

Sailing 9 July 2017

Winter Series FINAL

There had been thunderstorms and heavy rain over night and the forecast was for more rain, which we got. At least there was plenty of parking. When a shower came through there was a good breeze but afterwards the wind died away, sometimes to nothing.

The Yellow buoy by the bridge had been getting lower and lower in the water so Neil Purcell and I went to recover it. It was quite strongly buried in the mud but eventually I pulled it free. It had some



freshwater mussels on the line which I pulled off, but it must have some water in the buoy as it is still low.

With the wind generally westerly the course was set to tree blue and then bridge yellow with a zigzag in the main arm. For race 3 there was very little wind at the start and so the course was shortened cutting off the blue and yellow. The rest used the long course as the wind improved, at least at the start.

In race 1 Neil took the lead for the first lap but lost his way on the 2nd windward and I managed to take over and lead around the final mark, but I tried to cover both Reuben Muir and Kevin Webb who followed me and this failed with those two getting to the line ahead.

In race 2, a handicap start, the early starters got away with Phillip Brain holding the lead all the way to take the win with Neil 2nd and Ian Power 3rd.

Next Week(s):

July 16: Lay day

July 23: Spring Series START

July 30: Spring Series 2

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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Race 3 was a shortened course (photo foot of page). Reuben took the lead at the first mark and increased this lead with just Kevin looking like he might catch him. Neil 3rd.

Race 4 was back to the long course but the wind died at the top end to the disadvantage of the higher handicapped boats. All boats had bunched up between the yellow and basket ball when a gust hit. I got around cleanly and raced away on the reach while several collided, holding up the rest. Kevin and Reuben brought up some wind from behind and caught me. I was behind these two at the final mark but in the last few metres managed to be on starboard to catch Reuben and push him back to 3rd.

Race 5 gave Reuben another win, Neil 2nd and Phillip held on for 3rd.

The final, divisional start, race was another where the wind died at the first mark. I got a small breeze by the path and was first around the top mark (photo below: I lead on the far side while Neil rounds first mark).



Neil caught me through the zigzag and got the inside overlap at the final mark to take the win.

Reuben was top boat today with 3 wins and 9 points, enough to get 2nd in the series. Neil was 2nd with 1 win and 12 points. This gave Neil his first series win. Kevin Webb was 3rd from 1 win and 14 points. Phillip Brain won a race.

Winter Series Results:

1 st	Neil Purcell	47
2 nd	Reuben Muir	51
3 rd =	Tom Clark	52
3 rd =	Bruce Watson	52

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

