

## Race Results for Twilight 25-1-2018 and LDP on 27-1-2018

The Huon Yacht Club's twilight race on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> saw seven boats out in the 18-20 knot south easterly breeze. The yacht *Saraband* returned for its third race with the club after a short absence. The Commodore, John Flowers, entered his Yamaha 33 *Mistral* and joined *Stardust Dancer*, *Sea Gems*, *Sabre*, *French Connection* and *Another Girl, Another Planet (AGAP)*, milling about pre-race. The course set for this race was from the start line to Bullock Point, from there to Hospital Bay, back to the start/finish line, then a sausage leg to the mid river and back to the start/finish line twice. It was anticipated there would be a reasonably fast completion of this course due to the fresh breeze.

Just before the first boat was due to start, *Mistral* suffered a sudden jibe which caused the mainsheet traveller attachment to implode. As it would have taken about as long to fix as the whole race, they graciously retired.

By the time *AGAP* started at 6.37pm the wind, as so often happens in twilight races, had started to ease, and was south 15 knots. The wind had eased some more down to 10knots by the time the boats approached the start/finish line completing the first lap. The three boats that had started first, *Stardust Dancer*, *Saraband* and *Sea Gems* had held onto their positions but *French Connection*, which revels in the stronger breeze, had overtaken *Sabre* and was 14 seconds behind *Sea Gems* and *AGAP* was 8 minutes behind *Sabre*. *Saraband* decided to change to a larger headsail at the beginning of the second lap and didn't lose much in the changeover.



As the wind was down to 10 knots from the south east for the second lap race officials decided to shorten the course by omitting the sausage leg. This decision meant the elapsed time would still comply with the race rules. In this last lap *French Connection* had passed *Stardust Dancer*, *Saraband* and *Sea Gems* to be first over the line. *Stardust Dancer* was second over the line 4 minutes later and another 4 minutes later *Saraband* crossed third. *Sea Gems* came fourth and *Sabre* and *AGAP* had a private contest with *AGAP* just beating *Sabre* by 11 seconds to an exciting finish.

The Long Distance Pennant (LDP) around Zuidpool Light Race held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January saw only 2 entries. *French Connection* and *Stardust Dancer*. On the day though Wil Muere was unable to get the motor to work and asked if he could race in his other yacht *Gem*. Vice Commodore Don Kerr decided, as it was the only other boat sailing on the day, that it would be acceptable but this decision threw the handicapping out. So at the time of writing the answer to the question who won hasn't been settled. More on that next week.

