

VICTORIA

VICTORIAN ONE METRE CHAMPIONSHIP ALBERT PARK



Due to the State Championship forming part of the selection process for the World Championship in New Zealand next February, visitors came from Tasmania, South Australia, New South Wales and New Zealand to make up the 31 entries. "Foreigners" actually exceeded local entries. Melbourne provided it's standard four seasons in one day, with a concentration on the worst aspects of all four. Winds were basically from the north, with the strengths ranging from "A" rig weather all Saturday shifting to "B" rig later on Sunday - some people even went as far as "C" rig late on Sunday, and yes, there was some token blue sky and sun in there somewhere amongst the gusty winds.

Our New Zealand visitors Todd Olson and Martin Firebrace showed off Martin's new design Two Dogs for those who hadn't seen Jeff Byerly's boat at the NSW titles. Performance was sufficiently impressive for several orders to be placed there and then, and several have been ordered since. The rest of the fleet was predominantly TS2s, with the best performing other designs being Geoff Kiernan's Bantock Tinto (Tasmania) and Struan Robertson's own Fat Dog design (NSW).

3 fleets were run after the seeding races, which seemed an unusual decision due to the relatively small total entry and no frequency clashes, but, when the wind came in, most skippers were pleased with the decision due to the choppy conditions which made tacking difficult at times. In all 15 races were completed for each fleet. There were no walk-away winners, with some of the highest (and lowest) "expected performers" having problems with their boats, however there was an overall camaraderie with everyone helping everyone else out. There were several protests, but these did not slow down proceedings to any large degree.

The final winner was Simon Kellett from Mornington, who hadn't sailed a One Metre since the New Zealand titles earlier in the year, which says something for keeping your stress levels down when sailing, and having fun while you are at it. Second place went to John Gratton from South Australia, with Cameron Clarke from Albert Park third. Special thanks are extended to organisers and assistants, Rod Clack, Eddie Kennedy, Chris Ryan, Ray Bickerton and Bill Palmer, with occasional guest appearances by Richard Simmons.

Rick Hill, with additional material from the Editor

	Name	Pts	Club / State	Design	Sails
1	S Kellett	31.5	Mornington, Vic	TS2	C Smith
2	J Gratton	40.0	South Australia	TS2	C Smith
3	C Clarke	43.0	Albert Park, Vic	TS2	C Smith
4	C Cameron	51.1	Mornington, Vic	TS2	C Smith
5	J Medd	51.7	Mornington, Vic	TS2	C Smith
6	M Firebrace	56.4	New Zealand	2 Dogs	Bantock
7	T Olson	57.4	New Zealand	2 Dogs	Bantock
8	P Page	65.4	Sydney, NSW	TS2	Walicki
9	C Smith	68.4	Mornington, Vic	TS2	Smith
10	G Kiernan	87.0	Risdon Brk, Tas	Tinto	Own
11	S Robertson	93.0	Nthn Bchs, NSW	Fat Dog	Own
12	K Dobbie	106.0	Risdon Brk, Tas	TS2	KD Sails
13	B Hutchinson	121.0	Albert Park, Vic	TS2	Smith
14	W Crossman	121.7	Nthn Bchs, NSW	TS2	Smith
15	K Porter	142.7	South Australia	Frenzy	Smith
16	C Cooley	149.0	Nthn Bchs, NSW	Sayonara	Russell
17	S Owen	150.0	Albert Park, Vic	TS2	Smith
18	A Dykes	172.0	Mornington, Vic	TS2	Smith
19	M Hickman	175.0	Risdon Brk, Tas	Second One	KD Sails
20	M Willis	181.0	Northern Tas	TS2	PJ Sails
21	R Bickerton	198.7	Morwell, Vic	TS2	Smith
22	J Rogers	202.0	Albert Park, Vic	TS2	Smith
23	D Ting	223.0	Nthn Bchs, NSW	Wicked	Own
24	T Bracken	240.0	Northern Tas	TS2	Smith
25	D Tallis	245.0	Nthn Bchs, NSW	Wicked	Russell
26	P Haworth	257.0	Northern Tas	Mad Max 2	KD / Bantock
27	E Caleja	258.0	Morwell, Vic	TS2	Smith
28	R Hill	264.0	Albert Park, Vic	TS2	Smith
29	B Burggraaf	267.0	Albert Park, Vic	TS2	Smith
30	J Nolan	281.0	Albert Park, Vic	Tassie Tiger	Own
31	B Carroll	297.0	Albert Park, Vic	Bill Brunson	Brunson