

Sailing September 13

Spring Series round 1:

A nice light breeze and a clean pond looked like making for good racing. There was a tiny shower, nothing to worry over, but the wind died away during racing and only four races were completed before the lack of wind had the race committee call an end. This is sufficient for a score, the results of the best three are scaled by 5/3 to give an appropriate day total.

Nine members sailed the first day of the new series. Neil has solved the bad leaking problem that he had with his new 6, the glue that he used on the keel socket was faulty and failed. I had decided to use 100. Brian Basset and Trevor Tidman returned after a few weeks away.



The course was set, after much discussion, with two long windward-leewards. This went well for the first 3 races, but the wind died in the 4th making it take a long time to sail. Bill led through the first lap and would have been happy if the race was cut short as he crossed the line into the second lap. But

the race continued with less wind and positions changed. At the last top mark all steerage was lost for these 3 boats and they drifted into the mark.

Geoff managed to take the best score for the day with John just a couple of points back and Neil and I equal for 3rd.

A good early start but a disappointing end with no wind.

State of the Pond:

New chains have been fitted to the flap valves. More importantly the contractor fitted catches that make it easy to hook up the flaps single handedly. (Photo on website).

Previously I had the flaps arranged to leak to the correct amount to make the pond 'breathe'. I had to fiddle with the new chains to get this setting back and the SG is climbing back up.

The water is quite clean after the working bee but some dead weed is still apparent and some new growth can be seen as the water warms.

Seawind Rebuild, Episode 5

In order to seat the keel blade firmly into the bulb about 1 mm was removed from the lower end of the blade. This then seated down with the root level with the bulb.

At the top end of the blade the recess where the rod emerges was also filed and scraped down so that it seated fully into the keel socket with no rocking movement. This required removal of about 0.5mm.



A replacement mast support was made from tufnol, similar to the one illustrated in the damage report on 01 (see web site) and the interior was reassembled.

The hull was sanded, primed and painted grey while the blades were painted white to show when any weed had been caught.

The sail were cleaned and battens replaced where they had been lost. Stripes were added to the sails with marker pens to aid boat identification.

Other News:

Peter wrote: I received an email from Helge Hafstad, a Seawind sailor in Oslo, Norway, seeking a NZL sail number. He has ties with NZ and has named his boat Matariki (Maori New Year). There was a picture of his boat with a 2.4GHz transmitter which he confirmed as a Futaba Faast system. He promised to let me know how it performs.

Norway's Seawind site is www.nasca.no. There are pictures of boats sailing in an indoor pool. Perhaps sailing on a lake (fjord?) was somewhat hazardous, ice instead of floating weed!!

Web Site update:

An NSTA article in the Onepoto 'In the News' section had the AAFL still fighting to get control of the clubhouse. They are playing games at the park now, presumably to support their case.

Next Week:

Spring Series round 2

New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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