

Sailing 12 October 2014

President's Cup Regatta

A slow start to getting the Regatta under way led to it taking until nearly 5pm to complete the racing. Thirteen members were divided into 4 groups by drawing coloured Lego pieces from a box. Ribbons were provided for the colours.

The wind was generally a good strength, occasionally dropping away, sometimes to almost nothing. It was generally South-West but was switching around leading to boats swapping places as some got a lift while others suffered a header.

Neil Purcell had problems with his boat again and took 96, getting two wins and some placings. Tom Clark was having intermittent problems which may be a bad connector. He tried my old 01 for a couple of races and managed to get his boat back in action during a break.

Bruce Watson brought his boat and registered early but had to rush off to the airport. He missed his first race but was back in time for his second while we held up the start for him.

Racing was often very close. With only six or seven boats in each race they would often be clustered with just a few boats lengths covering all the boats and a shift or two could reverse the places. Sometimes though the lead boat would get away. In the penultimate race Neil in 96 was nearly the length of the pond ahead in the first lap but Kevin Webb gradually ran him down and at the finish Kevin threatened to steal the win but Neil was across the line just by just a boat length.

Top scores went to John Macaulay, Neil and Garry Irwin, all on 9 points. This requires a single sail off race between these three (as laid down in the Regatta rules) which will be sailed next week.

Photo Below: Neil, sailing 96, gets around purple on the downwind while the wind dies leaving the rest stranded in race 11.



October 5 – Fun Day

A nice sailing breeze was a welcome change for the members that turned out for a fun day that would have been the Spring series lay day had it been required.

Neil had problems with his servo, he took 96 and did well with a win and places – until he and Brian Stiff collided. Brian's forestay clip failed and his mast came down. It took some time for it to drift ashore for recovery. There was too much drag from the sails for other boats or the tug to be much help. 96 broke its main sheet harness winch, which Neil repaired.

Divisions

Divisions are revised twice a year based on performance in two seasonal series racing. The results of the scratch races give a rating which guides the racing committee to adjust which divisions members are assigned to.

For next year Peter Andrews and Carol Bergquist will move to B division while John Hinton will move to C.



The start of race 9 with Garry over early and is recalled.

Next Week(s):

October 19: Fun Day

October 26: Labour Day Fun Day

November 1 Saturday: AGM 4:30pm

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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