

# Sailing 26 June 2022

## Winter Series 5

The wind had been non-existent at the pond in the early morning so the Electrons couldn't start racing for over an hour and only got through their handicap races. It picked up before our racing started but then died out during the afternoon. It was sunny, though, so wasn't too cold.

A short course was set from the north end and not as far as the bridge to avoid the dead areas in the south-west breeze.



In **race 1** it was Alan Watson that rounded the top mark first (left) but Tom Clark, with a new mainsail, soon passed and led away to a good sized gap but Bruce Watson was chasing and on the zig-zag pulled alongside and was soon leading and pulling out to a large lead to take the win with Tom second and Simon Adamson third.

Ian Power had his boat fail so he took the club boat 112 but it had the opposite controls so he pulled out.



Mike Renner led **race 2** for most of the race with Brian Christensen a few lengths behind. At the zig-zag the wind died and most boats gathered around the mark with one group breaking away with Mike leading Brian, Rick Royden and Alan Smith going to the last couple of marks (above). At the final mark Mike went the wrong side and this caused a melee and these boats stopped which allowed Bruce to catch up. Alan (right in the photo) was the first to get moving and he took the win, Rick Royden second while Bruce sailed around the others to be third.



**Race 3** started in a lighter wind (above). Rick led away followed by Bruce. These two crossed tacks closely on



the windward. Mark Christensen closed up with them at the top mark and later Alan Smith got between them. Meanwhile Chris Yates's boat lost control and Mike went to escort it. When recovered it had lost power and Chris withdrew. Bruce and Tom collided around a mark in light wind and this allowed Rick to get away and Simon to come through. Rick won, Bruce caught up to be second and Simon was third.

Patrick O'Hanlon led away in **race 4** chased by Brian. Soon after the zig-zag Rick was leading and Bruce was getting past the fleet. Bruce took a big lead going to the top mark in lap 2 and he took the win, while Rick and Alan Smith got away from the rest to take the places.

Rick had taken on a lot of water and inspecting the hull showed a puncture hole below the waterline, probably caused by a collision. He withdrew from the racing.



**Race 5** had Bruce lead off the line chased by Simon and Tom (above) and hold this to the finish. Alan Smith passed Tom and these were just a couple of lengths behind on the first lap. Bruce stepped out his lead on lap 2 but Simon and Alan took the places.

**Race 6** had Patrick lead away at the start but by the top mark this had changed to Alan Smith leading from Brian and Simon with Bruce working through the rest of the fleet. At the zig-zag Bruce passed Alan Watson to threaten the three leaders (foot of page). In lap 2 around the zig-zag in very light wind, Bruce took the lead and Mark was ahead of Simon. Going to the final mark Mark was up alongside Bruce but was on the outside and finished second. Alan Smith was just a length behind them to take third place.

**Bruce Watson** won four races and with a second place his total was six to be top boat today. This makes him equal top in the series with Reuben Muir. Second today was **Alan Smith** with one win and 15 points. Third was **Simon Adamson** 17 points. **Rick Royden** won the other race.

**Richard Plinston, President NZRYS**

**Next Week(s):**

**July 3: Aggregate Match Race Series 7**

**July 10: Winter Series 6**

**July 17: Winter Series FINAL**

**New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron**

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