

Western Australian I.O.M. Championships

September 27/28th 2008

Hosted by

P.R.S.C. (Inc.) at Champion Lakes

20 HMS 2006 SCORING ASSISTANT
 20 LAST RACE 16 DISCARDS 2

After Race 16 with 2 Discard(s)

Position	Skipper	Sail No.	Points	Position
1	Roger Paul	86	48.0	1
2	Glenn Dawson	76	50.0	2
3	Sean Wallis	55	57.0	3
4	Hub Bell	45	58.5	4
5	Graeme Howie	90	64.0	5
6	Carl Girolamo	40	89.0	6
7	Ross Bennett	931	108.0	7
8	Gary Cotterell	95	110.0	8
9	Justin McAullay	23	122.0	9
10	Kelvin Uren	20	123.0	10
11	Andrew Summers	67	127.0	11
12	Ian Ritchie	181	143.0	12
13	Andrew Crocker	61	154.0	13
14	Robert Murdoch	79	159.0	14
15	Andrew Brady	87	166.0	15
16	Chris Aberle	98	184.0	16
17	Ian Sherriff	11	184.0	17
18	Denton Roberts	31	211.0	18
19	Robert Mews	930	228.0	19
20	Adam Uren	06	230.0	20

2008 Western Australian IOM State Championships Champion Lakes ARMADALE WA September 27th and 28th

21 skippers entered the 2008 WA State Championships, on a long weekend when the AFL Grand Final and Royal Show competed for people's time. The venue for the 2009 National Championships was put to the test.

Saturday dawned overcast, with a light to moderate North to North-West wind on the lake. Race Officer Bob Paton spent the first part of the morning having to chase the wind round to set a course. Fortunately, the wind gradually settled into the west, and racing started to move along nicely.

The lake allowed for quite long courses to be set. There weren't lots of races sailed, but if you didn't get a fantastic start, there was always the possibility of working your way through the fleet.

Early in the regatta, Hub Bell was taking the racing by the scruff of the neck. A couple of unfortunate incidents dragged him back into the pack, and consistent sailing from Glenn Dawson and Roger Paul allowed them to close the gap.

By the end of Saturday's racing, Glenn had just put himself in the lead on 22 points, with Hub second on 24 and Roger Paul third on 25. There were a number of skippers very close behind, looking forward to the prospect of a second drop coming into play the next morning.

Sunday morning was particularly frustrating. Whenever Bob tried to set the course, the wind would swing round through a right angle, or more. Most of the time, the wind was almost directly offshore, making sighting the start line impossible. By late morning we had only managed one race, so with the cloud cover starting to lift and break up, an early lunch was called.

When racing finally got underway in the afternoon, there was enough of a shift to the west, to allow a reasonable course to be set. Sean Wallis and Carl Girolomo managed to get their boats moving in the building wind. Everyone was sailing with A rigs, and although a few would have been thinking about making the change to B's, no-one actually re-rigged.

Unfortunately, Gary Cotterell ran into winch trouble at a time when he had sailed right up towards the lead. Missing a couple of heats didn't help the situation for Gary. Graham Howie had a consistent series finishing most races in the top half dozen.

At the end of the afternoon, the overall winner was not apparent to anyone. The title could have gone to any one of three or four skippers. The closeness

of the racing was such that there was not a run away winner, and the top five place getters were only separated by 16 points. As is usually the case, consistency was the secret. Roger Paul had won his first WA IOM championship by 2 points from Glenn Dawson and Sean Wallis just seven points behind.

Roger's new Italico performed very well in the whole range of winds we experienced. The wave action on the lake was something we haven't been used to, and Roger adjusted to sailing with that small slop very quickly. He kept his boat moving very efficiently.

As in most regattas, it was critical to get off the start line in good shape, and then do everything possible to keep out of trouble. Minimizing mistakes and keeping free from other boats was vital to getting a good finish place. The quality of racing and boat handling continues to improve in the WA fleet.

The Perth Radio Sailing Club would like to acknowledge the terrific job done by Gordon Loan in the scoring department. Gordon has performed this task for regattas in WA for quite some time. He has developed wonderful expertise in managing the HMS and maintaining the score. There was always a print-out of the running score on the board just a minute or two after the completion of each race.

We would also like to thank Fred Webber, Frank Walker, John Smith, Maurie Summers, Phil Henderson, Rod Moss, Brian Eustace and Alan Stuart for spending their valuable time keeping us all in order, and acting as Observers.

We are also really grateful to Alan "Moby" Stuart and Shane Blair for photographing the event, and making these available on the Internet so quickly after the regatta ended.

To view photos of the regatta, go to

<http://picasaweb.google.com.au/Moby58/ModelYachtsIOMSep2008#>