

Sailing 5 November 2017

Summer Series START

The wind was very light at times but mostly adequate for racing. It swung between North-West and South-West but Terry and Bruce set a course that coped well.

In race 1 I got away to lead around mark 1 and stretched out that lead with Tom Clark closing the gap. In lap 2 I sailed into lighter winds and some boats closed up on me. Tom got close but was caught out by a shift and Neil Purcell came through. At the final mark I tacked to port and Neil, close behind, held onto starboard and got better wind while I have to thread through the fleet going the other way. Neil got the win.

In race 2 my jib sheet tangled at the start. I had to get back to shore to clear it, by which time the fleet was nearly to mark 1, but they had no wind. I caught a breeze and rushed up and passed some of those becalmed and took the lead around mark 2, holding this all the way to the final mark, Bruce Watson was by now close behind and he takes a better course to snatch the win from me.

Race 3 had Wayne Carkeek racing away to a good lead which he held for the first lap, but Bruce overtook and got the win with Wayne 2nd. Neil won races 1 and 4. Tom Clark won the last two races and was top boat today. Bruce was 2nd today from his two wins in races 2 and 3. Kevin Webb and I were 3rd equal.

Photo below: Race 3 mark 2. Wayne is well away out of the picture, Bruce (left) chasing. John (2nd left) trying to get buoy room.

Next Week(s):

November 12: Summer Series 2

November 19: Summer Series 3

November 26: Summer Series 4

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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Buoys

I had thrown in a new blue buoy at the top end of the pond last week, but it was too close to shore so Neil sailed a line around it and we pulled it to a better position.



I had three new buoys made by Ian Bergquist. One replaced 'Candy' (above) which needed restoring. The concrete weight is breaking up, it has copious mussels, the ring bolt has worn and the chain is rusted and wearing out. The two other buoys were thrown in by Wayne on the far side then one was roped and dragged to the middle of the pond. Wayne also recovered 'purple', which is now a dirty brown, which he will restore too.

The sinking of Prada 1

A week after Gary's 68 went down, I was sailing Prada 1 at a mark when another, unnamed, turned to the mark and went up on my deck pressing it down. The hatch must have been dislodged because the boat sank with just the tip of the mast showing. It couldn't be hooked with a throwing line and I had to go home to fetch a dingy. This required me to build a roof rack for it. The mast tip was still visible so it was easy to recover. The sail servo failed but all else OK.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS



Above: Wayne still leads, Bruce chases.

