

Sailing 22 February 2015

Autumn Series round 2

In the morning there was a heavy shower that soaked the Electron sailors and sent them home. This also killed the wind such that, up to nearly 2pm, it seemed likely that racing would be abandoned. Not only was there no wind but there was a lot of floating weed and flocks of midges that were not being blown away.

The weed was blamed on a pair of black swans that pull it up but don't eat it all.

But the wind came up to a nice breeze in time to start racing. Initially a very simple course was set but as the wind filled in this was extended, and later changed slightly as the wind swung more northerly.

I made a good start in race 1 and took the lead at the first mark. I increased my lead through to take the win. Kevin Webb and Ian Bergquist fought for the places, finishing in that order.

Race 2 had Terry O'Neil taking a large lead through the first lap but he fell into a hole in the wind and I managed to sail past. On the downwind John Macaulay had also passed Terry and he and I were tacking downwind. John called starboard and hit me, but he was actually on port and took a penalty letting Terry take back 2nd which he held to the finish.

In race 3 I had a flying start and took the lead at mark 1 holding this for the whole lap. I was first to the first mark on the next lap but the wind died for me as I turned and I came away from that mark in last place carrying a penalty. Kevin, John and Carol Bergquist took the win and places.

Terry in race 4 again took a good sized early lead and this time held it to the finish for a win. Kevin and I worked through the fleet together to take the places.

In race 5 most of the fleet came together at the final mark. The leg from bridge to tree was a tight starboard tack, Neil Purcell was leading but had to tack to port to make the mark. Peter Andrews cleared ahead of him, I went around his stern but John collided and stopped. Peter held on to get the win while I was 2nd. John managed 3rd while Neil did his penalties.

In the the Division start race Peter took a large lead and was untroubled for the win while Terry was being run down by John but held on to take 2nd by just 3 lengths.



Peter Andrews leads away on the downwind while Terry tacks to the windward red mark.

My 2 wins plus an assessed win gave me a total of 8 for top boat today plus the lead in the series. Kevin's total of 11 was 2nd top score while Terry was 3rd with 12.

Garrick Rocard Donates 112



Garrick was a member a few years ago and has decided to donate his boat, numbered 112, to the club. It is currently stripped down so I will be putting it together back to sailing condition.

Other Boats on the Pond

The large gas powered speed boat waited until we finished. Its noise drove away the ducks and swans.



Next Week(s):

March 1: Aggregate Match Race 4

March 8: Autumn Series 3

March 15: Autumn Series 4

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

Web site: <http://Azonic.co.nz/NZRY/S/>

Secretary: pfa@Xtra.co.nz