

Sailing 7 August 2016

Aggregate Match Race Series 8

The wind was very cold but the sun was out. The wind was from the south-west and so we could set the longest course available in the pond for a simple windward-leeward. It was shifty and variable which put a premium on being able to pick the shifts.

With the early draw boats at the pond we were able to start ahead of time. Kevin and I were first up and we agreed to also count this race as a Match Race Cup 2015 race as we have been rather slack at getting on with that series.

We made an even start, but Kevin edged ahead when I went to the centre of the pond where there was a hole. I closed up on the downwinds but it was Kevin's race.

In the race between Bruce Watson and Tom Clark there was a collision at a mark and Bruce's boat was responding oddly. The rudder had been reversed and this made it difficult to control. Bruce retired.



After the race between Simon Adamson and I, I adjusted his sails to better handle the conditions. This seemed to be successful as he later beat Bruce in the final round (photo left during prestart).

Kevin was top boat today with 4 wins. He is clear ahead in the series with

just one more race day to be sailed. Terry O'Neill, Reuben Muir and I had 3 wins each.



above: The start of Brian Stiff and Neil Purcell while Hans Koerselman sails to lap 2..

right: Simon Adamson leads Ivan Fraser.

The State of the Pond

After several weeks of rain the salinity of the pond is down to almost zero and a few bits of weed showed up. Once we get some dry weather it should only take a week or so to bring the SG back to kill off the growth.

Apparently, last month, when the pond was up over the path, a boy was riding an electric scooter through the water over the path and went off the edge.

Match Race Cup 2015

With Kevin winning the first race today, we decided that we could have another couple of races after the Aggregate Series.

In the next race I hit the mark at the start and was trailing. I was distracted by Hans with his mast down and my boat hooked up on a buoy. Kevin waited while I unhooked but I was too far behind so another win to Kevin.



In the last race today I got a good start but Kevin took the best course and went ahead. At the final windward mark I closed up and was on starboard so I could get around ahead and a gust took me to a good sized lead on the downwind (photo left).

Kevin closed the gap at

the downwind mark but I held on for the win.

Kevin Webb: 2, Richard Plinston: 2.



Richard Plinston, President NZRYS.

Next Week(s):

August 14: Spring Series 3

August 21: Spring Series 4

August 28: Spring Series 5

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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