

Sailing 3 July 2022

Aggregate Match Race Series 7

The wind was again very light in the morning but it did pick up over midday only to die away again during the racing.

Chris Yates is still having trouble with his boat electrics. He uses lithium-iron batteries which seem to be OK, the problem appears to be in the wiring. He took club boat 112 for the racing. Mark Christensen brought along a couple of sailing friends: Ian and Tom Darby, father and son. They sailed my Prada 1 and Mike Renner's spare 185.



The first couple of races (above) had Rick Royden leading Mike on the downwind while Chris leads Brian Christensen going to the top mark. Rick and Chris won these races.



There were times when the wind increased. Here Rick and John Macaulay are racing to the bottom mark (above) but they are in different races.



In the next round Rick raced Chris (left) and nearly ran out of room as the countdown still had a few seconds to go. He managed to avoid getting pushed over the line by Chris and was inches from the far mark at the gun.



In their pre-start John was quite aggressive towards Patrick O'Hanlon (left) but declined to give him a penalty. Patrick won this race. At the final mark Patrick led by just one length but he went somewhat wide and John was able to turn inside to come out even. In the light winds of the

final leg they swapped positions several times but Patrick found a gust and crossed ahead to win.



Chris led Rick on the final downwind (above). Rick was just a length behind at the downwind mark but Chris hit the mark and had to do a penalty giving Rick another of his four wins.



Mark chased Mike in their pre-start and had several close passes (left). They made an even start but Mark had better speed and pulled away during the race to take the win.



Chris, in the club boat, led Ian, sailing my Prada 1, on the upwind (above) and downwind (left) but rounded the mark too close and caught the keel on the buoy rope. In the very light wind at this point in the racing he was not going to get off unaided so John sailed out to push him free while Ian won.

Rick Royden and Mark Christensen won all four of their races today. This puts Rick well in the lead in the series with two races days to go.

By keeping up to four races on the course at one time the match racing was completed early in spite of the light winds so some time was available for some fleet races with handicap starts. In the first race Rick was pushed the wrong side of the start mark while Mark tried to push John over early.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS

Next Week(s):

July 10: Winter Series 6

July 17: Winter Series FINAL

July 24: Spring Series START

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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