

AQUATICS.

In consequence of the very light and uncertain wind on Saturday afternoon, the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron's time-by-rating race became a mere drifting match, and nearly six hours were occupied in getting over the course of about 16 miles. For nearly an hour during what may be called the race, the boats quietly lay at anchor awaiting a breeze. The light airs were most favorable to Magic, which was in the lead when the wind died away, and eventually won by about half an hour. The entries were: White Wings (Victoria), rating 31.36 (Mr. J. Barry), scr; Heather, rating 30.6 (Dr. Gordon Craig), and Cooya, rating 30.6 (Mr. A. W. Crane), each 1min 40sec; Meteor, rating 30.5 (Dr. J. T. Elliott), 1min 53sec; Petrel, rating 30.4 (Mr. S. M. Dempster), and Aoma, rating 30.4 (Mr. A. Dixon), each 2min 5sec; Magic, rating 30. (Mr. J. O. Fairfax), 2min 57sec; Fleetwing, rating 29.6 (Mr. S. Hordern), 3min 52sec; and Janet (Mr. J. M'Murtrie), not yet rated. The only absentee was the Victorian yacht, White Wings. Light breezes carried most of the boats as far as George's Head, when the wind gave out altogether. About an hour later a light breeze sprang up, and Magic, passing one after another, left all the other yachts behind. The finishing times were: Magic, 8h 16min 7sec; Cooya, 8h 37min 55sec; Aoma, 8h 38min; Petrel, 8h 38min 20sec. The others did not finish. Reckoning time allowances, Aoma takes second place with 20sec to spare, from Cooya and Petrel, which were a dead heat for third place. Cooya, however, has entered a protest against Aoma. The squadron steamer Sir William Wallace followed the race with a large number of members and their friends. The officials of the day were Messrs. A. G. Milson and S. T. Wilson.

Seventeen boats started in the Sydney Sailing Club's General Handicap on Saturday, among which were Ira and Vanduara, of the St. George S.C. The wind was very light and fluky, principally from the eastward; and it was not till after 6 o'clock that the winning boat crossed the line. The A Class, with their big sails and extras, as was to be expected, had the best of the handicaps on a day like Saturday; but the B Class boat Iris took the lead early in the race, and kept that position for a long time, and was only passed in the final run from Shark Island. The result was a win for the 22-footer Keriki, from scratch, which sailed well over the latter portion of the course. She was in charge of her owner, Mr. O. Taylor. Donnelly, Ira, and Iris were the other place-getters. The steamer Greyhound, in charge of Mr. A. Jones, followed the race, and was well patronised. Other officials were: Starter, Mr. B. de Groen; judge, Mr. H. Pearce; umpire, Mr. Geo. Dew; and timekeeper, Mr. C. J. Collins. Result: Keriki (O. Taylor), scr, £5, 1; Donnelly (George Holmes), 7½min, £3, 2; Ira (J. Smith), 9min, £2, 3; Iris (H. Langford), 13min, £1, 4. Other starters: Southern Cross (C. Messenger), ¼min; Hiawatha (W. Anderson), 1min; Plover (H. Forster), 3min; Young Harry (S. Richardson), 4min;

ter), 3min; Young Harry (S. Richardson), 4min; Desdemona (A. W. Muston), 4min; Alma (J. Nichols), 9min; Vanduara (F. Selmon), 10min; Yogi (R. C. Scott), 13min; Ernest Pearce (W. Birkett), 14min; Genesta (A. E. Carpenter), 14min; The Gift (W. Duncan), 17min; Majestic (T. Cuthbert), 19min; Wythona (T. Hill), 24min. The course was from Fort Denison, round lightship, Sow and Pigs, Shark Island, Fort Denison, back round Shark Island, and finish at starting line. Iris, which has been sailing remarkably well lately, passed the limit boats on the work to the ship, and rounded first. Nearly all the backmarkers also improved their positions, Plover doing best over this portion of the course. Iris rounded at 4h 25min 18sec, followed by Vanduara, Wythona, Donnelly, Ira, Alma, Plover, and the rest of the fleet. Plover's time was 4h 28min 25sec, being 2min 46sec ahead of Keriki. There was not much alteration at Shark Island, Iris still leading, having got further away from almost everything. Keriki was here only 1min 40sec behind Plover. Donnelly passed Vanduara on the run to the fort, and Plover treated Ira likewise. Iris still led Donnelly by 1min 53sec, hauling a wind at Fort Denison, Vanduara, Alma, Plover, Ira, and Keriki, in that order, being nearest the leader. The scratch boat was still 5min 49sec behind Iris. Keriki was now sailing in an improved manner, as also was Ira. Donnelly was not doing at all well on the work, and Keriki and Ira were alongside of her abreast of Bradley's. Vanduara capsized before rounding the buoy, at Shark Island, when Iris led Keriki by 20sec, followed by Donnelly, Ira, Plover, Southern Cross, and Hiawatha at short intervals. The two latter had closed up on the work. All extras were now set for the final run. Keriki soon took the lead, and Plover, Donnelly, and Ira also passed Iris. Keriki got into trouble with her ringtail, and Plover and Donnelly were closing on her. However, Plover rolled over after passing Clark Island, and spoilt what promised to be a very exciting finish. Donnelly looked like giving her crew a bath also, but she was saved. Keriki finished at 6h 5min 2sec. The times of the others were: Donnelly, 6h 7min 18sec; Ira, 6h 10min 19sec; Iris, 6h 11min 7sec; Southern Cross, 6h 12min 1sec; and Hiawatha, 6h 12min 30sec.