

Sailing 10 March 2019

Autumn Series 4

There was wind from south-west, mostly of a good strength. The course used the whole length of the pond. The start line was adjusted to give a bias to the port end to try to spread the boats out along the line rather than all trying to start at the starboard end.

I had sailed Prada 1 for some time during work-up, but when I launched it for the first race it lost power and went off to the far shore. So that I didn't hold up the racing, or miss out, I took 101 which had been switched on already. During the race Kevin Webb's rudder failed so he fetched 1, checked it out, and used it in race 2. It failed again during the race so he took club boat 112.

Race 1 had George Stead taking the early lead but Bruce Watson worked through the fleet to take the win with Neil Purcell third.



Initially in **Race 2** it was Terry O'Neill that took the lead with Ian Power close behind. Ian took the lead approaching the first mark (above) and held this most of the way. At the penultimate mark Ian went towards the finish instead of to the



final mark and this gave Terry the chance to grab the lead in the final leg (photo above). Ian was able to out-tack Terry, catching him on port and forcing Terry to tack and slow down while he rushed to take the win. George had been closing on the pair and was a close third.

I tried a port end start along with Kevin (with 112) in **race 3** and this was helped by a wind shift that took the two of us out to a large lead while the wind then died away for the bulk of the fleet. Keviin and I were then untroubled for the rest of the race while it was Terry and Ian that led the rest, Terry getting third.

Race 4 was a handicap start but the wind died on the first leg allowing the fleet to bunch up. Bruce, George and Ian got through to lead away as a close bunch on the downwind. I was next and was able to sail wide and pass them to lead all the way to the final mark. I then had to protect against the three which had closed but I chose the wrong path and finished fourth.

Race 5 was George and Ian all the way with me chasing a couple of lengths behind.

The divisional start **race 6** had Wayne Carkeek taking the lead halfway in the first lap. A collision between Neil, George and Foster Watkinson left Foster on the shore. Bruce took the lead with Ian and George close behind. At the penultimate mark Bruce tacked in front of a boat on starboard and was given a penalty. Taking that penalty let Ian, George and Wayne through.

George was top boat today on 10 with Ian 1 point behind and Bruce with 1 more.

The Secretary's Corner

I had a call from a film maker who is using the pond for commercial purposes 18-23 March. Wanted to get footage of boats on the pond, also owners holding the boats. The advert is something about joining people 'together' whatever that means. She was talking about coloured sails which they'd pay for. They'd also pay the 'actors' involved. She said the Seawind is probably too big for what they plan. As it was mid-week I referred her onto Neil.

Mike Renner

Rachel turned up to talk to us about the project with some drawings of what they wanted. They may do some filming on Tuesday 19th morning when the Ancient Mariners are there.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

Next Week(s):

March 17: Autumn Series 5

March 24: Autumn Series 6

March 31: Autumn Series FINAL

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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