

Sailing 3 August 2014

Aggregate Series round 8

In the morning there was very little wind and lots of rain. The Electrons packed up early. Garry found that his jacket was less waterproof than he thought and went off home to get into dry clothes.



When I arrived there was no problem with parking.

Soon after the Electrons left the rain cleared away and the wind came to a nice breeze but this didn't last and by 2pm the breeze had dropped, but there was enough to start racing, during which there were a couple of light showers.

The wind was, at it seemed to be for much of the match racing series, from north of west and shifting. This makes it difficult to set a good windward-leeward course. An extra buoy was put close to the path as the top mark with the far corner red ball as the downwind mark.

Just eight members turned up for the start of racing but John Hinton arrived in time to be added to the draw in the first round. With such wind though we kept 3 races on the course most of the time to ensure we got through all the required races.



The pond level was up over the path.

The first race was John Macaulay and I in a light breeze. I was ahead at the start by just a boat length with John in jeopardy of hitting my transom. At the top mark we were still that close and were side by side on the downwind with pushing and shoving as we gybed to switch right of way. On the next windward John pulled ahead to take the win.

When Ivan Fraser and Carol Bergquist took their places for the start the wind died away even more and they were both late into the start box. Ivan then was stuck on the far end of the line while Carol managed to get enough breeze to cross the line and take a large lead, and eventually the win.



The penultimate race was between Ivan and John Macaulay. As the start counted to zero Ivan managed to get to leeward of John and squeezed him to the start mark. John hit the mark and also caught his keel. With the wind so light he couldn't drift off. I took my boat out and it took several attempts to push him off. Meanwhile Ivan had a huge lead and took the win.

Neil Purcell won all his races to be top boat today. Ivan Fraser, John Macaulay and I had 3 race wins each.

I have moved into first place in the series with John Macaulay 2nd and Kevin Webb, who didn't sail today in 3rd.

We finished the match racing around 3:30 and a simple fleet race was won by John. As we all left the sky started to clear and the sun came out.



[Seawind Express 21](#) from the US-SCOA has been released and on their web site there is a [review](#) and [photo galley](#) of the Seawind Readyset by Mike Eades.

Next Week(s):

August 10: Spring Series 2

August 17: Spring Series 3

August 24: Spring Series 4

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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