

Nacra Nationals Report 2006/7

The Nacra and Maricat Nationals were held at the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron. The event was the first time a Nationals had been held in Brisbane and the first time the Nacra's and Maricats had enjoyed each others company. Ironic given that both craft are manufactured by Brisbane Cat centre. With camping on site being the preferred option for most visitors the week was a very social event.

The Nacra's commenced with a training day and registration, followed by 11 races over the following week.

With many new Nacra crews, some competing in there first nationals a training session was conducted, concentrating on the basic's.

Sessions covered boat mtce, sail mtce and basic sail shape, boat tuning and race planning. The general [boat tuning notes](#) can be viewed in the "articles/photos" pages.

3 new boats were launched at the nationals, all F18 "Infusions".

General Conditions.

As usual for most nationals the weather conditions were best described as "unseasonal". With off shore winds from the E/NE all week the weather was overcast and wet at times.

Another unseasonal characteristic was the presences of large (dinner plate size) jellyfish in big patches on the course. Also some of the other local wide life was spotted during the week. "Black Jack" hit a large object early in the week and delaminated a centre board. All the glass off one side was missing when he returned to shore. Several large Dugongs and small Whale were spotted in the bay during the week.

The series started with a light 6 knots in the first heat, turning to 11 knots in the afternoon for heats 2 and 3. These conditions suited the lighter crews with "Dog" winning first up on the 16sq and fly in skipper Rob Stewart winning with my new boat in the F18's. Jay on Village Idiot however bucked the trend and showed that a boat sailed well can over come a crew weight disadvantage. The only down side to heat 1 was the bottom mark being laid in shallow water and most F18, hitting the bottom.

The breeze was similar in heat 4, but built for heats 5 and 6. Conditions on the water were generally flat, with a small chop for the entire series. It was unfortunate that the course was laid so far out to sea. With the club conducting 3 other nationals, we were on the northern course, some 4-5 km,s out to sea, tucked in to the lee of a couple of islands. Due to sand banks and tides all racing was conducted over just windward and return courses.

The duration of earlier courses was a little short, with some races taking as little as 22 minutes to complete, but the average duration was around 40 minutes.

Heats 7 and 8 were conducted in around 22 knots, with many boats not braving the conditions and saying ashore. Leaving the marina meant sailing to the course via a navigation channel with shallow water either side. The wind funnelled down the channel and large waves made most turn back, with wind speed of 27 knots being recorded in the

channel. Those that got out on to the course found a pleasant 21/22 knots and flatter water. 15mm of rain fell during the day, with rain being recorded over then next 3 days.

Heat 9 was sailed in a pleasant 8/12 knots that build to approx 15/18 knots mid way through heat 10.

Heat 11 saw the conditions return to moderate winds with only approx 10/12 knots.

F18 fleet.

6 * F18's started the series, with a 7th being launched latter in the week.

This small fleet had the widest range of winners with 5 different skippers posting a first, 6 if you count Leroy's win in his new boat on its first outing latter in the week. The results closely followed the wind range that we sailed in. Lighter crews winning the lighter days and the heavy weights winning in the stronger conditions.

The over winner was Nev Thompson, sailing "Ice" with Mal Richardson. These guys changed "gears" quicker than the others when the conditions changed. Don Dull pushed them hard all week and going into the last race only 1 point separated these two. Andrew and myself launched new boats for heat one. I unfortunately had a run in with an angle grinder 3 days before Xmas and had severed a tendon in one finger and had to watch the series from the sidelines. Thanks to Rob Stewart for coming to my rescue and sailing the boat.

With the up coming worlds in February it was the last chance for most boats to assess their speed.

5.8 fleet.

14 boats started the series, with 3 separate heat winners. Early leader Jason "village idiot" had 4 wins from the first 6 heats, but failed to start or finish in 6 heats.

The winner however "shes the boss" sailed a very consistent series, finishing in the top 5 for every race.

Yukka II went into the last race needing a win to take the event, but had to settle for second after a poor (by his standards) race.

Black Jack (Dave Jorganson) finished only 4 points behind the winners, despite not winning a heat. But the surprise packet of the event went to Don Boldston who proved the value in finishing every heat. Despite having the oldest boat and Don not trapezing he did finish every heat and ended up taking home the handicap trophy and finishing 4th overall.

It was good to see a core of new sailors in this fleet, many with female crews. All eager to learn and take their 5.8 sailing to the next level.

16 sq fleet.

21 boats sailed in this fleet, with 4 different heat winners and only 2 points separating the winners. Once again the last race was winner take all between Michael Guinea and Scott Sandilands. Despite Scott winning the last heat Micky was able to clinch a fourth place to win by 2 points. The ever reliable Lloyd "dog" Bradshaw was 3rd with "little" Whalley taking a credible 4th.

With larger numbers the chance to fall further down the points table was evident in this fleet. Big Scotty had 5 wins for the series, but once again consistency was the more major factor in determining the winner.

With Mick Guinea only taking 2 wins and brother Warren only getting 1 in the F18 fleet have we seen the changing of the guard in the class?

5.0 fleet.

It was good to see the 5.0 fleet back in numbers with 7 boats on the water. The winner by a comfortable margin, winning 8 off the 11 heats was Ian Walls. 2nd was Paul Neeskens, with Clair and Peter finishing 2nd to 4th.
But is the 5.0 fleet ready for "Bucko"? Only time will tell.

Maricat fleet

A total of 10 maricats competed over a 8 race series. The new Maricat dealer from NSW, Michael Colecliffe winning 7 heats on his new boat. This fleet had skippers from 4 states represented, with two coming from W.A. The dominance of the newer boats and the relatively cheap price of this class should see it continue to thrive on the East coast.

Results:

F 18														
Sail No	Yacht Name	Skipper	Total Points	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	619	Ice	15	2	2	1	-5	3	1	-4	1	3	1	1
2	616	Fat Choice	17	-5	1	4	3	1	2	2	2	1	3	2
3	618	MagicMarine.com	24	3	-4	2	4	2	3	1	3	2	4	-7
4	594	Fat Cat	34	-6	3	5	-6	4	4	3	4	6	2	3
5	640	Catsailor.net	37	4	5	3	1	5	5	-7	-7	5	5	4
6	617	GooseMarine.com.au	44	1	-7	-7	2	6	6	7	7	4	6	5

16 Square														
Sail No	Yacht Name	Skipper	Total Points	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	333	Team Magic Marine	21	2	1	3	-22	1	2	3	2	-10	3	4
2	219	Big Rig	23	-11	3	1	10	2	3	1	1	-22	1	1
3	270	Dog	37	1	5	2	-22	3	-7	4	6	5	4	7
4	271	Undone Fly	40	-22	6	4	1	6	5	9	-22	1	5	3
5	309	Sneary	52	8	2	6	-11	4	1	7	10	7	7	-17
6	212	Slimy Salamy II	52	7	9	-12	-22	11	6	2	5	8	2	2
7	156	Leadfoot	57	-10	7	7	5	7	10	6	4	3	8	-13
8	323	Maxi	65	5	10	5	4	5	8	-22	-22	12	10	6
9	311	Red Hot & Cool	71	6	11	-15	9	12	9	5	3	11	-22	5
10	218	Ropin the wind	73	14	8	9	6	9	4	-22	-22	2	6	15
11	324	In The Rhythm	82	4	-14	-20	3	13	13	11	7	6	14	11
12	207	Mungrel	92	13	12	8	8	8	16	-22	-22	9	9	9
13	144	Comfortably Numb	105	12	15	-17	15	10	12	8	8	-17	11	14
14	217	Juice	108	-22	13	13	7	14	14	-22	22	4	13	8
15	10	TEN	117	3	18	16	-22	16	15	10	9	14	-22	16
16	269	Spanish Fly	140	17	17	18	12	17	-22	-22	22	13	12	12
17	310	Allante	141	15	19	14	13	15	11	-22	-22	22	22	10
18	273	Warhorse	155	9	4	10	-22	-22	22	22	22	22	22	22
19	67	Like a Tiger	157	16	20	19	14	18	-22	-22	22	15	15	18
20	208	TBA	161	-22	16	11	2	-22	22	22	22	22	22	22
21	211	Driftwood	172	18	21	21	-22	19	17	-22	22	16	16	22

5.8

Sail No	Yacht Name	Skipper	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
			Points												
1	1636	Shes the Boss	Daniel Tandy	17	-5	3	1	2	1	-4	1	2	2	4	1
2	1639	Yukka II	Martin Horder	20	2	4	-15	-5	3	2	2	1	1	1	4
3	1641	Black Jack	David Jorgensen	24	4	2	-15	3	2	3	-15	3	3	2	2
4	527	Smoke on the Water	Don Boldiston	63	6	-15	6	8	10	-12	3	4	8	7	11
5	1644	Flat Chat	Ben Graham	64	3	-15	-15	6	7	6	15	15	6	3	3
6	1606	Village Idiot	Jayson Jenkinson	66	1	1	2	1	-15	1	-15	15	15	15	15
7	1450	TBA	Drew Carruthers	73	7	-15	3	4	4	5	-15	15	15	15	5
8	1557	Still Twisted	Lex Stranbridge	76	11	-15	7	7	8	9	-15	15	4	9	6
9	1492	Catastrophic	Keith White	87	10	-15	4	9	12	13	-15	15	5	11	8
10	705	Rogue Elephant	Maurice Harland	87	9	-15	-15	10	9	7	15	15	9	6	7
11	633	Magic Time	Robin Beemster	90	14	-15	5	12	6	11	-15	15	10	8	9
12	1331	Rasputin	Malcolm Peters	98	8	-15	-15	13	5	15	15	15	7	5	15
13	1600	Team Goose	Brendan O'Shea	109	12	-15	-15	14	11	10	15	15	12	10	10
14	1604	Spider	Les Neumann	111	13	-15	8	11	-15	8	15	15	11	15	15

5.0

Sail No	Yacht Name	Skipper	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
			Points												
1	2205	Fierce Creature 2	Ian Walls	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	-4	-9	1	1	3
2	2123	Duck Duck Goose	Paul Neeskens	20	3	2	3	4	-9	-9	1	1	2	3	1
3	2119	Ruby	Clare Neeskens	24	-9	5	2	2	2	3	3	-9	3	2	2
4	2133	Marrikala	Peter Neeskens	36	-9	4	5	5	4	-6	2	2	5	5	4
5	2106	L Plates	Col Baillie	40	2	3	4	3	3	2	5	-9	-9	9	9
6	2203	Fastway	Stephen Curtis	53	4	6	7	6	-9	4	-9	9	4	4	9
7	2050	SS Express	Jason Buckland	65	5	8	8	7	5	5	-9	-9	9	9	9
8	2129	Hey Day	Peter Day	76	-9	7	6	-9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

Marri Cats

Sail No	Yacht Name	Skipper	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
			Points											
1	5555	Sandwich Action	Michaiei Colecliffe	7			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-4
2	3919	Prima Facie	Wayne Barry	16			3	3	2	2	-11	2	2	2
3	5000	Zax	John Merl	18			2	2	3	-5	3	3	4	1
4	5009	Pixie Dust Express	Mark Colecliffe	28			-7	5	5	4	2	4	3	5
5	500	Down Bubble	Leon McNeill	34			6	6	4	3	4	5	-11	6
6	5006	Patches	Zac Breaden	47			4	4	6	-11	11	8	11	3
7	5010	Chuck	Lachlan Tucker	50			5	7	8	-11	11	7	5	7
8	50	Little Bas-Dard	Jaon Kakato	64			8	10	10	-11	11	6	11	8
9	5005	Smokin	Andrew Cook	65			9	9	9	-11	11	10	6	11
10	5050	GooseMarine.com.au	Leigh Gornall	67			10	8	7	-11	11	9	11	11

Next years event is being planned to be in NSW's and it is hoped that we will again share the venue with the Maricats. Watch this space, but plans are under way to look at Port Stephens as the possible venue.

See you all next year

Goose