

Sailing 7 January 2018

Aggregate Match Race Series 2

The wind was swinging between west to south. It did settle down to mostly be south-west. A temporary buoy was thrown out to get a better start line and this was recovered afterwards with some interference from other boats running into, or almost, the line.

Seven members were there at the start with another arriving for later rounds.

First up was Neil Purcell and I. Neil was given a penalty for a port/starboard and then another one before the start. This left him too far behind. He won his other 3 races though.

Wayne Carkeek had one of his Carbon boats today. He has reinforced it inside at the bow and around the shroud plates. The deck is painted black so it is black overall.



In his race with Laurie Glover the two reached the top mark together (photo above) with Laurie to windward and having the inside overlap but, unfortunately, a gust and Laurie rounded up went the wrong side and had to re-round letting Wayne take the lead and the win (photo above left).

In my race against Hans Koerselman I was on starboard at the zero count and managed to force Hans away from the line while I tacked and started. Later, on the downwind, Hans getting more wind from behind and was catching but he went too close to a buoy and caught it. He came off quickly but it had killed his speed.

In the race between Wayne and John Hinton, Wayne was leading but suddenly the boat went to the path and rode up on it. Wayne pushed it off but then noticed the cause was that the jib sheet has come away. With difficulty he brought it back to shore and reattached the clip, eventually getting the win.

I won all my races today which puts me in the series lead. Wayne, Neil and Terry O'Neil each won 3 races.

As we finished racing early, some fleet races were sailed including some swapping of boats.

State of the Pond

I was concerned that the rising temperature of the pond during summer would bring algal growth. This has been countered in the last few years, since 2007, by raising the salt content of the pond. This is done by having the flap valves leak so that salt water comes in during high tides, the excess water flowing out at low tide. This was currently not sufficient, the amount of flow having decreased over the years.

Neil and I went to investigate. I had prepared a shorter board to replace the top board of the weir gate so that the pond level was dropped about 3 to 4 cm, then increasing the flow through the flap valves wouldn't flood the paths too much.

However, it proved impossible to shift the top board and this may need some leverage later. The flap valve padlock had also seized.

Later, I returned with WD40 and managed to get the flap valve chamber open. I adjusted the chain which seemed to have rusted away over the years. A few days afterwards I measured the SG at a satisfactory 1.016 and the paths weren't being flooded too badly.



Last two weeks

A small number of members turned out for the fun days. Neil had his IOM V8 which sailed nicely. I had changed the radio gear on the club tug and took it to try out. It was brought into use when a small boy kicked out at a

duck being fed by mother. His shoe came off into the pond. We tried to push it with sail boats but I fetched the tug and this brought it to shore.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

Next Week(s):

January 14: Summer Series FINAL

January 21: Autumn Series START

January 28: Anniversary Weekend Regatta

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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