

A belated review of the team's events for the second half of the year.

Firstly, probably our most successful **Interdoms** ever to be held in Australia, as it's always harder for the visiting teams getting used to a new boat, but good planning and preparation by all the New Zealand teams paid off for all.

Only Auckland Grammar finished out of the medals as they had less time than any in the boats or with a full team together enough to train, along with an unfortunate penalty call which put them in sixth with only a half point dividing teams after 60 races.

For the others it was good management by Kerikeri that procured extra Pacers for them and the two girls teams to train with here in NZ before going over early along with Marlborough, so that the first day of racing was the 7th day sailing for the two girls teams, who were up against 4 Aussie girls teams from four separate states for the first time ever.

In the open division our teams came 1st Kerikeri, 13.5 wins over Friends (10) from Tasmania and Marlborough were 3rd with 7.5 wins and Auckland Grammar was 6th only half a point behind. New Zealand also won the overall country team's trophy.

In the girls division our teams lead the first day and fell behind St Leonards from Melbourne the second day, but fought back on the last day to come 1st for New Plymouth Girls on 11 wins and as Nelson was a composite team they could only ever come second and they did by half a point with 10 wins over ST Leonards 9.5.

A great achievement by the Nelson composite team who didn't have any skippers from their nationals team, but had Alice Overend from Queen Charlotte, who set a very high standard for both the girls teams in all their training and obviously the winter training against Marlborough Boys paid big dividends. But it was the six days in total at Algies and then Canberra before-hand with New Plymouth Girls that paid off for both teams. Having four different coaches over that period and the support of NZTSA and Kerikeri for the pacers made the difference for both teams - if you saw the change from their first days of training in cold and wet conditions at Algies to sunny and shifty on the lake.



The two teams working together made for some very happy and proud girls on the final day and prize-giving. New Plymouth showed real team work and commitment under good management by Nyall Simkin, to take out the top slot from some very good Aussie girls teams, who I think were taken by surprise by our girls on the first day and who dug deep on the final day.

Manager of the year (2015) goes to Toni Chittenden of Nelson Girls for an incredible job of making a regional team from 3 schools from the top of the south - Nelson Girls, Waimea and Queen Charlotte. When two other girls teams had pulled out and our girls teams had never been to Australia before, Toni took a no problems, positive attitude and organized the team, fund-raising, travel, food, accommodation and training and went by herself, so wins a week's accommodation for two at Aremango Cottage in Rarotonga, whenever she wants it, so watch the cheap fares this year Toni, as there are soon to be 3 airlines flying there.

Coach of the year and another week's accommodation in Raro, goes to Reuben Corbett of Kerikeri and Wentworth College and a few others, as Reuben has been doing training camps or helping with many teams around the country. His Keri team was proud to wear his t-shirts at the group photo session to show their gratitude for the weekends he spends with them up north. It's also the first time we have beaten the Aussies in Australia since 2007 and Kerikeri sailed a very solid and composed regatta. Hopefully we can get Reuben and his wife to have a coaching session with the Cook Island Girls team that's coming to this year's nationals while they enjoy the warmth waters.

Spring Regatta - Whangarei put on another very good training regatta for some top and new teams in that term holiday slot after the winter champs and it was good to see some new teams forming in the north.

Lake Hood, South Island

Four teams gathered, at what is the best venue for any future nationals in the South Island, at Lake Hood - 1 hour south of Christchurch airport and 7km east of Ashburton, this is a big recreational man-made lake. With enormous support from Bruce Lund and the Team in Timaru. We had teams from Timaru Boys, Craighead Girls, Mount Aspiring and Christchurch Boys. We got a good selection of the weather systems from the strong nor'wester to the cold southern fronts, but mostly good light winds and sunshine on flat water, as you have enough room for a good course, but not enough fetch for big freshwater waves. There is both a big rowing and small sailing club and beautiful but limited food choice at the lake at this stage, but plans for more commercial soon.



All teams attending were working on future team development and we found some good sailors for selection to the South Pacific Teams Developmental Regatta this winter, as all teams were losing Year 13 students so we need to bring the younger ones on.

The lake is well used by motor boats, jet skis and skiers, but you can book out the lake for big events as it also has a full rowing course, great viewing and room for two courses, with change overs done from the shore. There are two venues for the dinner and hopefully enough accommodation in the town and surrounding area as

they do have big rowing events there.

The plan is for more local South Island events there, until the starlings are back down there, before we look at a Nationals.



Most dates have now been set for regionals and there have been some big changes to Algies, with improvements to accommodation at Sandspit and Snells Beach and the new marina at Sandspit.

See you around the country at regionals.

Ross