



# North Sails Starling National Match Racing Championship Round Up

Sadly on Day 3 the weather didn't play ball and the semi-finals and final could not be held - thus the competition was decided on the standings after the two round robins.

Final Positions were as follows:

1. Alice Noyer – Northland (**winner of the Caltex Cup**)
2. Sam MacKay – Hawkes Bay
3. William Linkhorn – Auckland
4. Matthew Hughes – North Harbour

It was a shame for all competitors & all those involved that the finals series could not be held, but the Race Officer's decision that conditions were unsuitable for match-racing and would not have been fair on the top four competitors had to be made.

Having dominated the two round robins and only suffering 2 defeats in 22 races no one could argue that Alice Noyer had been the form sailor in the competition and a deserved champion. She like anyone else would have preferred to have completed the full schedule to decide the winner, but as they say "that is sailing".

All 12 sailors committed themselves to the competition well and with 2 days of intense sailing and being on the water for over 8 hours on both days showed true character.

Many thanks to the umpires (Mike, Don, Vince & Melinda), the hard working roster team – Richard, Neville, Kerry, Gary, Gay, Ian, Georgia, Taylor and Helen.

Special thanks to our Major Sponsors – **North Sails**

And to our tireless Starling workers – Brian Peet and Richard Brown.

The concept of providing the match racing boats proved a good one – without Brian's support this would not have been possible and this innovative step will ensure that the match-racing competition for Starlings is enhanced in years to come.

Congratulations to our National Champion – Alice Noyer – and we will see you all back here for the Nationals in April.