**Downwind Daze 2019**

In 2019 the Peninsula Pod ran three Downwind Daze events. Downwind daze is a series of Downwind events that saw participants able to downwind with a competitive bunch really going for their best times or a with social bunch simply enjoying their downwind experience

To paddle with the best conditions possible we used different locations and times, but were predominately on the Mornington Peninsula.

The first event was held in solid conditions, which were challenging but workable. The conditions did have an effect on numbers participators, but those that jumped onto their boards had a great downwind experience. In keeping with the conditions, we saw the some of the best downwind paddlers in the state compete that day.

Our second event was held in ideal conditions and we received lots of great feedback, with the crew going from Brighton to Patterson Lakes. The conditions were encouraging for all and we saw a large field take to the water.

The Third and final event saw great conditions with the crew going from Flinders pier to Point Leo. The ideal conditions saw a good-sized field take to the water at Flinders and with extra attention paid to safety, we received great feedback all round.

A big thanks to Michael Jenkins and Dave Warner for looking after our club with this event and providing us with some great handmade trophies. We will also have a perpetual trophy that we will be presented at our AGM presentation night. A big thanks to our safety team with Steve Dart and Harley looking after our crew out on the water.

The winners overall and by age group had the lowest points from 2 events after all 3 events were completed; ie, their best two finishes!

To be eligible for points, competitors had to follow a few simple rules.

* Wear your DD event high vis top
* Wear your leash and a PFD.
* Show good sportsmanship and follow any directions from event organiser
* Finish the course

Our **Overall Winners** were:

* Lucy Bell
* Michael Abdilla

Open Age Male

1st - Michael Abdilla

2nd - Peter Jackson

3rd - Dave Warner

Over 50s Male

1st - Mark ‘Helmy’ Elsworth

2nd - Mark Thomson

3rd - Craig Macaulay

Our Long Course participants across the events were:

Will Purcell, Lucy Bell, Jayce Gilbert, Duncan Gosling, Vanessa Mollard, Rod Mollard, Ivan Martorell, Grae Newland, Steve Kouvalis, Thiery Danet, Daniel Gaitz, Paul Harrington, Dany Leclec, Cheyne Mitchell, Michael Abdilla, Peter Jackson, Mark Elsworth, Dave Warner, Mark Thomson, Craig Macaulay and Sam Hodder

Our Short Course participants across events were:

Xanthe Rivett, Paul Gaynor, Ramon Dominguez, Susan Griska, Helen Fleer, David Peterson, Richard Robertson, Mark Renouf, Sue Adams and Ian Cassel

Well done one and all and thank you for supporting our Downwind Daze series!

To help get you ready for some bigger events we will be running Downwind Daze 2020.

Check-out the Peninsula Pod Facebook Page or our club website, under Events for details.

See you on the water.