

# Sailing 22 January 2017

## Autumn Series Start

There was heavy rain and high winds overnight. The pond was over the path in the morning and the winds were still strong.



Photo left shows Neil's Electron driving its bows under this morning.

I had recorded 24 kph at lunchtime and it was still very gusty just before 2pm when a rain squall came through. After this the wind moderated somewhat and

we made a late start to the racing. There was a short shower before race 5.

The wind had blown quite a bit of leaves and branches into the pond and this caused some problems for most of the boats. In one race I picked up large bits 3 times, one had stopped me dead and it was very slow getting to the path with a branch attached.

A course was set with 3 windward legs at slightly different angles to ensure that shifting winds didn't turn them all into reaches. With only 8 members we didn't have referees and Reuben's daughter recorded the results.



Garry Irwin with 64 (photo left during a calmer patch) was top boat with a string of 2<sup>nd</sup> places and a 3<sup>rd</sup> giving him a total of 11.

Bruce Watson with 33 (in background of photo left) won race 1 and with a string of 3<sup>rd</sup> places had a total of 14 for 2<sup>nd</sup> today.

Neil Purcell won races 2 and 4. His total of 15 was 3<sup>rd</sup> today. Reuben Muir won races 3 and 6. Kevin Webb won race 5.



## Stolen Yacht

Last tuesday at Onepoto Neil Purcell had his Dragonforce RG65 stolen from the back of his car while he was sailing his Seawind on the pond. They also took the transmitter which was under the seat.

## Life of the Pond



A New Zealand dabchick was in the pond today. This is a small grebe that dives, feeding on the bottom for insects and small fish.

A large number of seagulls had come inland to the domain sheltering from the storm. There was also a small group of pied stilts flying around noisily and settling on the grass.



*The wind blew very hard last night. We hope no one was using it at the time.*

**Richard Plinston, President NZRYS**

## Next Week(s):

**January 29: Anniversary Regatta**

**February 5: Waitangi Day - fun day**

**February 12: Aggregate Match Race 3**

**New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron**

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