

Race Officers Report

2023 North Island IOM Championship

On the 24th, 25th and 26th March the North Island IOM Champs were hosted by the North Shore Radio Yacht Squadron with assistance from the Kerikeri Radio Yacht Squadron at Kai Iwi Lakes, North Dargaville.

Friday

Registration and measurement took place on Friday 24th from 1300 to 1700 hrs at the clubrooms. 27 of the 29 boats measured on Friday and the remaining two on Saturday morning. Thanks to Bob Senior who took care of the Registration/Measurement. Practice sailing took place after that.



Saturday

Ian V did a superb job of setting and maintaining the race course. We successfully trailed an outside in gate for the top mark, followed by the conventional inside out bottom gate. Some were sceptical at first but the vast majority were impressed by the fact that there was less boat and mark contacts/congestion due to the fleet splitting between the two marks.

Racing got way on time in a steady north easterly breeze ranging from 4 to 8 knots - ideal sailing conditions. Using the HMS (Afleet) scoring system (4 up, 4 down) we ran 2 fleets of 16/17 boats.

With 10 races completed we finished the day with the obligatory all in rum race which was won (and shared) by Ian Vickers – no surprises there!

Following the rum race skippers and partners made their way to the clubhouse for pre-dinner drinks and from the deck we could see Ian Vickers giving a demonstration of how to wing foil (and Reuben how not to wing foil).

Cloughy was again in total command of the kitchen and meal and served up sumptuous pork spare ribs, his signature steak fries, spicy coleslaw and rolls. Check out Cloughy's BBQ.



Sunday Dawn



Sunday's conditions were again perfect and the first race started on time.

Another 6 races were completed by 2pm giving us 16 races in total and 3 drops. Skippers were given the option to continue racing with the majority opting to finish to allow them to get on the road back home. Many adjourned to the clubrooms to finish off the left-over ribs and refreshments.

The prize giving took place lakeside as follows:

1st - Ian Vickers on 26 points

2nd - Roddy Booth on 49 points

3rd - Reuben Muir on 62.3 points

1st Woody – Lewis Avenell

No Classics entered

It was great to see skippers prepared to travel long distances Brent Cowan - Lyttleton, Ross Leonard - Hastings, three from Wellington, etc.

My thanks to Ian Vickers – Course setting, George Stead - Arbitration, Bob Senior - registration and measurement, Reuben - for making a fool of himself on a wing foiler and last but not least the ever-popular Vivian Stead – scorer.

I'm hoping skippers will email their photos and videos to Neil for posting.

Long may the collaboration between NSRYS and KRYS continue. I enjoyed myself immensely and I'm pretty sure skippers and partners did too.

Graham Cross

Race Officer