

Sailing 10 November 2019

Summer Series START

It didn't feel much like summer. In the morning it looked quite bright with a strong wind. On the way to the pond there was a very heavy rain shower and this killed the wind. It picked up to a light northerly breeze by the start of sailing. In race 3 another heavy shower arrived and this killed the wind completely and we had to wait for it to come back before starting race 4.

Ten members turned out for the racing with the last two turning up just as we were about to start race 1. Andy Spierer had forgotten his hatch but managed to borrow a spare one.



In **race 1** I made a good start and kept to the centre of the course to pick up a breeze that gave me a good lead (photo above) chased by George Stead. On lap 2 the wind died on the windward and some boats caught me up with George passing before I got the wind back.

I had my jib sheet catch in **race 2** so after starting late I had to go to shore to clear it. By working the shifts in the light winds I soon caught up to the leaders and into lap 2 I was leading with Reuben Muir close behind and held this to the finish, Terry O'Neill 3rd.

I led around the first mark in **race 3** just ahead of Mike Renner. Then the heavy rain came down. Bruce Watson and Foster Watkinson pulled out and went home with wet electronics. My sail servo started playing up and failed to respond to the transmitter so I had to sail downwind with the sails close in and sometime fluttering out but I held the lead even on the windwards with my sails not fully in. On the short windward in lap 2 the wind died away to nothing and a 'current' took boats past the mark with George and Laurie Glover passing me. On the final leg, still with no sail control, I passed Laurie to be 2nd and was just half a length short of taking the win from George.

I swapped to my spare 101 for **race 4** and the rest. The wind died completely and we had to wait ten minutes for it to return.

Laurie and Terry were able to hold off the others most of the way but Terry and a couple of others rounded the wrong mark (orange instead of pink) and had to go back. Reuben and George were able to get past Laurie.

Race 5 and I led again at the first mark but Reuben was close behind and passed me on the downwind. I held onto his transom for the rest of lap 1 but on the next long downwind a gust had him bounding away. Terry got another 3rd place.

Andy Spierer was another to get problems with the electronics with his sail servo twitching and cutting out.

The **final race** with its divisional start had Rick Royden getting away to take his first series win. Reuben and George worked through the fleet to lead the rest but George had a penalty and did this just before the finish letting Mike take 3rd with Laurie just behind.



Race 6: Rick well to the left, Laurie in background

Reuben Muir was top boat with 10 points from two wins. **I** was 2nd from one win and 12 points. **George Stead** 3rd on 13 with two wins. **Rick Royden** had one win.



Members

Rick Royden (left) is a new member that started sailing with us towards the end of the last series.

He started sailing a new Readysset but has now added to that with Lloyd Beehre's UK flag boat now numbered 234 on new sails.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

Next Week(s):

November 17: Summer Series 2

November 24: Summer Series 3

December 1: Aggregate Match Race Series 1

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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