

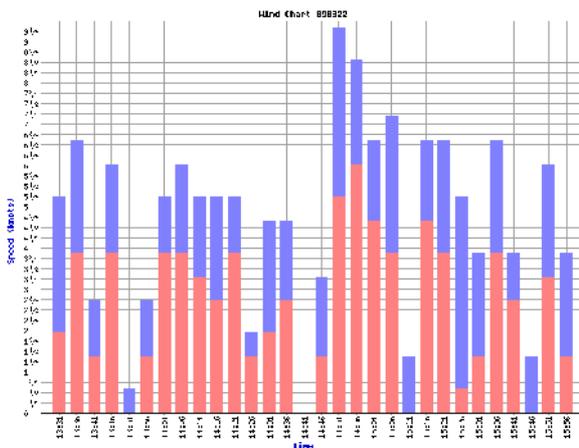
Sailing March 22

Summer Series FINAL

Last week left two members: Peter Andrews and I, with equal high score in their best 4 days sailing of 54. Geoff McGill was 3rd with 63 and Kevin Webb 4th just 3 points behind that.

So this week the challenge was to improve on the fourth best score to discard that and get a better total.

The day started with almost no wind and what there was swung round the compass as the breeze changed between one thermal driven direction and another.



A short figure 8 course was set so that various legs would give at least one windward course whatever the wind direction. After the first two races we were falling behind in time and so the scratch races (3rd and 5th) were shortened to single lap sprints to ensure we sailed all six races.

With the wind shifting and changing there was a premium of picking the right side of the course.

Peter Vernon had the best of the racing with two wins and a second adding to his total score of 13.

Brett also had two wins, including one scratch race. His total of 16 put 4th equal on the day score. Also 4th on 16 was Bruce with one win nearly half a lap ahead in the first race.

Beating those two by one point was David was a consistent row of 2nds and 3rds leading to a total of 15 and third placed on the day.

While I won one race I was mostly too far back to improve on my 4 scores so my series total remained at 54. Peter, to, did not manage to improve his total and also retained his 54 series score.

Geoff McGill with three 2nds, a 3rd and a 4th was first equal, with Peter Vernon, on the day with a score of 13. This allowed him to discard a 22 giving him a series score of 54, putting him 1st equal with Peter Andrews and I. A three way split.

A good day's sailing despite the difficult wind conditions.

Congratulations go to Geoff McGill for winning the day (equal 1st) and winning the series (equal 1st), Peter Andrews and I for the series win (equal 1st). Also to Peter Vernon for two wins and a top day score (equal 1st), and to Brett for two race wins to add to his first win last week.

State of the Pond:

Carol and I took the Wai-Care samples today to see how the fountains had made a difference. Results will be posted on the Wai-Care site in due course.

The SG was up again to 1.016. There were some weed clumps floating around, but they were dark green and dying. The rains a few weeks ago had dropped the SG down enough to allow some algae growth which had showed up as strands of bright green. Now the fountains have pumped the estuary water to the sailing pond and oxygenated the ponds to kill this off and it was breaking away from the pond bed and floating off.

It did affect some boats, with Peter Andrews and Harry having to recover their boats from the shallows on the far side (more photos on web site some time soon).



Harry recovering 48

March in previous years has had significant problems with algae, but this year it has mostly be kept under control.

Next Week:

The **Autumn Series** starts. The slate is wiped clean and all members start with equal scores.

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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