

Sailing 9 September 2018

Spring Series 6

It was rough today with strong cold wind that was shifting, gusting and varying.

Eleven members were there for the racing and Brian Stiff turned out without his boat because he has just had a shoulder replacement. He umpired a couple of racing but it was too cold to stay.

Race 1 had Kevin Webb and Reuben Muir rushing off to a large lead over the rest, Kevin taking the win by a length or two while, eventually, Wayne Carkeek was 3rd.

Those 3 also took **race 2**, though the order was different with Reuben winning, Wayne 2nd. There were four DNFs due to strong gusts and collisions (see next column).

Race 3 was also won by Reuben with a large margin. Photo below has Reuben well out of frame ahead. Ian Power, standing right has returned from his trip to Europe. Bruce Watson and Neil Purcell took the places.



In **race 4** Ian had soon taken a large lead and was soon a couple of leg ahead all the way to the win. I led the rest and, though I was almost caught on the downwind, was able to open up a good lead to be 2nd. Laurie Glover 3rd.

Race 5 had Kevin and Reuben back on the podium, this time with John Macaulay finishing between them.

Laurie Glover took an early lead in the final, **divisional, race**. He opened up a large lead followed by Terry O'Neill. Reuben chased Laurie down and got within a couple of boat lengths in the last couple of legs. Terry held off John and Kevin to get 3rd.

Reuben Muir was top boat today with two race wins and a total of 9 points. He increases his lead in the series. Kevin Webb also had two wins and his score of 12 was 2nd today. Kevin is 2nd in the series. John Macaulay was 3rd today. Other wins today went to Ian Power and Laurie Glover. Next week is the series final.



A gust hit and Neil and Laurie collided (photo left) with 15's bow under 6's hull. As can be seen 15's forestay failed with the clip being straightened and the mast fell down. It was eventually recovered.



Foster Watkinson also had his mast collapse (above). This time it seemed to be a problem of using fine fishing line that was too light. His boat was not drifting ashore and a group of boats shepherded it to the path (photo below).



Other Sailing - Autonomous Atlantic

For the first time an autonomous sailing robot has completed the Microtransat Challenge by crossing the Atlantic from Newfoundland, Canada to Ireland. The Microtransat has been running since 2010 and has seen 23 previous entries all fail to make it across. The successful boat, SB Met was built by the Norwegian company Offshore Sensing AS and is only 2 metres (6.5 ft) long. It completed the crossing on August 26th, 79 days and 5000 km (3100 miles) of sailing after departing Newfoundland on June 7th.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

Next Week(s):

September 16: Spring Series FINAL

September 23: Lay day

September 30: Aggregate Match Race FINAL

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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