

## Sailing 6 March 2016

### Aggregate Match Racing 4

There was very little wind for the Electrons in the morning, and, I was told, it switched from Northerly to Southerly. But it picked up in the afternoon and was sometimes a good sailing breeze, though this varied quite a bit with time or place.

At one point the wind swung marked south-westerly and so the course was changed to go to 'tree', but after a couple of race starts it went back to south and the course was reset.

We could start early as the first few contestants in the draw were at the pond. Keeping 2 or 3 races on the course ensured that we got through the 22 races even though some took a while when the wind dropped.



Tom Clark made a mistake when attacking John Macaulay during the pre-start. Tom was on starboard, but so was John and Tom was the windward boat.

John won that race.

Mike McCaw (below, right) has the drop on Peter Andrews in their race. Mike won that.



No one won all their races, John Macaulay, Kevin Webb, Bruce Watson and George Stead won 3 each, Kevin continues to lead in the series by 2 points from a group of three.

A fleet race around a triangular course was held after completion of the match races. This used the same top mark but it was to be taken on the port hand after it had been used starboard for the match races. Half the fleet tried to go around the wrong way. The race was run by Bruce Watson who had led from the start.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS.

## State of the Pond



The days have been hot and this has brought some scum to the surface. With the southerly wind this has been blown into the top corner.



The worst, though, was that the water was over the path and scum and mud had been left and it smelled quite bad.

I checked the weir gates and the water was an inch higher than the top of the boards and was flowing out as it was low tide. The gate level is too high. The

SG was down to 1.005 so the salt level is still dropping. With the fountains not running, and the water not being changed, the oxygen level is most likely very low. The water quality is deteriorating and weed may start growing.

John and I went to the flap valves and dropped a chain behind the valve to get the high tides to leak into the pond. We then went to the weir and removed the top board to drop the level down by 3 inches (75mm). The inflow should keep the average level just below the curbs, but, more importantly, the inflow should raise the salt and oxygen quantity.

If any body goes to the pond during the week could they send me an email of the time and water level so that I can track this.

### Other Member's News

Member Reuben Muir won the [NZ National Paragliding championship](#) last week. This explains why he hasn't been at the pond lately.

### Next Week(s):

**March 13: Autumn Series 4**

**March 20: Autumn Series 5**

**March 27: Easter - fun day**

**New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron**

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