

Sailing 10 July 2022

Winter Series 6

The wind was again very light in the morning but this time it did not pick up at all. The pond was up with the



path covered enough to threaten short gumboots (above). I noticed that the planting area has been covered with wood chips that could float away in a higher flood.



We started with a longer course than this (above) but the wind was so light that it took nearly 40 minutes to complete the first lap and the race was finished at that point. The course was shortened to the triangle above and two laps were completed but this took another 40 minutes. Two more races were sailed as single lap to finish just a couple of minutes before 4pm. The results of the best three races will be scaled up by 5 / 3.

Chris Yates had pulled his boat apart and identified a problem on a circuit board so he had the boat working before racing, but as soon as he started sailing it failed again and he withdrew. Bob Senior was back today but his ex-George Stead 84 was not working so he borrowed my Prada 1 for the racing.

Chris Ward led away in **race 1** but it was Reuben Muir that rounded the top mark first. These two got around the zig-zag successfully and were away slowly on the downwind while the rest of the fleet found the wind died at the top of the zig-zag. Reuben was well ahead at the end of lap 1 and the race was called as single lap due to time. Chris was second and Tom Clark escaped the calm to lead the rest and be third.

Two marks were dropped for **race 2** to give a simple triangle that avoided where the boats were becalmed in race 1. Chris Ward led away again but stayed close to the path side while Tom went to the far side and caught wind to be around the mark and off to a good lead. Reuben led a small group that gave chase (right) and, in lap 2, Reuben took the lead on the downwind. Going to the final mark with almost no wind Tom had caught up and had the inside overlap but turned wide and Reuben



went between Tom and the mark (left) to pull ahead but, being the windward boat, he had to tack away and this lost his speed so Tom could do just one tack to the finish and take the win. Rick Royden third. As time was running out the next two races would be single lap.

Reuben and Rick led off the line in **race 3** but it was Mark Christensen that took the lead. The wind was dying at the top mark and some boats spun around with no steering way. Eventually Reuben and Rick rounded with Mark next and this was eventually the finishing order. On the downwind Mark and Chris were wading along the path creating waves which were aimed at their transoms but it seemed to make no difference.



Top mark. Alan. Mark. Reuben. Tom. Chris. Rick.

With his handicap Chris led away in **race 4** but fell into a hole and the rest sailed slowly past to leave him trailing (above). In the dying wind Chris made large gains and



was second around the top mark behind Reuben (above). Mark had been close behind Reuben but went wide allowing Chris and Laurie Glover through but he passed Laurie to be third behind Reuben and Chris.

Reuben Muir had three wins and discarded a second place to have a scaled score of five to be top boat and take a significant lead in the series. **Chris Ward** had a total of 11 from a couple of second places. **Mark Christensen** was third on 16 points. **Tom Clark** won the other race.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS



Next Week(s):

July 17: Winter Series FINAL

July 24: Spring Series START

July 31: Spring Series 2

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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