

Sailing 18 September 2011

Spring Series round 5

There were rain squalls around, as had been forecast. Only one came through while we were racing, during race 3. After we had left the pond another hit as I drove up the motorway.

Between the squalls the wind was mostly a nice breeze, but sometimes it dropped away to a light drift.



Start of the 3rd race.

Generally the competitors were closely matched with many of the boats forming a large bunch on each leg. Several places could be gained or lost by a move, even on the last short leg to the finish.

Race wins went to Neil Purcell, Kevin Webb with two wins, Geoff McGill, Daniel Bush and John McCaulay.

Carol gets a mention for getting a 3rd place.

Geoff had problems in the first two races with the boat not responding to the helm as required. He identified this as the grub screw working loose letting the rudder flap from side to side and giving poor turning. After he fixed this he rushed ahead in the third race to get a win by a couple of legs on the rest.

Daniel Bush had the best total score for the day of 15. It should have been better but I managed to catch him with a port starboard on the last leg of race 5 and he lost the plot on race 6 and missed a mark while being up with the leading bunch.

Kevin Webb was just one point behind for 2nd while Neil Purcell on 18 was 3rd.

With 3 days racing counted and 2 dropped scores there are now 3 boats in first equal place on a total of 41. These are Geoff McGill, Gary Irwin and Daniel Bush. Kevin Webb is just one point behind on 42.

It could be an exciting finish to the series, and the year's events, with two more race days to go.

Call for Papers.

An 'Upwind' newsletter will be produced in early October. Articles are requested on building, or repairing Seawinds, sailing, racing, tuning, equipment, racing rules or any other subject.



Race 3: Bruce leads away from the bottom mark while six approach (Ivan is behind 12).



Bruce keeps it close while those following take a wide sweep around the mark to ensure there is room inside.



All safely around for the chase to catch Bruce. Geoff was well ahead and out of the pictures, Bruce held his place and finished second.

Divisional Series

There is also just 2 race days left in the current Divisional series. In A division Kevin Webb increases his lead over Bruce and Geoff.

In B Gary Irwin is well ahead of Terry, Ivan and Daniel.

Neil Cullen leads C division with John McCaulay and Carol on equal score in 2nd.

Next Week(s):

September 25: Spring Series 6

October 2: Aggregate Series FINAL

October 9: Spring Series FINAL

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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