



ROYAL SYDNEY YACHT SQUADRON

“Read all about it!”

The origins and early history of the Squadron – as reported in the Press of the day

A Mystery to solve - What ever happened to the Australian Cup?

Clearly the intervention of World War I stopped it in its tracks but John Maclurcan has been unable to find any evidence of it ever starting up again. Does anyone have any further information?

Wednesday, 29th June, 1910 – The Daily Telegraph
INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACING.
SENIOR CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA PRESENT A CUP.

The International Yacht Racing Union, comprising Argentine Republic, Austria-Hungary, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland and Belgium, Italy, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and Spain, last year, agreed that with a view to encouraging yachting between the nations a series of yachting festivals should be held, the first in Great Britain, under the management of its national authority, the Yacht Racing Association, in 1910; the second in France, by the Yacht Club de France in 1911; and the next in Germany, governed by Deucher Segler-Verband (known to Australians as the German Association of Yachtsmen), in 1912 with others to follow, as may be agreed.

The Yacht Racing Association having fixed August 8 and 9, 1910, as the dates for the first of these festivals, advised all affiliated clubs to that effect. **The Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron** on receipt of this intimation immediately communicated with the senior clubs of the Commonwealth, suggesting, the presentation of an Australian Cup, with the result that the Yacht Racing Association has been informed by cable that a 50-guinea cup is now being made for presentation on behalf of the Australian yachtsmen, comprising Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Prince Alfred Yacht Club, Royal Yacht Club of Victoria, Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron, Royal Perth Yacht Club, Royal Queensland Yacht Club, and Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania.

It is satisfactory to know that one of the principal trophies for competition at this, the first of these international festivals, will be an Australian Cup which should remind sportsmen of the Old World that their cousins at the Antipodes are up to date and keen in this branch of sport.

The day may not be so far off when Australian yachtsmen will be seen competing for international honours. Since the cup was ordered a cable has been received intimating that the festival has been postponed, for a year.

Wednesday, 20th September, 1911 – Daily Telegraph
Sailing.
THE AUSTRALIAN CUP.

Won by Norway.

Although Australian yachtsmen were apprised by cable of the results of the various big yacht races at Cowes during the earlier part of August, they received no news of the event, which, to them, was of the greatest moment, to wit, the contest for the Australian Cup.

This trophy was subscribed for by the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Prince Alfred Yacht Club, and the leading yacht clubs of the Australian States, for competition between yachts of the 12 metre class, at the first European festival of International yachting, held during the week following Cowes week.



ROYAL SYDNEY YACHT SQUADRON

The result of the race, and a few details, are now to hand by mail, and should prove of interest to local yachtsmen.

Six entries were received, viz., the Norwegian yacht Rollo (Mr. Johan Anker), Holland's representative Davo III. (Mr. C. Vermeer), and the British craft Alachie (Mr. G. Coats), Cintra. (Major Andrew Coats), Ierne (Mr. A. F. Sharman Crawford), and Javotte (Mr. C. M'Iver).

The course fixed was from Dean Tail and Nab Rock buoys, leaving them to starboard, thence to Warner Lightship, leaving it to port, thence round mark boat off Ryde, to be sailed twice round, the race being timed to start at 11 a.m. Davo III. did not start, and, although Rollo was in a good position over the line, Javotte retained the lead over the first round of the course, at the termination of which they were timed as Javotte 1.12.43, Rollo 1.14.5, Cintra 1.15.69, Alachie 1.16.30. Ierne 1.16.55.

The breeze had been gradually softening throughout, and this contributed materially to several changes in position during the second round. Alachie soon passed Cintra, while Rollo passed Javotte and opened out a considerable lead. The light air was detrimental to Cintra's chances as she was also ousted by Ierne. The Norway representative Rollo had a very easy win from the Britishers, as the finishing times show that she was nearly six minutes ahead of her nearest opponent, and her owner has the honour of possessing the first Australian Cup.

The finishing times were recorded officially as: — Rollo. 3hr. 41min. 25secs.; Javotte, 3.47.2; Alachie, 3.52.27; Ierne, 3.55.41; and Cintra, 3.59.10.

Thursday, 7th December, 1911 – The Sydney Morning Herald

SAILING.

AUSTRALIAN CUP.

The Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron is in receipt of a letter from Mr. Johan Anker, owner of the 13 metre yacht Rollo, which recently won the Australian Cup at the first international festival. He states he is sorry that the distance is too far to bring the yacht to Sydney.