

Sailing 3 April 2022

Aggregate Match Race Series 5

When I arrived at the pond there was no wind at all. Apparently the Electrons had managed to finish only a couple of races in the morning. A short while later some wind did arrive, two boats were launched and did sail around but at times were left becalmed. By 2pm there was enough NNW breeze to attempt racing and the draw was done and a course set.



Four races were started in quick succession and then the wind changed to a southerly so the next race reversed the course. It soon changed back so the original course was re-used. At the start of round 3 it went southerly to south-west again so the rest of the races used the reversed course. All rounds were complete by 4pm.



With one race under starter's orders and another ready to start one of the boats had a mainsheet problem and pulled his boat out to fix it. We switched to start to next race but then the fix was done so, pressed for time, the two races were started together (above).



Occasionally, there was a nice breeze (above). These two were not racing each other and they both won their round 4 races (86 is recorded as 113). When they got to the top mark the breeze had died away and they drifted around it.

Bruce Watson won all four of his races today. Rick Royden still leads the series with 3 race days counting and one discarded.

Keeping clear

Rule 12: *When boats are on the same tack and not overlapped, a boat clear astern shall keep clear of a boat clear ahead.*

When boats change direction they have to swing their stern and thus need sea-room around their stern. 'Keeping clear' includes keeping clear of this sea-room.

In the race between George Stead and Bruce Watson, Bruce led away at the start. They met Laurie at the top mark, Bruce went wide of Laurie but room had been left to the mark and George took it and came out ahead. On the downwind Bruce caught up and established an overlap very close to the stern of George.

Rule 15: *When a boat acquires right of way, she shall initially give the other boat room to keep clear,...*

Bruce then luffed George and tapped him amidships with his bow, claiming a penalty. A protest should find that Bruce failed to give George sufficient room to keep clear. Further more, 'proper course' would apply as the overlap was established too close.

Rule 17: *If a boat clear astern becomes overlapped within two of her hull lengths to leeward of a boat on the same tack, she shall not sail above her proper course while they remain on the same tack and overlapped within that distance, ...*



Brian Christensen (right) was presented with the McCaw Cup for winning the C Division Match Racing Series.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

Next Week(s):

April 10: Autumn Series 6

April 17: Easter - fun day

April 24: ANZAC Weekend - fun day

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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