

Sailing 5 March 2023

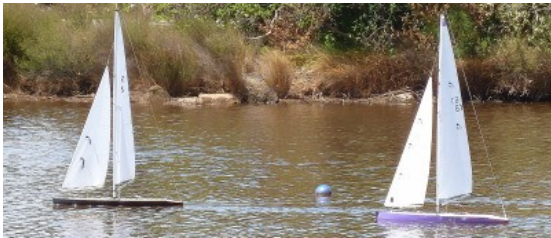
Aggregate Match Race Series 4

The pond was back at its normal level today. While it was quite opaque it was mostly clear of weed. During the floods most of the buoys stayed in place even when underwater. One buoy had a lighter anchor weight and floated and drifted. I used a grapnel to recover this buoy, remove the mussels and Chris Yates put it back in its correct place.

The wind varied but was generally south-westerly and was mostly a good sailing breeze.



The first race was between Neil Purcell with his new style Readysset and Chris Yates in the old style one (above). Chris won this race.



In the race between Mike Renner and John Macaulay John held a small lead during most of the race (above) but in the final leg Mike went to the right and got a shift so that he crossed ahead just a few metres from the finish but John then came into stronger wind and beat Mike to the line.

In the prestart between Bruce Watson and George Stead they were both quite aggressive. Close to the path and in light wind Bruce was on starboard while George was tacking from port to starboard when they touched. George was assessed to have completed the tack leaving Bruce as the windward boat and he was given a penalty.. George won that race.



Rick Royden and Tom Clark kept their race close and swapping the lead. At the final mark Rick was in the lead but a gust rounded him up and he went to the



wrong side of the mark and hit it. In recovering he also completed his penalty turn. As he went to chase Tom, who now led, he caught his keel on another buoy and Neil sailed out to push him off (left).



The final race was between Bruce and John and they were aggressive in the prestart (left) but no penalties were awarded. Towards the end of the first lap Bruce's boat failed with battery problems. He got it ashore and relaunched it with fresh batteries as John finished.

Bruce wanted to continue racing to get the point for second place and John sailed with him to make it interesting.

By keeping three races on the course most of the time we got through the 18 races by 3:15 and so some casual fleet races were held.

No one won all four races. **John Macaulay, George Stead** and **Rick Royden** won three races each. Counting two race days Rick has the highest score in the series.

Members and Boats

Neil Purcell has bought another boat – this time an RG95. He brought it to the pond and sailed around before we started racing. Neil had an RG95 some time ago but it was stolen from his car at the pond.

Richard Plinston, President NZRYS



Next Week(s):

March 12: Autumn Series 3

March 19: Autumn Series 4

March 26: Autumn Series 5

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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