

Sailing 23 February 2020

Autumn Series 2

The weed was awful. We raked out large quantities but there was still much more. The high salt level is killing it off but the dead weed is floating up when the water temperature rises and causes gasification. Rafts of this then float out to the middle of the pond. It got worse with each race and racing was abandoned after 4 races.



The wind was a very gusty and shifty south-west.



The course was set to try to keep boats out of the weed but the weed spread out during racing.

Twelve members were there at the start but Neil Purcell had his rudder fail again after the first race. Several others left due to worsening weed and wind. Only seven started the fourth race and only three finished.

In **race 1** I thought that I made a bad start being rather late but with the wind being strong most of the rest made a worse start, including some collisions. George Stead got away cleanly and led at the first mark and I managed to get to be next around.

I, along with others, caught some weed but George seemed to keep clear of it and led all the way to the finish. Reuben Muir and Alan Smith took the places.



The start of **race 2** (photo at foot of page) had Mike Renner get to the first mark in the lead but Rick Royden sailed around him (photo left) to take the lead and he held this to the finish, gaining on each leg.

Laurie Glover and Reuben took the places.

During **race 3** the weed got worse. Reuben managed to survive best to take the win while Kevin Webb and Rick placed. Only 5 finished and I was ready to abandon racing but several wanted to get to four races which would then be scaled by 5 / 3 to get a final score.

Race 4 had only seven starters and only three finished. Reuben won after clearing weed from his keel. Rick was just a couple of metres from the line stalled with weed while Kevin, who also had weed, staggered along from the final mark to get past Rick and grab 2nd.

Reuben Muir was top boat with 2 wins and a scaled total of 6. Kevin Webb had 10 points for second. Rick Royden was third with 11 from one win. George Stead also had one win.

We need a Work Bee to clear the weed.

Members

We have a new member Alan Watson. He had sailed my boat a few weeks ago and has now has bought Laurie's spare boat which is numbered 515.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

Next Week(s):

March 1: Aggregate Match Race Series 4

March 8: Autumn Series 3

March 15: Autumn Series 4

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

Web site: <http://Azonic.co.nz/NZRYS/>

Secretary: Mike@merel.co.nz

