

Sailing 10 November 2013

Summer Series Start

An incident in race 1. Jim Keogh collapsed. He was standing next to Geoff McGill who was ref for the race and Geoff caught him falling and held him while he recovered somewhat. An ambulance was called and Jim was taken away to North Shore Hospital. After racing I called in to check he was recovering and to get his van keys so I could get it taken to a more secure location.

Bruce Watson had already won that race with myself following and Kevin Webb 3rd. I had to collect the finishing position of the rest as Geoff had been rather busy.

Geoff then won the next two races. In race two both Bruce and Pater Andrews hit the finish line mark and had to circulate around, but fortunately for them there was quite a distance back to the next boat so they held the placings.

In race 3 I was leading but had touched the penultimate mark and taking the penalty turn let Geoff through.

Peter Andrews won race 4, starting well and holding off Geoff and Ian Bergquist. Bruce was back, winning race 5 by a huge margin. John Macaulay finally got his boat working properly after it failed in the match race, and took 2nd with myself 3rd.

Geoff, Bruce and I were fighting for the lead most of the way in the final race. At the penultimate mark Bruce and I cleared our weed while Geoff did not and this allowed me to overtake Geoff on the last downwind and take the win.

Geoff was top boat with 7 points, Bruce and I had equal score of 10.

AGM Reports and Minutes



The reports and minutes have been posted to the web site in the NZRYSclub section.

Aggregate Match Race Series

Kevin Webb won the Aggregate Series but is the defender so the next best score is to be the challenger. Geoff McGill and John Macaulay had the same score and so a sail off is required.

They chose to have a best of three and were determined to get this done today, and so started a race. But the boats were not up to it. John had been given a pre-start penalty and took this to leave Geoff leading. On the 2nd lap Geoff's boat failed and the race was abandoned.

A second race had John's boat fail and again an abandonment.

After the series racing they tried again, this time a single race would determine the challenger. Geoff made the better start. John pulled in to shore to clear weed and then started catching up to Geoff but there was not enough race course and Geoff won by a couple of lengths, making him the Match Race Cup challenger, again.

Race Result Analysis

Geoff Atkinson has written in after reading the end of year reports:

"I think the current (and when I say current I really mean for the past many years) competition still favours the top sailors heavily. So you get the same 5 names winning all the 1st, 2nd & 3rd placings for all 4 series. The system is 3 handicap [last one divisional] + 3 scratch races per day. A true handicap system should result in all races ending with the backmarkers catching the new/not so good just on the finish line. So currently with 3 scratch races, the best sailors will always beat the others plus a 50/50 chance of beating them on the other 3 handicap races. The results support this theory."

The discard plays its part in that each boat will count 3 scratch plus 2 handicap or 3 handicap plus 2 scratch races. But I do think that Geoff is correct that the results show a disadvantage to boats not in the top half dozen.

When we reduced the divisions from three to two we reduced the range of handicaps to 0 to 40 seconds. I propose that we rectify this by bringing the range back to 0-60 seconds.

Next Week(s):

November 17: Summer Series 2

November 24: Summer Series 3

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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