

## 2023-2024 NSW State Report

Great sailing conditions and warm weather greeted the RL24 skippers and crew for the 2023-2024 NSW RL24 State Championships. The series of 4 races was sailed at Batemans Bay SC. A fantastic 3 lane launching ramp made launching and retrieving boats each day so easy.

A BIG THANK YOU to Peter Smith, the Commodore and PRO at Batemans Bay for putting a great weekend of sailing.

The 2 races on Saturday were sailed in 10-15 knots NE breeze. Little sea swell and very small waves made sailing enjoyable. One of the highlights of Saturday's racing was the closeness between RL24s. David Dood sailing *Free Spirit* and Richard Davies sailing *Shaka* has some close tussles. This was the first RL24 regatta that *Shaka* had attended. Needless to say Both David and Richard are looking forward to the Nationals at Lake Wellington in January 2025. Peter Smith sailing *Yaminji* and Colin Boylan in *Ringleader* revelled in the 10-15 knot conditions.

Sunday was also 2 races with an earlier starting time. Race 1 was in a light 6-8 knots with *Yaminji* leading the fleet all the way around the course. *Ringleader* and *Shaka* were close behind *Yaminji* in race 3. The breeze freshened to 12-15 knots from the NNE for Race 4. *Yaminji* made a great start and lead to the first mark. *Ringleader* slowly closed the gap and on the final square run to the finish line just edged past *Yaminji* and crossed the finish line 5 seconds ahead. *Shaka* finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place about 1 min 45 seconds behind *Yaminji*.

The final placings for the NSW RL24 State Championship are:

Boat Name	Skipper	Overall Place	POINTS
<i>Ringleader</i>	Colin Boylan	1st	5
<i>Yaminji</i>	Peter Smith	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7
<i>Shaka</i>	Richard Davies	3 <sup>rd</sup>	12
<i>Free Spirit</i>	David Wood	4th	19



In conjunction with the Championship series, a Handicap series was also conducted. Again, close finishing times was a feature of each of the 4 races. In Race 1 the margin of 2 minutes 40 seconds separated all 4 RL24s. *Shaka* finished in first place with a small 29 second margin over *Free Spirit* with *Yaminji* in third place. Race 2 saw *Ringleader* gain first place with a 50 second margin over *Yaminji* and *Shaka* in third place. Race 3 saw *Yaminji* ahead of *Shaka* by 15 seconds with *Ringleader* in third place. Race 4 saw the tables turned with *Shaka* winning by 15 seconds from *Yaminji* with *Ringleader* in third place.

The final placings for the NSW RL24 State Handicap are:

Boat Name	Skipper	Overall Place	POINTS
<i>Shaka</i>	Richard Davies	1st	7
<i>Yaminji</i>	Peter Smith	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8
<i>Ringleader</i>	Colin Boylan	3 <sup>rd</sup>	11
<i>Free Spirit</i>	David Wood	4th	17



*Ringleader*



*Shaka*



*Yaminji*



All Skippers and most Crew in front of *Free Spirit*