

Sailing January 17 2010

Summer Series 3

The day started with very light winds. Reports had come in during the week that the pond had weed, the heat bringing more up from the bottom. But before 2pm a north/north-east wind had come in and the main part of the pond was relatively clear.

A course was set that avoided the east side (see photo). Before we started Terry got caught in this and could not sail out of it. It was too far, 5 metres, to reach and the black sticky mud was evil smelling so wading out was not an attractive option. I took my fishing line with a small weight on the end and was able, after several attempts, to throw this between the forestay and mast and get it lodged on his stays so that it, and a ton of weed, could be pulled ashore.

During racing patches of weed were still found by many boats, some seemed to be a magnet for it. I was leading the first race when I caught a patch on the last leg, three boats finished before I could get to shore to clear and make for the line.

No one dominated the racing and 12 of the 13 members that were racing got a first 3 placing in one race or another.

Paul Taylor had two race wins (including the one I led until the last leg undid me), Kevin Webb, Terry O'Neill, John Dowler and Geoff McGill all had one win each.

Overall Bruce Watson had the best total score with 15 after a series of placings around third. Geoff managed to recover with a win in the final race to get a total score of 18 for second. Kevin and Peter both had 20 total for third equal.



Potential member Garrick Rocard, sitting with Peter, has bought a Seawind on TradeMe



Neil sailed his new Kyosho Fairwind instead of his Electron this morning. This new model is built in China of fibreglass. The keel seems more suited to the current state of the pond than the seawind's.

The electronics and servos are enclosed in a waterproof box.

Web Site Update:

I want to thank the members for your gift of vouchers that you gave me. I finally got to the mall and used these to purchase some books on NZ wildlife: insects; spiders; and frogs and reptiles. Cover images on web site.

State of the Pond:



The heat over the last few days has brought more dead weed up, mostly over the east side making the row of buoys there unusable.

Wai-care measurements were taken today by Carol and I. The water temperature was 28 degrees. Results available on the Wai-care web site in due course.

The fountains have been switched off.

From Bob Wallace, Parks and Reserves:

"We are going to remove the nozzles as they are not suitable for the amount of weed and material in the water and replace with a more open type so that pump filters are not needed."

Next Week:

Summer Series round 4.

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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