

# Sailing 16 February 2020

## Autumn Series START

There was a nice NE breeze today which was good to sail with and also kept us quite cool.



A fairly long course could be set (above) though the gap between the start and the path was rather narrow and a bank of weed arose by the path close to that gap later in the day.

Ten members turned out for the start of this new series. Neil Purcell had problems with his boat in the second race and took club boat 112 for the remainder of the races.

With no refs I had to take photos while racing.



**Race 1** had George Stead taking a lead at the top mark (photo above) followed by Laurie Glover and I. On the downwind Laurie took the



lead but by the top mark in lap 2 I had taken a good sized lead (photo above) and Tom Clark had moved up to alongside George. At the end of the long downwind my boat had slowed somewhat and I suspected weed on the keel. It kept going though and I held off Tom. At the final mark it was John Macaulay sitting on my transom and we split tacks. Going to the line John was on starboard forcing me to tack and taking the win by just a couple of inches. I did have weed.

In **race 2** Rick Royden soon had the lead and increased this. He was followed most of the way by Mike Renner but John managed to get between them at the finish.

**Race 3** had Laurie take the lead but soon the lead was being fought between Neil in the club boat and Tom Clark with George close behind. At the end of lap 1 I called for water and George collided with Tom and they locked masts. I soon passed Neil and held this to the finish taking the win with John second, Laurie third.

Rick led **race 4** shortly after the start. I had worked through the fleet to be close behind going to the final mark. A gust had Rick round up and not be able to turn down to the mark so I was able to pass and snatch the win. Tom third.



**Race 5** had Rick taking the lead again but this time George and Laurie caught and passed him.

In the final **race 6** the early starts held the advantage with Laurie taking the win, Rick second and Tom third.

Rick Royden was top boat today with one win and a total of 13 points. I had two wins - should have been 3 - and a total of 14. Laurie Glover had 15 points to be third with one win. John Macaulay had one win and was just a point behind Laurie. George Stead had one win.

## State of the Pond

The pond is at SG of 1.030 which is not only as high as it has ever been recorded but is as salty as sea water or maybe slightly more. The weed is dying and turning black but when the water heats up it gasifies and floats up towards the surface.

## Members

Trevor Shoebridge informs me that Brian Stiff passed away Friday evening after a fight with cancer.

## Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

### Next Week(s):

**February 23: Autumn Series 2**

**March 1: Aggregate Match Race Series 4**

**March 8: Autumn Series 3**

**New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron**

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