

Sailing 31 July 2016

Spring Series 2

Another weekend of storms and rain. The forecast was was more showers too. There was no sign of the Electrons when I arrived and I don't think that they sailed today.

But the weather wasn't too bad, just after midday it was gusting to 10 knots and moderated after that. There was a short shower before racing and then there was some blue sky and sun.

The course was set as, more or less, the same as last week with just a couple of buoy changes as the wind was slightly more south of west.

I dropped my transmitter just before 2pm, and it must have fallen on the rudder stick because that was no longer working. The stick was loose and rattled. I took the boat back to the car and fetched my old backup number 1. The delay gave Bruce Watson a chance to get into the first race after turning up late.

Simon Adamson is back sailing with us, after several years, with his boat Team NZ 82.

In race 1 I was away to a good start taking the lead at the first mark and running away on the downwind. I held this for quite a while but Bruce ran me down to take the win, with Ian Bergquist coming through for 3rd.

Race 2 had Neil Purcell using his handicap well and getting a large lead on the rest of the fleet that proved insurmountable. Neill took the win with John Macaulay and Bruce fighting for the places.

Reuben Muir got his boat going well in race 3 but not quite enough to catch Bruce who had his 2nd win. Neil had his sheets caught and had to bring his boat ashore to clear them but completed the race.

It was John's turn for a win in race 4. Neil had taken an early lead with Ian close by but were run down by John with Bruce taking 3rd.

I tried a port end start in race 5 and cut across ahead of the starboard tack boats to lead with Neil close behind. Halfway around the 2nd lap we were side by side but with one shift on a windward I could tack while Neil bore away and that gave me sufficient lead to take the win, Neil 2nd with John, Reuben and Bruce fighting for 3rd place.

In the divisional start the wind faded letting the A division catch up quickly. John had tried a port end start but the wind was different and this didn't work well for him. Simon had taken the early lead but John, I and Bruce had passed him and were close approaching the final mark in that order. John turned to windward around the mark and I turned sharply inside him. Bruce turned inside me and claimed a penalty on me.

I pulled out from the middle of the trio leaving them stalled, sailed to the finish and around the mark to complete the penalty and still take the win.

Bruce was top boat and leads the series but will be away for the next 5 weeks overseas.

Battery Box substitute

On my usual boat the battery box broke off and I didn't feel like pulling the boat apart to replace it. That was a couple of years ago and I still haven't done that. Instead I use a clothes peg to hold the battery to the mast.



The battery is dropped to the bottom of a zip bag and this is rolled up and secured with a strong rubber band. The peg is put through the band so that the bag opening is down when fixed in the boat.



The battery is insert into the starboard side with the peg around the mast support, its legs jammed on the main servo.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS.

Next Week(s):

August 7: Aggregate Match Race 8

August 14: Spring Series 3

August 21: Spring Series 4

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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

Secretary: pfa@Xtra.co.nz