



## 2017 ARYA National Championships **International A Class**

6 February - 8 February 2017  
AUSTRALIAN RADIO YACHTING ASSOCIATION (Inc.)  
Kogarah Bay Sailing Club, Kogarah Bay NSW  
This is an ARYA Ranking Event

### **Official Regatta Report**

It was a beautiful sight as eleven magnificent A class yachts were launched for the first race of the A Class National Championship. It was expected to be a shoot out between current National Champion, Glenn Dawson (WA) and last years runner up Brian Dill (NSW) both sailing Swords. But from the start it wasn't to be, with Graeme Howie (WA) sailing his home built Wombat design taking first blood in race one throwing down the gauntlet to the champs.

The Wombat thrived in the lighter conditions with Howie and Dawson exchanging race wins with Dill challenged by winch problems before the afternoon session when Dawson started his domination on the event demonstrating why he was the defending champion and stringing together an impressive rack of bullets leaving Dill & Howie to fight it out for the minor places.

Day 2 saw the temperature fell and as the fleet hit the water for the first race lightning filled the sky joined by the claps of thunder and heavy rain and the fleet immediately returned to the shore. After a delay to the start the rain started to clear and Dawson continued his merry way further dominating the event remaining consistent with scores of 1's & 2's while Howie & Dill continued their battle.

The final day of the event was really around the fight for second place. The Wombat had shown great performance against the Swords but ultimately the Sword won out with Glenn Dawson maintaining his consistency and going on to win with an overall score of 39 points from 37 races just 48 points ahead of Brian Dill on 87 points and the Wombat of Graeme Howie a further 10 points in arrears finishing on 97pts.

Outside of the top three there were other battles being had, Jon 'Pinko' Pinkerton (NSW) kicked of the championship with some consistent results early, battling with Denton Roberts (WA), Roger Paul (WA) and Ralph Hymen (NSW), however Pinko was plagued with boat issues later in the event which saw him finish with a lower than expected performance with these guys filling places 4th – 7th.

#### **Overall Results:**

1. Glenn Dawson (WA), 37pts;
2. Brian Dill (NSW), 87pts;
3. Graeme Howie (WA), 97pts;
4. Denton Roberts (WA), 153pts;
5. Roger Paul (WA), 169pts;
6. Ralph Hyman (NSW), 181pts;
7. Jon Pinkerton (NSW), 224pts;
8. John Heard (QLD), 229pts;
9. Barry Grant (NSW), 253pts;
10. Rob O'Brien (VIC), 259pts;
11. Ralf Steyer (NSW), 281pts.