

North Island Canterbury J Champs 2018.

Lake Gilmour located at the junction of Gilmour and Tauranga roads Waihi.

Date 14<sup>th</sup> & 15 April 2018.

Saturday rained, it was cool and sailing was delayed until it seemed a bit brighter. We got 7 races completed in light shifty sometimes wind less conditions and finished pretty well into the afternoon. We had more boats than people and it was just as well as it allowed the skippers to sail all the races that we were able to sail.

Sunday was a much better day and we were underway with light shifty winds quite early and completed another 5 races, again in light shifty conditions then stopped for lunch. After lunch we started the match racing, this was quite relaxed as there was no intention of being pedantic on minor detail as the objective was to allow the skippers and helpers to get to grips with how it works. We got a complete round robin for 6 skippers finished just as it started to rain again, packing up and the presentation was done in light rain.

Congratulations to Dave Hemsley for winning the fleet racing, Congratulations to Pat Halloran on winning the Match racing.

A big thanks to Dave & Gaye Hemsley and Antony Sisson for accommodation and transport, Roger and Roger for in some cases being not only the scorers but race officials and pretty much RO on some occasions. Also to the skippers and visitors who came.

It was a real pleasure for us to be part of the North Island champs and see and meet the people we have heard so much about. People came from Rotorua, Hamilton, Tauranga and locally to be part of it.

One very noticeable feature was more pride seems to go on the appearance of the boat rather than winning, perhaps something for many RC sailors to contemplate. All the boats were traditionally built and finished fantastically and they were respected as being well looked after boats. The finished boats were a mixture of paint and vinyl wrap.

Both Graeme and myself had a sail of Canterbury J 13, the first hull produced off the new mould that we know today.

Leon Blewett and Graeme Raxworthy.

PS as a word of warning to anyone travelling with start boxes. Remove the batteries for any travel, there is nothing worse than being in the middle of an airport, accidentally squashing your luggage and hearing Tom Arthurs voice counting down at full volume!!!!!!!!!!!!!!