

Sailing 19 May 2013

Winter Series Start

It was quite wintery today with strong winds and rain squalls. The wind increased before the rain hit and then as the rain passed away the wind died away to just a breeze.

The westerly made it difficult to set a reasonable windward start so it was decided to have a reach for the first leg to a downwind mark and then zig zagging back up the pond.

The rather short start line set with blue and green for the last aggregate series was used and didn't give any problem as only 8 boats turned out for the first day of the new series and the reaching start had every start on starboard.

There was discussion about whether unpires were required for the small fleet but it was agreed there should be even though it reduced the races to seven boats.



Kevin Webb leads at the top mark, race 2.

John McCaulay won the first race by a large margin. With the wind shifting, getting away from the fleet could result in getting a different wind pattern and stepping away to a large lead.

Neil Purcell won the next 3 races. His umpiring gave him an assessed score of 1 and a total for the day of 8, the top score for the day and lead in the Winter Series.

Geoff McGill won race 5 and Terry O'Neil won the last, Divisional, race.

John McCaulay, Geoff McGill and Kevin Webb all had a score of 11 for 2nd equal place.



Sometimes one cannot get a clean shot without someone walking across the field of view.



In spite of the gusty conditions there weren't too many collisions. This one was the result of rounding a downwind mark and tacking. The two boats locked mast heads and wound up on the far shore.

A squall did bring heavy rain for a short time in the last race but cleared up to allow a fun race that was won by Geoff.

A young lad, Luke, borrowed the club boat and sailed around quite well in spite of having no previous sailing experience. Bruce Watson turned up very late, just in time to join in the fun race with the club boat.

Next Week(s):

May 26: Winter Series 2

June 2: Queen's Birthday - Fun day

June 9:, Winter Series 3

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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