

# Sailing 17 December 2017

## Summer Series 6

It was hot today. The northerly wind was a good strength but it was very shifty at times.

In race 1 Kevin Webb, Neil Purcell and Ian Power got a good lead on the rest of the fleet. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> lap I managed to catch up to these 3 who had been swapping the lead between them. At the final mark the 4 of us were close together. Kevin held onto port tack while we 3 tacked to starboard with me trapped between the other two. I managed to pull clear and tacked to the line but Kevin was aiming for the far end and took the win. I was 2<sup>nd</sup>, Neil 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Race 2 was a handicap start which left Kevin and I last to start. Ian Power and Laurie Glover swapped the lead for the first lap. I was able to work through the fleet and approaching the final mark I was just a few lengths behind Ian when he broached in a gust and this let me through to get the win while Bruce Watson was also able to pass to get 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ian recovered to be 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Peter Andrews had a stay break on his boat so he took mine while I reefed. He stormed the first leg (photo at foot of page) to get a good size lead. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> lap Kevin caught Peter and passed and then ran away on the downwind. At the penultimate mark Peter was still 2<sup>nd</sup> but Tom Clark was on starboard and they collided and locked masts, drifting to the far side. This let Neil and Wayne Carkeek through for the places.

Race 4 benefited the early starters and it was a group of Tom, Terry O'Neill, Ian Power and Laurie that led most of the way with Bruce managing to get amongst them to take 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tom won, Terry 2<sup>nd</sup>. Wayne, George Stead and Neil were the leading group in race 5. Tom had another collision, this time with Laurie and they locked masts and drifted off to the side. Wayne won, I managed to hold off Kevin and when Neil faltered on the final leg I snatched 3<sup>rd</sup> from him.

In the final race Kevin took the win with Terry and Peter getting the places.

With 3 wins Kevin was top boat today and takes the lead in the series with 1 more day to sail. I was 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1 win and have been pushed back to 2<sup>nd</sup> in the series. Neil and Terry were 3<sup>rd</sup> equal.

## State of the Pond



With the heat, the scum from the bottom floated up. Initially the wind was southerly and it was all blown to the top end, but around midday it switched to northerly and then it all blew back over the whole pond. It had mostly gone into the other pond by the time we started racing. I took Wayne down to the weir gate, fountain pump and flap valves to show him how the pond worked.

## Last Week

When the wind died away almost completely Wayne took some photos which he sent to me. The water was so still that the reflections were almost perfect. He had inverted one photo which gave it a surreal look as it had been taken from below.



**Richard Plinston, President NZRYS**

**Next Week(s):**

**December 24: Christmas break**

**December 31: New Year break**

**January 7: Aggregate Match Race 2**

**New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron**

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