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There was a special award for the youngest ever competitor to complete the event – Leo Holroyd aged 11 who crewed on a Mosquito Sloop with his father Jon.

Spectacular sailing in this year's challenge

The second year of the super-sized Around French Island Catamaran Challenge last Saturday was a resounding success.

Ant Richards from the Westernport Yacht Club secured the coveted Isle of Wight trophy for the second successive year.

The ramped-up pre-event activity included a free sausage sizzle and raffle, sponsored by the Isle of Wight.

Over 50 entrants, including several from interstate (NSW, ACT and SA), took to the water at 12 noon, for a clockwise lap of French Island.

The instructions were simple. Leave Cowes, then keep French Island to Starboard (right), round Eagle Rock and the turning buoy near Lang Lang, then get back as

quick as you can!

Westernport Bay served up some magnificent weather, with a range of conditions and hazards that tested competitors to their limits.

The race started with a gusty southerly wind that stayed for most of the racing, providing good sailing conditions.

Although the course is approximately 100kms (in a direct line), GPS trackers on the boats showed many travelled well over that distance.

The first boat made it home in just over four hours, with the final competitor arrived back after five and a half hours.

Race organisers said, as expected, there were lots of challenges for competitors with bro-

ken spinnaker poles, tillers and rudders.

"Some were fixed on the run but others just had to persist, testing strength and endurance further," said Cowes Yacht Club Commodore Tom Modra.

"Overall the race was a huge effort by club members who will need a lot of rest but it was wonderful to see the yard and beach so full of boats and people with so much excitement pre-race and many stories post-race.

"Like so many events it would not have been possible without the sponsors' generosity and club volunteers support."

After the event, everyone enjoyed dinner and an awards presentation at the Cowes Yacht club.

"The overall winner came back by power boat from Balnarring after freshening up – stuck on a falling tide," said Tom.

"There was a special award for the youngest ever competitor to complete the event – Leo Holroyd aged 11 who crewed on a Mosquito Sloop with his father Jon.

"Congratulations to Ant Richards – Taipan 4.9 from Westernport Yacht Club, who was the overall winner on Handicap and Division 2 winner, so he records back to back wins of the Isle of Wight trophy."

Division 1 Winner: Emma Rankin and Beau White – F16 Sloop, Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW.

Division 3 Winner: Robert Lott – Mosquito, Bendigo Yacht Club.



Ant Richards – Taipan 4.9 from Westernport Yacht Club, was the overall winner on Handicap and Division 2 winner, so he records back to back wins of the Isle of Wight trophy.



Ladies winners from Wednesday, Christine Riley, Cheryl White and Vicki Amato.



Men's Stableford winner from Saturday, John Fitzpatrick.

Phillip Island golf

Sunday, March 19, Stableford

18 Hole – Winner Tony Valena (9) with 35 points from Jake Wright and Heath Kolac.

9 Hole – Winner Cheryl White (20) with 21 points from Russell Wright 15 points.

Tuesday, March 21

Men's 18 Hole Stableford

A Grade winner: David Nicoll (27) with 39 points from Peter Cartwright (6) with 35 points c/b.

B Grade winner: Bez Moustafa (21) with 39 points from William Lang (18) 38 points.

C Grade winner: John Maglica (27) with 44 points from Victor Petropoulos (24) with 39 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Alan Schache, 7th Steve Mack, 10th Steve Mack, 14th, Paul Adams and 17th John Leheny.

BDL to 36 points.

Men's 9 Hole Stableford

Winner: Peter Matthews (33) with

21 points from Mal Macarthur (28) with 20 points.

BDL to 17 points c/b.

Wednesday, March 22

Ladies 18 Hole Stableford

A Grade winner: Cheryl White (19) with 38 points.

B Grade winner: Vicki Amato (29) with 4 points.

C Grade winner: Christine Riley (43) with 36 points c/b.

BDL to 35 points c/b.
NTP: 5th Zoe Frost, 7th Debra Orr, 10th Vicki Amato and 17th Miyuki Yamaguchi.

Ladies 9 Hole Stableford

Winner: Ros Wells (39) with 20 points countback from Pauline Scooble (45) 18 points c/b.

Thursday, March 23

Open Stableford

A grade winner: Alan Schache (5) 38 points from Christian Lloyd (12)

37 points.

B Grade winner: Steve Sloss (15) with 35 points c/b from Dan Hall (16).

C Grade winner: Paul Hewitt (29) with 40 points c/b from Lloyd Daire (31).

BDL to 33 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Wayne Morris, 7th Geoff Owen, 10th Paul Wagner, 14th Steve Mack and 17th Steve Mack.

Open 9 Hole Stableford

Winner was Basil Moloney (15) with 21 points from Len Fenton (16) 19 points c/b.

BDL to 17 points.

Saturday, March 25 Stableford

Men's results:

A Grade winner: Mark Haringsma (8) with 38 points from Ian Smith (8) 37 points.

B Grade winner: Greg Williams (15) with 41 points from Rick Banfield (14) 38 points.

C Grade winner: John Fitzpatrick (21) with 42 points from Phil Foster (21) 36 points.

BDL to 34 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Jeff Sellenger, 7th Phil

Ellard, 10th Rob Purcell, 14th Craig O'Neill and 17th Greg Stewart.

Ladies' results:

Winner was Marlene Gibson (27) with 41 points from Pam Williams (41) with 40 points.

NTP: 5th Sheryl Smith, 7th Megan Elbaz, 10th Helen Coghlan and 17th Helen Coghlan.

BDL to 34 points c/b.

9 Hole Open Stableford

Winner was David Hensbridge (20) with 22 points.

BDL to 16.

The 9 Holes play the Laurie Cook memorial honour board event each year over four rounds.

The winner was our 9 Hole Captain Ron Hatley with a great score of 56 points, runner up with 54 points was Malcolm MacArthur, third place went to Alan Tindale with 51 points.

This event was once again sponsored by the Phillip Island RSL.

On hand to present the prizes to the winners was President Greg Mead, a huge thank you to the RSL and congratulations to the winners and all that participated.

Bridge results

On Monday March 20, line honours for North/South went to Matti Shub and John Quayle with 59.22 per cent. Jill Short and Wendy Mckergow had a good day netting 55 per cent.

Albert Thomas who is visiting from Hong Kong played with Greg Nicholson and finished with 50.71 per cent.

Ann Hodgson and partner Caroline Shaw set the benchmark for east/west with an impressive 73.33 per cent. Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles followed with 59.58 per cent. Shirley Stewart and John Farr weren't far behind on 58.75 per cent.

Wednesday March 22 winners were Leng Haggith and Caroline Shaw on 63.89 per cent. In second place were Greg Nicholson and Diane Coleman on 60.42 per cent. Shirley Stewart and Albert Thomas came third with 56.25 per cent.

Two exciting red points events are happening in April.

First our mid-week pairs on Wednesday, April 5 and then April 12. Round up your partner and let's try and get at least six tables for this event (normal start time).

The second is the postponed Life Members pairs on April 24 (start time to be advised).

Caroline Shaw and Graham Mckergow have been refreshing the home page of our website. Check it out on www.bridgewebs.com/phillipisland/

Euchre results

Ladies winner: Leonie Brennan – 6 wins.

Men's winner: Les Walton – 6 wins.

Encouragement award: Joan Baker.

Please contact Bob Hee for any further information on 0418 173 388.

Come along everyone and have a great night out.

Tables booked for those wanting dinner before games start.