

Sailing October 11

Spring Series round :

The sky was blue and there was a nice wind but the pond had weed. Bruce and Geoff attempted a Match Race but this was abandoned because of catching weed.

The Spring Series races did have much problem with the weed too. Everyone suffered at one time or another, often many times. It was essential to plan 'pit stops' to clear the keel and rudder.

In the first race John (11), Terry(A12) and I with 100 were contesting and swapping the lead over the last half of the final lap. On the final leg I had a tacking match with John so he couldn't pass me, and that allowed Terry to cross the line between us. I also won the third race.

Peter Vernon won the second race by getting out in front and staying there, exactly how races should be won.

Geoff McGill suffered badly from weed in the first half of the races but managed to avoid it and won the last three races, giving him the best day score of 11. Brett managed to clear his keel often enough to have a string of 2nd through 5ths to get a total of 17 which gave him 2nd day score, equal with myself.

Overall in the series Geoff leads (again) but we are only half way through the series and so the places are open for anyone to take.

I haven't said much about the divisional series recently. The results have been posted on the web site. Briefly the divisions are led by Geoff, Kevin and Brett with just 3 more sailing days for this too.



Brian's jib boom stuck between Bruce's stays while Neil, Bruce and Trevor get past.

End of Year

The cups need to be returned to the secretary Peter soon so that they can be engraved for the new winners before being presented at the AGM.

State of the Pond

Around this time of the year, when the rains make the pond fresh water and the sun gets its strength back with blue skies, the pond turns into weed.

The heat causes gassification of the dead matter trapped in the silt which brings it to the surface, some still attached to the bed but other drifting at, or just under, the surface.



The SG had been brought down to 1.004 a week ago (1.000 is fresh, 1.030 is sea water) and more rain arrived, but the flap valves are set to allow sea water in each high tide and already it is back up to 1.010. If it gets to 1.016 or so it will stop new growth.



We raked quite a bit of weed out around the path, but there was still much more. We tested for weed in the middle with the grapnel.

Around 1pm a large dog jumped into the pond right at the northern end where the water is only a few inches deep but there is a couple of feet of fine sticky, evil, black silt. That will make for a very smelly drive home.

Next Week:

Spring Series round 5

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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