

SPORTS



OUTDOORS / TIDES

B SECTION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024
NEWS-LEADER / FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA

Amelia Island Sailing Club holds three-race event



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tiger Tale, Misty and Valkyrie in the second race on Feb. 17. The next race is March 16.

The Amelia Island Sailing Club held its second race day of the 2024 season on Saturday, Feb. 17, in Cumberland Sound. Sailing a different format than usual, there were three shorter, 2.4-nautical mile length races rather than the normal single long race of approximately 9 nautical miles. The first race started at 11 a.m., followed by the second and third races starting at 12:10 p.m. and 01:15 p.m., respectively.

The weather was drab and drizzly, with periods of light rain, and cool with temps reaching the high 50s. Winds from the west were light and variable in the range of 5-10 knots, and the tide was incoming for the whole event, resulting in increasing current speed as the day progressed.

Seven boats raced all three races, involving 24 sailors braving the elements. The shorter race format kept the boats in sight of each other and

provided for close racing by both the faster boats in the fleet and the slower boats. The tight racing helps everyone focus on fine tuning and sailing the boats as fast as possible all the time for the best adjusted finish times after applying the racing PHRF handicaps to the elapsed finish times.

The results of the three individual races were tallied to determine the overall winner of the day. Bill Kavanaugh and crew masterfully sailed Tiger Tale to three first-place finishes, capturing first place for the day. Fred Eichmann and the team on Wilby Whitt's Misty raced for three second-place finishes, for overall second place for the day. For two of the races, Misty finished just 47 seconds and 54 seconds behind Tiger Tale, extremely close finishes for races which had elapsed race times

SAIL Continued on 2B

Miss Marsha close hauled in the second race, left. Miss Marsha windward of Tiger Tale, right.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

SAIL From 1B

for all boats between 32 to 54 minutes.

Justin Pelham-Webb sailed Valkyrie to third place for the day, with two thirds and a fourth-place finish in the three races. Fourth place for the day was secured by Steve Boice on Miss Marsha, fifth place was taken by Gary Sanders on Salty Sally, followed by Norm Wentworth on Morning Glory and Colleen and Jason Gerke on Juliana.

Post-race camaraderie and stories of the day were shared on the dock beside Misty at Tiger Point Marina.

Complete results and more race photos along with 2024 racing schedule are available on the AISC website at ameliaislandsailingclub.wildapricot.org.

The next race is on Saturday, March 16. All are welcome to race with AISC



Julianna in the third race.

requiring just a club membership at \$100 per year. Visit the club's website to learn more, and anyone with a boating interest is invited to join. Members have sail-

boats, power boats and pontoon boats, and many have no boats. The club holds monthly dinner meetings and races and other social events throughout the year.