

Serene Result in WA States



Right: New WA State Champions Steve and Blake Vance in *Serenity Now* from Perth Dinghy Sailing Club (Photos Andrew Burvill)

The Serenity of Winning at the 2008 / 2009 Cherub State Championship.

Steve and Blake Vance, the calm and composed cousins on the aptly named *Serenity Now* from Perth Dinghy Sailing Club have won the 2008/2009 Western Australian Cherub State Championships.

They sailed with great consistency, notching up only a couple of wins, but finishing no worse than 2nd. Finally mastering the light conditions paid off enormously for the boys, who in previous years struggled to finish anywhere near the top when the wind blew under 10 knots.

Runners-up was Brennan Stead and Josh Leslie on *Fine Mess* also from Perth Dinghy Sailing Club, who were the front runners for most of the series until the last two heats. A few results outside the top four in the lighter conditions sealed the deal. At age 17 they are still one of the youngest crews in the WA Cherub fleet and have a very bright future ahead of them.

Third was *Cunning Linguist* from Mounts Bay Sailing Club sailed by Cam Rule and a variety of crews, however most sailed with Todd Montgomery. They were off to a

great start winning the first heat and usually finished within the top three for the rest of the series, but with a lack of a consistent crew came a lack of consistent finishes up the front.

The women's winners were *Who Made Who* sailed by Renae Vance and Rachel Jones from Perth Dinghy Sailing Club. They sailed really well, often placing in the top 6.

Twenty one Cherubs competed in the Championship which was held over the

WA States

...continued from page 1

whole sailing season from early November to April with seven races at Mounts Bay Sailing Club, Perth Dinghy Sailing Club, The Cruising Yacht Club and Koombana Bay Sailing Club. Conditions for each race were lighter than a typical WA Cherub sailor would prefer (the 10 nautical mile race in under 5 knots at Rockingham springs to mind), however it gave the younger, lighter crews a chance to hit the front end of the fleet.

Of particular encouragement was to see a strong fleet of six Cherubs compete from Koombana Bay Sailing Club in Bunbury. The regular training of the Cherub fleet there has made a noticeable difference with some great finishes, in particular *Green Apple Splatter* almost creating a huge upset to win heat six at Rockingham.

The next major event for the WA Cherubs will be the 46th Cherub National Championships hosted at MBSC from the 28th Dec to 7 Jan.

A significant number of Cherubs from the eastern states are set to come over to Perth for what will be a fun, exciting and very social regatta.

(Higher resolution photos are now on the gallery at [Cherub Central](#).)

-Cam Rule

Right from Top: The fleet gets away in fresh conditions on Melville Water during the WA State Championships. Renae Vance and Rachael Jones in *Who Made Who* won the woman's title. Series runners-up Brennan Stead and Josh Leslie in *Fine Mess*. (Photos Andrew Burvill)



Australian Secondary Schools Regatta (CHS)

The 2009 Australian Secondary Schools Sailing Championships, better known at the *CHS Regatta*, attracted 132 boat from dozens of different classes. Among the entries were 13 Cherubs competing for the NSW Cherub Association donated Cherub class Trophy for the first Cherub in the regatta. This year's winners of the Cherub class were Kris Fay and Emma Knighton from Belmont who sailed *Wally* to three wins over the four heats.

While Kris Fay has significant experience in Cherubs having sailed in the 2008/09 Nationals at Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, his crew Emma is more accustomed to being at the front end of a Flying Eleven.

This year's regatta fea-

tured a full range of conditions form "light" to "enough to teat the first time Cherub crews".

Brother and sister crew of Tom and Chloe Jensen from Lane Cove finished second overall in their first Cherub regatta.

More photos of the Cherubs at the Australian Schools Regatta are now on the gallery at [Cherub Central.](#))

Right from Top: Kris Fay and Emma Knighton from Belmont High on their way to a win in the Cherub class at the Australian Schools Regatta. Lisa Sanderson and Tom Sheridan at speed in *South Park* . Liam Doyle and Alex Kirkby on the edge in *Lairy Canary*. (Photos Joe Jensen and John Sanderson)



Cherub Results from the Australian Schools Regatta

Sail No	Boat	Skipper	Crew	School	Pts	4	3	2	1
1 3144	WALLY	Kristopher Fay	Emma Knighton	Belmont High	3	1	1	(4)	1
2 3110	WHITE NOISE	Thomas Jensen	Chloe Jensen	Arden	6	2	(7)	2	2
3 3096	PERPETUAL MOTION	Damien James	Ryan Fokes	GLC	9	4	2	(7)	3
4 3100	EVERYTHING ZEN	Jen Pagett	Andrew Stephenson		12	3	4	5	(7)
5 3160	GETCHA CANS OUT	Oliver Hartas	Maclean Paton	Newington	16	(DNF)	8	3	5
6 3062	LAIRY CANARY	Liam Doyle	Alex Kirkby	Whitebridge High	17	6	5	6	(8)
7 2985	SCREAMIN SEAMEN	Natalie Greentree	Alex Paton	PLC Sydney	19	(DNF)	(DNF)	1	4
8 3090	SOUTHPARK	Lisa Sanderson	Tom Sheridan	Newtown Performing Arts	19	7	3	11	9
9 3093	THRILL ME...TIGER	Kirk Mitchell	Jackson Evans	Holly Cross	20	5	9	(DNF)	6
10 2998	MERCURY RISING	Lachlan Frazer	Juliet Schilling	Newington	23	9	6	8	12
11 3103	PURE PLEASURE	Lawrence Wakefield	Paris Litton-Strain		29	8	(DNF)	10	11
12 2958	PALPITATIONS	James Whitelock	Alex Sanderson	St Patricks, Strathfield	34	(DNF)	10	(DNF)	10
13 3073	ATTITUDE	Stuart Kirkby	Sahil Harriram	Whitebridge High	37	(DNF)	14	9	(DNF)

Mounts Bay Three-of-a-Kind Race

The annual three of a kind race was held on the 22nd March at Mounts Bay Sailing Club. Each class enters teams of three to five and compete against other classes around the same course. The yardstick combined with the finishing time of the top three of each class determines the winner.

This year saw 49er's, 29er's, 505's, 470's, 420's, Skates, Tornados, Sharpies, Flying Ants, Mudlarks, Mirrors, Pelicans, Tasars, Lasers and of course Cherubs float around in a horrible shifty 0-5 knot 3 hour race. The Cherub team comprised of Cam Rule on Todd Montgomery on *Cunning Linguist*, Steve and Blake Vance on *Serenity Now*, Tom Batt and Stuart Galton on *Dark Horse*, and Nigel Smith and Daniel Hackett on *Up and Coming*.

Thankfully *Cunning Linguist* got a good start right at the boat, even though Todd was trying to bribe the starters to cancel the race with offers of bottles of bourbon. *Dark Horse* broke the start and had to round the pin, which took an additional 10 minutes. *Up and Coming* got a reasonable start and *Serenity Now* started at the pin which didn't turn out too well. They ended up pulling out, and most looked back with jealousy.

Cunning Linguist kept up with the 20 kilo kids on the 29ers and other skiffs for most of the way and the other Cherubs stuck a couple of minutes behind. Todd learnt a new position, it kind of looks like he's hugging the mast. It works a treat – he's comfy and the back of the boat is off the water.

By the finish the Cherubs had spread out significantly, *Cunning Linguist* in first followed by *Up and Coming* then *Dark Horse*. We had been beaten by most of the 29ers and Tasars so we weren't happy. Admittedly the light weather and the course suited the Tasars perfectly, but the 29er's...ouch.

The Tasars ended up winning and the 505's runners up with the Cherub team third.

In the end it was a very creditable result for a race held in conditions that did not suit Cherubs at all.

-Cam Rule

Australian Sailing

Check out the May edition of Australian Sailing magazine for a number of references to Cherubs

Building Season Starts

May heralds the start of the Cherub building and re-building season. Sydney's Tim Harrington has commenced work on his new boat and a number of other interesting projects are underway.

National Champion to 49ers

The gossip at Lane Cove is that current Cherub National Champion Andrew Chapman will be campaigning a 49er next season with fellow Cherub sailor Peter Kendall. Meanwhile National Junior Champion Alison Chapman is sorting out new crews for her campaign to get a podium finish at the next Cherub Nationals in Perth.

New Look for [Cherub Central](#)

The national Cherub website [Cherub Central](#) has undergone a make-over with a new look and some new features. Importantly the Gallery that has been out of action for some time is now back with some cool new images. Check it out [here](#).

Australian Cherub News

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The Cherub is a 2 person 12ft high performance racing skiff with spinnaker and trapeze. Cherubs are very quick craft, offering exciting rides particularly downwind with their large asymmetric kites. The majority of Cherub sailors are in their late teens or early twenties but the flexibility of the class and the Cherub's great sailing qualities mean that there are also attractive to many older sailors. Many women sail Cherubs, both as skippers and as crews. Husband/wife, boyfriend/girlfriend, brother/sister and parent/child combinations of crew are common.