

# Sailing 11 September 2016

## Spring Series 6

The wind was almost non-existent this morning. The Electrons abandoned before noon. The wind did occasionally pick up but was all over the place. We eventually set a course that seemed to fit the majority but occasionally the windward legs became downwinds.

John Macaulay won the first two races today. In the first race he took the lead early on with Neil Purcell and Garry Irwin taking the places.

Race 2 was the same result but with the handicap start John had to catch the earlier starters and it was only in the final stages that John took the lead.

Race 3 (photo foot of page 1<sup>st</sup> leg) had Peter Andrews taking the lead and stepping out to large lead (photo below) to take the win. Neil had another 2<sup>nd</sup>, John 3<sup>rd</sup>.



I made a small adjustment to my sails and, after trailing in the first races, in race 4 I took a large lead and was untroubled through to the finish. Unfortunately it didn't last and I was back to trailing the remaining races. Simon Adamson also showed good pace to get 2<sup>nd</sup>. John another 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Because of time constraints the last two races were single lap. Neil won both of these. Kevin Webb finally got a placing with a 2<sup>nd</sup>, John got another 3<sup>rd</sup>

The divisional race had reduced handicaps but the B division took all the top spots with Peter and Simon 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The A division could not catch any of them.

Neil Purcell was top boat today with 8 point from two wins and 3 seconds. John was 2<sup>nd</sup> on 11 points and 3 boats had 17 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> equal: Simon Adamson, Kevin Webb and Peter Andrews.

John leads the series with just one race day left and Neil holds his close 2<sup>nd</sup>. I have moved up to a distant 3<sup>rd</sup>.

In the divisional series I hold the lead in A, Neil leads B. In C division the top 3 are separated by just 1 point each, so this will be decided by who turns up next week.

## State of the Pond

The salt level is staying too low with an SG of only 0.003. I opened the flap valve to get some salt water in and I intended to drop the level by removing one of the weir gate boards, which are 75mm each, but the padlocks on the hatch are frozen so I couldn't get into the chamber.



This has resulted in the pond coming up over the path, and will do so every high tide until the locks are cut off.

The four ducklings have survived to be big enough to no longer be threatened by the gulls and eels. Another two new batches - of 5 and 12 - were around today.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS.

## Next Week(s):

**September 18: Spring Series FINAL**

**September 25: Lay Day**

**October 2: Aggregate Match FINAL**

**New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron**

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