

Sailing 14 January 2018

Summer Series FINAL

With the wind north-east we used much the same course as had been left on the board from the previous day of this series.

In race 1 Bruce Watson, John Macaulay and I broke away from the fleet and were swapping leads. Around the final mark John was leading and I was right behind him. Bruce held onto port tack while John and I tacked and were side by side approaching the line. Bruce had headed to the far finish line mark and got there to take the win by a length, John 2nd.



In race 2 Laurie Glover had a good sized lead around the first lap. Photo left show Laurie in the lead about to round 'basketball' on far side, the last mark of the lap, while George Stead is halfway to it. Between them Neil Purcell and John have collided on the previous leg to 'lime green' and will drift off to the shore locked together. At the same point on the 2nd lap (photo left) George has passed Laurie and is well ahead and at the final mark, Laurie is still holding off Bruce at 'lime green' but this will change and Laurie was pushed back to 3rd place.



Race 3 had Neil going out to a large lead that was unchallenged. Bruce and Hans Koerselman had collided before the start. They locked together and drifted to shore (photo below) where Bruce recovered them in spite of his broken arm. This photo also shows Kevin leading Terry O'Neill on the leg to 'lime green' ahead of the rest of the fleet. I eventually managed to pass Terry to get another 3rd place.



Race 4 had Neil showing his speed again while the early starters were not able to benefit when the wind dropped away. George and I swapped position as we worked through the fleet and eventually George pushed me back to another 3rd place.

Race 5 was won by George with Neil 2nd and Bruce 3rd. John had some problems and withdrew. It didn't seem to be easily fixable and he didn't start in the final race.

The final, divisional start, race was led by Terry for most of the race but Neil was fast again and took the lead half way through the 2nd lap to take his 3rd win. I had been last at some point but managed to do well on the windwards to get yet another 3rd place.

Hans had a problem with his boat during the race, his sail servo was not responding. This made it difficult to control and he collided with a couple of boats and eventually decided to retire before affecting more.

During the downwind to 'Tree Blue' 3 boats, one after another, suddenly slowed and dipped their bow. There was some slime on my keel after the race so it was thought that it was a slow learning eel that had got in the way.

George, with 2 wins today, and Neil were equal top boat with 10 points. Bruce was 3rd on 13 points after 1 win.

In the series Kevin Webb won but Neil had pushed me back to 3rd place as he improved to within 2 points of Kevin.

Summer Series Results:

1 st	Kevin Webb	45
2 nd	Neil Purcell	47
3 rd	Richard Plinston	49

The **Divisional Series**, part 1, is halfway through and has Kevin Webb leading A Division, Tom Clark, in spite of not sailing today, still leads B Division by 1 point ahead of Neil Purcell. C Division has Laurie Glover taking the lead from Ian Power, who also missed racing today.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

Next Week(s):

January 21: Autumn Series START

January 28: Anniversary Weekend Regatta

February 4: Waitangi weekend - fun day

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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