

Sailing 3 July 2011

Aggregate Match Race Series 7

The wind shifting between east and south-east is not the best for match racing as it is difficult to get a course that is a windward-leeward. Even more so as the windward mark must be kept clear of the shelter given by the bushes in the south-east corner.

Some buoys were recovered and thrown back in, but Ian had given them good weights and it was difficult to throw them sufficiently far to give an effective start line. By using a separate finish line a good course could be set and this helped when keeping two races on the course at a time.

Twelve members were there for the racing, requiring 24 races to be held.

Kevin and I were first up again as the draw will always put the leading two boats in the series up for the first race. As we came up to the line on starboard a wind shift at the start gun meant that a tack was required. Kevin stalled and I managed to sail across his bow on port tack to take the lead which I held to the finish.



Neil leads Ivan at the downwind mark. Ivan eventually won this and his other races.

Carol won one race as did Ian. Ivan and I won all 4 of our races. Geoff McGill won 3 of his 4.

In the overall series, with 5 counting and one discard, Kevin and I are now top equal with identical scores, and Geoff and Ivan 3rd equal.



Paul leading Neil Cullen around the downwind. 45's servo failed and he used the club boat.

Other News:



Miles Addy had sailed with us several years ago. He now works with Daniel 'Bushy' Bush and returned to Onepoto to test out his Wind Warrior and see the Seawinds in action.



He sailed the club boat before the racing started and my spare boat, 01, in the fleet races after match racing was completed.

He is now looking to buy a Seawind of his own.

When he sailed with us he had bought his Seawind from one of the Prada team sailmakers, Mardy Baker, who left after the America's Cup. Later Mardy wanted it back and Miles had to ship it to Valencia.

State of the Pond:

There was a lot of surface scrub on the pond. Initially this was all packed up the north end by the wind but when the wind shifted to the east it blew this down alongside the path to the start line and threatened the downwind mark. It eventually cleared into the other pond.



The Wind:

There were occasional gusts that drove the bows under on the downwind, as shown by Ian's 55 here.

At the other end, the windward mark, the wind sometimes died in the shelter given by the bushes.

A couple of fleet races after the match racing were both won by Geoff.

Overall a good day's sailing.

Next Week(s):

July 10: Winter Series round 6

July 17: Winter Series round FINAL

July 24: Lay Day

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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