

Sailing 28 June 2015

Winter Series 6

The wind was a nice breeze at the start of racing but it died away towards the end becoming very light for the last race. With the wind again in the South-West a course was set that the same as last week with all starboard roundings in two circuits, only the buoys were changed.

With 17 boats again this week it was well that the start line was sufficiently long to cope with them all. There was a slight bias to the port end but most started by taking the safe option on starboard. Neil Purcell and Tom Clark were two who risked the port end and cleared the fleet.

Last week Savannah 96 had pulled a cleat from the mast and I had fixed it for this week. Dan Leahy had not brought his boat and he raced with 96. I also had fixed 19 which had the electronics fail a couple of weeks ago. It turned out to be the receiver crystal which worked after reseating.

Bruce Watson was the top boat today. He won races 1, 2 and 4 and was 2nd in races 3 and 6 to get a total of 7. This took him to 2nd place in the Winter Series.

Kevin Webb won race 5 and with 2nd and 3rds was 2nd top boat for the day. He holds onto the series lead by a good margin.

John Macaulay won race 6 to be 3rd today while Garry Irwin won race 3.

In race 2 Brian Stiff had taken a good sized lead early in the race and held this most of the way but was run down by Bruce in the last couple of legs but held on for 2nd place.

Carol Bergquist similarly took an early lead in race 6 but was caught by a group. In the light and shifty winds she kept up with the group and fought well to finish in 3rd place.



Toot the Tug:

Last time out Toot had failed but it worked when tested on shore. I tried it out again today. It went fine initially but when I started manoeuvring and went into reverse it stopped and wouldn't restart. Neil pushed it back to shore (photo) and I eventually found the problem. The nut

at the front of the prop shaft tube was loose and when going into reverse it tightened and locked the shaft to the tube. Some 'Locktite' is required.

B and C Division Match Race Cup



Before series racing we held a few match races. First off were Mike McCaw, with a new boat (left), and Trevor Shoebridge in the C Division semi-final. The two boats were side by side on the upwind but Mike pulled ahead and eventually won giving him the win in the best of 3 series. He will now race Brian Stiff in the C series final.

Next off were Terry O'Neill and Ian Bergquist in the B series semi-final. This time Ian took the win squaring the series with the winner of the next race going through to the final against Tom Clark

Then Kevin Webb and I sailed another race, the 4th, in the **Match Race Cup Series 2014** which has not had the attention it should have been given. It was close at the top mark with me getting around ahead. On the downwind we were side by side and Kevin rounded ahead. The next downwind we were side by side again and I took Kevin well to the right before turning to the mark. Kevin got back with an inside overlap to round ahead and went on a starboard tack while I tacked away on port and got a lift so that I could be on starboard when we met to force Kevin to take another tack and I crossed to win by a nose.



After series racing Kevin and I held the 5th race in dying winds. At the start Kevin forced me above the line and as I turned back I touched the start mark but as Kevin also touched the mark the penalty was cleared. The winds were not only light but very shifty and we swapped lead all the way to the top mark which I rounded first. The next windward also had us swapping lead on each shift but at the top mark I fell into hole and Kevin raced away for the win to lead 3-2 in the best of 9 series.

Next Week(s):

July 5: Aggregate Match Race 7

July 12: Winter Series FINAL

July 19: Lay Day - un day

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

Web site: <http://Azonic.co.nz/NZRYSL>

Secretary: pfa@Xtra.co.nz