



## J. B. SHARP MEMORIAL REGATTA SERIES

*Established 1924*

### J B Sharp Series Report – 2015 Series

It is an absolute pleasure to report that the 91<sup>st</sup> JB Sharp series was a complete success – in no small part due to the support of BMG Aviation, Specialist Insurance Brokers, who once again sponsored the series. Their support of this series is greatly appreciated by all competitors and their supporters, as well as the clubs, officials, and the committee also.

The first regatta of the series was once again held by Glebe R.C. on 14 June 2015 on the Blackwattle Bay, following the success of the previous year's trial at that location. A large number of entries (especially for the men's under 16 single scull) were received, leading to up to 4 divisions being required for that event. It is very encouraging to see such a large contingent of young rowers entering the sport.

The next regatta was held at the UTS Haberfield regatta. As the previous year's regatta was cancelled due to the wind, this was the first time the new boatshed had been used to host this regatta, and the excellent facilities were very much enjoyed and appreciated by the officials and spectators, who had unobstructed views of the regatta.

Once again the junior rowers in both the men's and women's u16 1x were strongly represented, as was the handicap sculls. It was also very encouraging to see the number of 'non-bay clubs' and schools attending the regatta, which has helped to increase the participation level and standard of competition in many events.

Following the UTS regatta, on 12 July 2015 Drummoyne hosted their regatta along the traditional Drummoyne course, and again it was very pleasing to see a high level of competition, and a good level of entries.

Unfortunately, some crews and clubs had not paid sufficient attention to the eligibility requirements for their events (particularly the novice events) – close attention must be paid to ensure each crew racing is both eligible for their event, and, in the case of the single scull events, registered before the regatta day, to ensure they will be permitted to race, and judged when they do.

The Balmain Regatta was held on 26 July 2015, and saw once again a very healthy level of entrants, particularly in the U16 1x races.

While it is extremely pleasing to see this many competitors, the increased numbers make it even more important for scullers to ensure they are registered, and, importantly, display the correct bow number corresponding with their registration. We are indebted and thankful to Rowing NSW and in particular the services of regatta secretary Owen Nix for his assistance in following up scullers after the regatta where results were unclear – at the BRC regatta in particular this required 4 revisions to the results due to the bow numbers of scullers not always being present.

The final regatta was held at Leichhardt Rowing Club on 9 August. It was particularly pleasing to see that, despite the natural attrition from the novice sculls races (whereby each winner is no longer novice), at the final regatta we were nevertheless obliged to hold 2 divisions of men's novice races due to the number of participants.

It was also particularly exciting to see the Handicap single sculls decided in a row-off between Drummoyne's Oscar Fawkes and Balmain's Peter Waldersee, after the two were tied following 5 regattas. Congratulations to Peter on the win in a nail-biting finish, and to Oscar for coming so close through such a powerful series of races!

'Committed to growing rowing'

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Overall, the 2015 series was particularly notable for its high standard of racing, high levels of competition in the junior ranks in particular, and the participation of a number of schools which greatly assisted in achieving this. The weather was marvellous for each regatta, with no cancellations of events due to wind throughout the series.

Following the Leichhardt Regatta, the winning clubs and crew were presented with their silverware, by John Sharp and his son Alexander, and by Blake Hanna who once again represented BMG Aviation. Of particular note was the closeness of the final result, and the strength of Glebe and Leichhardt R.C.'s in particular, who either won or shared between them every club trophy.

The **J.B. Sharp Memorial Cup** – overall point score – **Leichardt** 233; Glebe 217; Sydney 88.



Simon Hoadley received the Memorial Trophy from John Sharp

The **Walker & Hall Chalice** – Handicap Scull point Score – Peter Waldersee (Balmain) 17; Oscar Fawkes (Drummoyne) 17; Raquel Cuevas (Nepean) 15. Peter won the point score after a row off with Oscar.



Peter Waldersee receives the Chalice from Blake Hanna  
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The **Sid Sharp Silver Tray** – men's novice & U16 point score – **Glebe** 60, Mosman 55, Sydney 29.



Kim Mackney receives the tray from Alexander Sharp

The **Kayser Shield** – Women's Open & Intermediate point score – **Leichhardt** 79, Nepean 13, Glebe 12.



Leichhardt receives the Kayser Shield from Owen Nix



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The **Glebe Centenary Shield** – men's open and intermediate point score – **Leichhardt** 72, Glebe 60, Sydney 49.



Liam James presents the shield to Leichhardt

The **Kevyn Webb OAM Cup** – men's novice scull point score – **Glebe** 34, Balmain 8, UNSW 8.



Kim Mackney receives the Webb Cup from Tony Blower

The **John Sharp Vase** – women's Novice and Under 16 point score – **Leichhardt** 51, Glebe 35, Penrith 20.



John Sharp presents his trophy.

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The **Lea Insurance Brokers Trophy** – women's Novice Scull point score – **Glebe 16, Leichhardt 16, Mosman 12.**



Terry Maher presents the LEA Trophy.

The **Combined Men's & Women's Under 16 Scull \$ 500 BMG Aviation** prize was also awarded to Glebe Rowing Club on 71 points, defeating Mosman on 58 and Leichhardt on 50.



Lake Hanna presents the cheque to Kim Mackney

**BEGINNER OF THE SERIES MEDALLIONS** were presented to Alex Kowcz Rosinke (UNSW) and Jarrah Forbes (Penrith R.C.).



Penrith's Jarrah Forbes receives her medallion

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### **BMG AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS**

Two BMG AVIATION scholarships of \$ 1,000 each were awarded to 2 young aspiring champions. The BMG AVIATION Scholarship recipients for 2015 were **Raquel Cuevas** (Nepean) and **Ashley Nicholls** (Mosman). Congratulations!



Raquel Cuevas receives her Scholarship from BMG Aviation's Blake Hanna



Ashley Nicholls receives his scholarship from BMG Aviation's Blake Hanna

On behalf of the Sharp family and the Committee I would like to thank the many competitors; the Boat Race Officials; Rowing NSW and BMG Aviation for their support and contribution to another successful series.

Liam James  
Convener  
2015 91<sup>st</sup> J.B. Sharp Memorial Regatta Series



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