

Sailing 13 March 2016

Autumn Series 4

In the morning, the wind shifted around and was quite light. By lunchtime it had settled to being Northerly and was a nice breeze.

The course evolved in several steps, and eventually settled into one that worked quite well.

In race 1 Bruce Watson and Tome Clark got away to a good start and led most of the way. Tom went too close to a buoy and caught it while Bruce went past to take the win. I had worked through the fleet and earned 3 penalties in various ways, which I took, but the boat was going well and I managed to get 2nd with Neil Purcell just behind. Mike McCaw just missed the podium.

In the next, handicap, race, Carol Bergquist held the lead for a while but I, Bruce and John Macaulay, starting last, overhauled the fleet to take the win and places. At one point Tom took the lead but wound up on another buoy for a short while.

Race 3 had George Stead and Tom vying for the lead in the first lap (photo below). John (rounding mark) and Bruce (approaching mark) ran them both down in the 2nd lap to take 1st and 2nd with George 3rd.

Tom finally missed all the buoys in race 4 and went through to take the win. Neil and George getting placed.

George then won the next two races. Bruce got his third 2nd place and Peter Andrews took 3rd in race 5, Neil had another 2nd place in the final race while John and I tussled for 3rd, I had managed to block John a few metres from the line, tacked and accelerated away but after he tacked I had not kept clear. I crossed first but had to do a penalty turn and recrossed behind.

George was top boat today and now leads the series. I was 2nd, Bruce 3rd.

State of the Pond



I switched on the fountains today, and off when I left. The changes made last week are working with the level coming up to just over the path a couple of hours after high tide and dropping back down around 75mm. That is 800 tonnes of water each way each tide. The salt level is double that of last week with the SG just over 1.010.



Race 3 start (left) and first mark (below) in lighter winds with Tom rounding first.



Richard Plinston, President NZRYS.

Next Week(s):

March 20: Autumn Series 5

March 27: Easter - fun day

April 3: Aggregate Match Race 5

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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