

## 2007-08 Australian Cherub National Championships

As published in *Australian Sailing* April 2008

A hot fleet of Cherub from four states had to wait a full week to commence their racing at the 45th Cherub Nationals, as strong winds from an east coast low battered Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron and the waters of Waterloo Bay. When racing did commence the Race Committee was able to schedule a six race series into two days of sailing by starting the first heat at 6am.

Victory in the series went to twice former Champion Trevor Fay from NSW, this year sailing with Simon Young in their six year old boat *Wally*. After four heats held in strong breeze on the first day of racing, Fay and Young held a slender two point lead over Western Australian crew Phil and Andrew Vance in *Go*.

The second day of racing began in bizarre fashion. A light south westerly breeze required a start well out from the boat harbour. Half of the fleet failed to allow sufficient time to sail to the start area and subsequently were late for the start or unable to start. Fay and Young won the heat, demonstrating that their superiority over the rest of the fleet extended to light airs. Perth's Ben Lawrie and Rohan Van Dongen in *Liquor in Public* won the final heat to take second place in the regatta from *Go*.

The Junior Championship went to Steven and Blake Vance from Perth while the Cadet Championship went to Josh Doyle and Tom Drury from Belmont. The Women's Skipper trophy was won by Lane Cove's Fiona Lunsmann.

The series demonstrated that the major Australian Cherub fleets are very close in speed. All four States had a boat in the top ten and the NSW, Queensland and South Australian top boats have clearly caught up with the Western Australians who were so dominant at the previous Nationals in Perth. The next Cherub Nationals to be held at Lake Macquarie should be hotly contested.

1. Wally (T. Fay/S. Young, NSW), 1, 1, 5, 1, 1, 7, 9pts
2. Liquor in Public (B. Lawrie/R. Van Dongen, WA) 7, 6, 1, 2, 8, 1, 17
3. Go (P. Vance/A. Vance, WA) 2, 2, 2, 4, 7, 8, 17
4. Monster (N. How/T. George, SA) 12, 10, 3, 5, 2, 5, 25
5. The Cunning Linguist (C. Rule/T. Montgomery, WA) 6, 3, 4, 3, DNS, 11, 27
6. Quick Spoon (G. Emery/G. Edwards, SA) 9, 8, 13, 7, 5, 2, 31
7. Pocket Rocket. (N. Hale/B. Schutz, NSW) 8, 9, 8, 8, 3, 10, 36
8. Serenity Now (S. Vance/B. Vance, WA), 3, 7, 9, 14, 10, 23, 43
9. Tradesman's Entrance (A. Triggell/T. White, Qld) 4, 5, DNF, DNS, 4, 3, 48
10. Everything Zen (A. Stewart/A. Smith) 15, 11, 10, 9, DNS, 4, 49