

Once again, Batemans Bay put on a fine challenge for its annual ANZAC Day Regatta, with winds varying anywhere between 2 to 30 knots, glass to a three foot swell, all in just two days. It was the first time for several of the eight cherubs to attend an away from home event, and proved to be a definite eye opener to them all, both sailing wise and socially.

Race One saw every cherub miss the start by up to five minutes, after a combination of car problems and sandbars threw their plans into disarray. A 5-10 knot shifty Westerly met us on the course, with Rope City getting away to a good lead, followed by Everything Zen, Causing Haavik and White Noise. Rope City and Everything Zen took off, overtaking most boats of the other classes, and beating the next boat Getcha Cans Out (a notably late entrant) across the line by a full leg.

Race Two was started in a 2 knot Westerly, which led to multiple collisions on the start line due to lack of steering. As we made our way up the work, the wind slowly built to about 5 knots, gusting occasionally to 8. Rope City, White Noise Getcha Cans Out and Everything Zen took full advantage of the light fluky conditions, getting off to an early lead down the first kite run. With the light breeze, the Division one and Division two boats all converged on the wing mark at once, causing a massive pile-up, disadvantaging all involved. Getcha Cans Out seized this opportunity by staying 50m clear of the mark, rounding in fresh air, and opening a clear half a leg gap on the rest of the fleet, which they maintained comfortably for the remainder of the race, followed by Rope City then Everything Zen.

Race Three showed a bit more promise. Despite a big night of typical cherub socialising, we were all excited to see a 20 knot southerly whipping up a 3ft swell around the point in our sailing area. Regardless of the postponement flag, the cherubs all hit the water for some fun, taking absolutely no time to hit the starting area, and taking full advantage of large waves, and heavy winds. The race started in bout 15 knots from the South, and saw very close competition up front between Rope City, Getcha Cans Out and Causing Haavik, which was narrowed down to two, being Rope City and Getcha Cans Out after an excessively tight, heavy run to the wing mark. They battled it out, with Rope City eventually taking full advantage of the heavy weather, and opening up a small lead on Getcha Cans Out and a bit further back, Causing Haavik.

Race Four was similar conditions to race three, and saw a very similar start to the race, with Getcha Cans Out seeming confident enough to leave their skipper behind on the wing mark on the first lap, but still holding onto second position. The lead chopped and changed between Rope City and Getcha Cans Out several times, and Causing Haavik even made a comeback toward the end of the race, but fell back on the last run to leave the finishing order at Rope City, Getcha Cans Out and Causing Haavik.

Overall results were:

1. 3155 Rope City
2. 3160 Getcha Cans Out
3. 3158 Causing Haavik
4. 3100 Everything Zen
5. 3110 White Noise
6. 3147 Camel Toe
7. 2945 Smashing Pumpkins
8. 3119 Built for Thrashing

Race Five saw most of the Cherub sailors take on the worst weather imaginable, bright sunny skies and no wind at all, on what was to be most challenging course of all... 18 holes of Bateman's Bay's finest Mini Golf Course. All competitors took to the course with the

dreams and aspirations of being the cherub fleets number one golfer. Simon got off to a bit of a rusty start, with a ten on the first hole, but soon had the rust marks polished off, proving he was just playing fair by getting a hole in one on the following hole. Kris Fay had far too much power behind his stroke, with the little fella driving his ball across the course and hitting an innocent bystander in the leg, and later driving one through the fence and out onto the road, so the sailors took the law into their own hands, stuffing him inside the skull and proceeding to take their shots at it. Liam Doyle emerged as the winner of Race Five, with an honorable mention on the daily records board.