

VICTORIAN M CHAMPIONSHIP by Dave Birrell

The Victorian titles were held this year at the Dandenong Valley Club's water at Caribbean Gardens on 15th and 16th October 2000. A nice scenic spot, complete with thriving market for the family members to spend their money in complete covered comfort while the men folk were sailing in what could be described as trying conditions.

Wet and windy was the order of both the Saturday and the Sundays sailing, however the event continued and the six brave entrants soon found that Lincoln McDowell was a force to be reckoned with.

Not to be outdone, Bill Hutchinson and Chris Ryan, did make some inroads in Lincoln's winning ways, with Bill Hutchinson failing towards the end of the first day when his hull generated a rash, comparable to beard stubble.

Bill decided that the home workshop was the best place to treat the illness, so with a quick exit and some nail polish concoction corrected the porous hull sufficient to make a good showing on the Sunday.

The Sundays racing tended to be more evenly contested with Chris Ryan stirring his craft along sufficiently to give Lincoln a real message that there was a contest to be won. Bill provided the third string support winning his share of the heats as well, but in the end Lincoln showed his class and held on to defend his title.

The final results after 30 heats in intermittent showers and wind gusts to about 25 knots were.

Lincoln McDowell	41 points
Chris Ryan	48 points
Bill Hutchinson	73 points
Richard Simmons	86 points
Peter Williams	151 points
Mike Pender	163 points