangi point back to Toronto, the Sports boats could stretch their legs and power up their chutes. The winner of the day in both divisions was Luke Ratcliff's Re-Heat.

Presentation was held at RMYC on Thursday night with some tall tales of the week going around. With plenty of prizes and trophies being given out a massive thanks goes out to our sponsors, Harken Australia, Evolution Sails Gold Coast, Marine Outlet, Wet Tech Rigging, Bar Karate, Ted Tec. Go to www.asba.org.au to find links to all of our sponsors pages. A thanks to Ted Tec for sponsoring Beth from Sport Sailing Photography who photographed the regatta for the duration. Beth and Sport Sailing Photography can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/SportSailingPhotography/> and <https://www.sportsailingphotography.com/>

All the results for the regatta can be found at http://www.raceresults.rmyctoronto.com.au/results/2019_2020/ASBA2020/series.htm?ty=26674



The 2020 Nationals at RMYC Toronto was a standout regatta with the race committee doing an outstanding and professional job. As a representative of ASBA I would like to thank the RMYC Toronto team for a fantastic regatta.

With the ASBA Nationals already in planning for 2021 it should be another great event.

Congratulations to all competing crews and we hope to see you all on the water again soon.



