

Results of the Queensland 10 Rater State Championship, held at Lake Laguna, Palm Beach, Qld, on 25 and 26 November 2006:

Place	Name	Points
1st	Bill Wright	58
2nd	Kevin Skues	78.5
3rd	Malcolm Kampe	90
4th	Tony Fannin	124
5th	Peter Gibson	139
6th	Bob Newcombe	153
7th	Phil Dunn	204
8th	Robert Kerr	248
9th	Richard Harradine	272
10th	Arthur Shortis	279
11th	Brian Leydon	319

37 races, no protests, 1 redress

Day 1: 13 registered, 1 no show, 1 unable to start, 11 starters, 18 races, 1 retired.

Day 2: 2 more no shows, 8 starters, 19 races, 1 retired.

26 Nov. 2006, Lake Laguna, Palm Beach, Qld.

The Queensland 10 Rater State Championship was won by Bill Wright of Brisbane this afternoon by just 20 points after 37 races. Kevin Skues of The Tweed on his home lake was second. Both of these boats were designed by their skippers. Third place went to Malcolm Kampe of Brisbane sailing a very new Les Brown design.

Both days had beautiful Queensland weather, warm and sunny. The breezes were a very steady light to light-medium from the NE-N with some puffs blowing across the lake in the afternoons. Most skippers started with their big A rigs and did not change, but a few, including Bill Wright, experimented.

12 skippers turned up on Saturday morning, but Bob Sadler could not get any power and bailed out. Under the control of the veteran PRO Bill Clancy, after 2 general recalls, 11 eager skippers crossed the start line and the adrenaline flowed. By lunch Kevin Skues was 1 or 2 points ahead of Malcolm Kampe with Bill Wright another 7 points adrift. Another boat curled up its electric toes and died, and Brian Leydon bid 'Adieu'.

The Gold Coast Radio Yacht Club laid on a 4 star barbecue lunch for the competitors on both days, including gourmet sausages with rolls and onions, about 5 different kinds of salads, and lamington fingers and Christmas cake for sweets on Saturday, and lamington fingers and home-made pikelets on Sunday.

After lunch Bill Wright settled down and got a little faster while Malcolm had 4 sixes in a row. Arthur Shortis, the measurer, exited when his boat spat the dummy. So did Richard Harradine, but only for the rest of Saturday. 8 boats started the 18th and last race on Saturday; Bill had a 1st, while Kevin had a 7th, but Kevin was still 8 points ahead after both skippers dropped a 7th and a 6th. Malcolm was another dozen points back, but still an excellent effort for a skipper sailing a 10 Rater for almost the 1st time. Another 20-odd points astern were Tony Fannin and Peter Gibson just 3 points apart in 4th and 5th. Bob Newcombe, Phil Dunn and Robert Kerr were spread out back in 6th, 7th and 8th, respectively.

Sunday morning, 10 o'clock, same weather: Richard Harradine, another 10 Rater beginner, is back for another bloody nose; but Robert Kerr is not. Richard lasted just 3 races; long enough to overtake Arthur's score, but not long enough to overtake Robert's. Meanwhile Bill Wright has started a streak of 5 firsts inside a streak of 15 firsts and seconds (9 firsts and 6 seconds)!! In the same 15 races Kevin only got 1 first. Lunch was called in the middle of Bill's streak, but he didn't seem to notice. It was all over but the coasting. Malcolm gained a little, but was still in 3rd place. In fact, on Sunday no placings changed except Bill moved up to 1st, and Richard moved up to 9th.

On Sunday Tony Fannin said this was the most congenial regatta he had ever attended. Of course he did have 2 firsts and was in 4th place 15 points ahead of Peter Gibson, who also had 2 firsts. There were no protests during the regatta. There were the usual collection of silly port/starboard collisions and windward leeward bumps, and even a few ugly entanglements, but everything got settled on the water. One of the newbies even learned what 'running the line' means, finally! After the last race all of the sailors and all of the officials voted on the Best Sportsman's Award. Cooks were not eligible. All of the competitors received at least one vote, but we eliminated the trophy winners. The Best Sportsman's Award went to Bob Newcombe, who was in 6th place, who had no firsts, but did have 5 seconds. Not last and not least was Phil Dunn in 7th place.

The speeches were made, everyone was thanked, all 11 workers, all 8 Sunday sailors, trophies and the award were presented, pictures were taken and hands were shaken. We stripped the area, packed up boats and all the gear, turned off the adrenaline and disappeared leaving just the tranquility.