

NEW ZEALAND IOM NATIONALS 2010

THE NZ national Championships were recently held in Tauranga. Australia was well represented with four skippers making the trip.

Jeff was rewarded for his efforts, getting a well deserved first place while Tom achieved a 5th, Roger a 21st and Tony, after experiencing significant boat troubles was placed 41st.

The venue chosen was that of the new club at Tauranga. This is an extremely attractive and popular part of NZ and the club put on a well run event, extending generous hospitality to our skippers.

Saturday was sailed mostly in "A" rig with a gradual shift to "B" by the afternoon. Jeff handled these conditions well and at the end of the day he only had to drop a 4th.

Conditions were similar on the Sunday with some strong bullets coming through, making the carrying of the big rig somewhat of a challenge. Tom handled these conditions well and advanced up the fleet to be third at the end of this day. Last years title holder, Graham Cross was also a strong performer and moved up the fleet.

On the Monday the wind was considerably lighter and while Jeff consolidated his position Tom slipped a little.

It is interesting to note that although Roger did not figure strongly in the results he was photographed for the local paper and the NZ news letter stated that he "proved a tonic with his almost over abundance of sheer pleasure from his sailing in so many of the heats". Tony was also thanked for his commitment to the sport in that although he was sidelined from Saturday he continued to attend on the Sunday just to help out with observing and other duties.

Gentlemen we can be proud of your efforts in representing the Australian IOM community and hope that others will 'give it a go' again next year.

Good Sailing

Lindsay