

BAHAMAS WINTER SNIPE CHAMPIONSHIPS Bacardi Cup and Dudley Gamblin Memorial Series

PERENNIAL WINNING TEAM OF KELLY AND WASSETCH TAKE BOTH PRIZES

by Peter Christie, National Secretary for Bahamas



HAPPY CREW accompanies his skipper, Basil Kelly, as the 1966-67 SCIRA Commodore receives the highly prized Gamblin Trophy - Photo by Don Hite.

This first leg of the Caribbean Snipe Winter Circuit (Nassau, Miami, Clearwater) was scheduled for Feb. 27-Mar. 3, 1973 in Nassau on Montagu Bay.

The "M. V. Betty K IV" delivered the 13 Snipes to the Kelly's lumberyard dock in downtown Nassau at 9:00 a.m. on the morning of the 27th of February, in very good order, and the Snipes were quickly trailed by RNSC members to the Royal Nassau Sailing Club where their owners soon had them unpacked and ready at the new class minimum weight of 381 lbs. for the first race of the Bacardi Cup Series, which got underway at 3:00 p.m. in the afternoon. This was a beautiful

afternoon with a 15 m.p.h. breeze and a fleet of 23 boats got off to a perfect start. There were 9 Nassau entries and Carlos Bosch represented Bermuda.

At the first windward mark of this race, it looked as if the regatta would be a repeat of the two previous Regattas, with Tom Nute leading a sweep by California of the races; as Doug DeSouza in "Captain America" turned the mark first with Tom Nute second and Basil Kelly with his favorite crew, Pedro Wassitch, following closely behind. In fact, everyone was surprised to see Basil Kelly staying with the Californians on the reaches and take the lead from them in the

second heat to weather, and hold it to the end with DeSouza remaining second and Tom Nute third. Godfrey Kelly, with his brother David as crew, was fourth, and Pierre Stegenthaler, with crew Colin Callender, was fifth, showing the strength of the Nassau fleet.

That night the Bacardi Company hosted their traditional daiquiri party at the Club, followed by a buffet dinner.

On Saturday, the Bacardi Series was completed with races getting away on time in the morning and afternoon in freshening winds of 15 to 18 m.p.h. In both these races, Basil Kelly got away early and was never headed for a clean sweep of the series and a perfect zero score. He was followed over the line in both these races by his brother Godfrey Kelly, who took two fine second places and in the third race gave Basil a good run for his money. The California teams fell on their "faces" in these races, with Tom Nute getting an 11th and a 6th, and Doug DeSouza getting two 9th's. Dr. Pete Duvoisin and his wife Janet were the hero and heroine of the day by leading the foreign entries with two fine places for the third place trophy.

THE DUDLEY GAMBLIN SERIES

Bad weather from Florida made Montagu Bay unsuitable on Sunday when the first three races of the Dudley Gamblin Memorial Series was to have taken place. Winds were in excess of 25 m.p.h.

On Monday, the winds were still 20 m.p.h. and over in the morning and there was again no racing. On Monday afternoon the wind was at a steady 20 m.p.h. and it was decided to sail two short races. A much reduced fleet of expert sailors ventured forth under full planting conditions. In the first race, the two Kelly boats got away from the fleet and finished in the usual order of Basil first and Godfrey second. Tom Nute was third. Doug DeSouza had a very close third place when he flipped on the final run just 300 yards from the finish. The Duvoisins again made an excellent showing with fourth place. In the second race of the afternoon, Basil and Godfrey again showed their mastery of Montagu Bay in a blow by finishing first and second. Augie Diaz, with Mark Albury as crew (The Miami whiz kids) came planting into third place after Doug DeSouza and Rudy Horning, also from California, had flipped on the screaming reaches as did Tom Nute after his rudder literally exploded from the pressure. In this race Jerry Jenkins was in a good position when his chain plate pulled up through his deck and he was put out of action for the rest of the Series.

By Tuesday morning, the wind was a still fresh 18 m.p.h., but beautifully sailable under bright, sunny conditions, but as the boats had to be aboard the "Betty K" for the return to Miami by lunchtime only one race was sailed, and the Series consisted of three races instead of the usual five. In this morning race, the lead changed several times

FINAL RESULTS - THE BACARDI CUP RACES

BOAT	SKIPPER - CREW	TOWN	Races	1	2	3	Pts.	Fin.
16488	Basil Kelly - P. Wassitch	Nassau		1	1	0	1	1
16019	Godfrey Kelly - J. Kelly	Nassau		4	2	2	14	2
16993	Pete Duvoisin - J. Duvoisin	Chattanooga, TN		9	3	2	26.4	3
16316	Pierre Stegenthaler - Callender	Nassau		5	6	4	29.7	4
16521	Doug DeSouza - J. McLaughlin	San Diego, CA		2	9	9	35	5
16111	August Diaz - Mark Albury	Miami, FL		7	4	7	34	6
16645	Tom Nute - John Wagnon	San Diego, CA		3	11	6	34.4	7
16582	Tom Legere - B. Swanson	Winchester, MA		8	8	11	45	8
17401	Don Strange - John Worley	Nassau		15	12	5	49	9
16017	Robert Kardley - John Bethel	Nassau		14	10	10	52	10
17295	Jerry Jenkins - S. Jenkins	Saracen, MI		10	5	dnf	56	11
11826	Ken Albury - Drew Albury	Nassau		dnf	7	8	57	12
12999	Ralph Jackson - J. Jackson	Wilmington, MA		13	14	14	59	13
17555	Don Hite - S. Moore	Detroit, MI		18	17	12	65	14
17400	S. MacMahon - C. MacMahon	Nassau		17	12	dnf	66	15
15016	Rudy Horning - F. Donahue	San Francisco		6	dnf	dnf	60.7	16
16112	Carlos Bosch - G. Hill	Bermuda		dnf	16	13	71	17
16878	J. Hall - B. Goodale	Nassau		12	15	dnf	72	18
13204	Jackman Cummings - E. Leaton	Marcellus, NY		17	dnf	17	74	19
14789	Handy Knowler - G. Damiano	Nassau		19	15	dnf	76	20
16114	Jim Bingham - I. Lightbourne	Cincinnati, OH		dnf	18	16	76	21
16948	Harold Korn - R. Jones	Lincoln, NE		16	21	dnf	79	22
16703	Bob Bingham - F. Bigham	Cincinnati, OH		20	dnf	dnf	86	23

between Basil Kelly, Tom Nute and Augie Diaz, but Augie demonstrated his tremendous speed on the reaches and came through to win the race and second place in the Series. In this race, Tom Nute was second and Basil Kelly third. Bruce Colyer from Fort Lauderdale, with his wife Gwen as crew, showed up well in this race and finished fourth to be followed by the Duvoisins. The Dudley Gamblin Memorial Trophy therefore, also returned home this year, and the Californians were used. Basil Kelly did some fine sailing in his new vintage Lip-pincott Snipe with North sails. Godfrey Kelly, the Californians, the Duvoisins and Diaz all had Chubasco Snipes and Godfrey Kelly and many of the others used Elms Sails.

On Monday evening, the Snipers licked their wounds over cocktails at the

home of the Bahamas National Secretary, Peter Christie, and the Presentation of Trophies took place at a formal dinner dance at the Royal Nassau Sailing Club on Tuesday night. The floor show was sung by the fire dancer, but fortunately Tom Nute was just able to keep clear of her fiery embrace.

This ended the 1st series for the Win-merman Trophy. Especially gratifying was the improved attendance - best in 4 years.



FINAL RESULTS - DUDLEY GAMBLIN MEMORIAL TROPHY RACES

BOAT	SKIPPER-CREW	CLUB	Race	1	2	3	Pts.	Fin.
16488	Basil Kelly-P. Hasselbach	Nassau		1	1	3	5.7	1
16111	August Diaz-Mark Albary	Miami, FL		2	2	1	15.7	2
16019	Godfrey Kelly-David Kelly	Nassau		2	2	6	17.7	3
16563	Pete Duvoisin-Jenet Duvoisin	Chattanooga, TN		4	4	8	26	4
16543	Tom Nute-John Vaguni	San Diego, CA		3	dnf	2	26.7	5
17768	Bruce Colyer-Gwen Colyer	Fort Lauderdale, FL		dnf	3	4	36	6
17556	Don Hite-R. Moore	Detroit, MI		6	6	8	37.4	7
18503	Bob Bingham-Jim Bingham	Cincinnati, OH		8	7	dnf	48	8
18321	Doug De Gouse-T. McLaughlin	San Diego, CA		dnf	dnf	7	49	9
18016	Rudy Hornung-F. Donahue	San Francisco, CA		7	dnf	dnf	51	10
17297	Jerry Jenkins-S. Jenkins	Norway, MI		9	dnf	dnf	53	11
17401	Ron Strueng-Dave Donald	Nassau		dnf	dnf	9	55	12
18112	Corliss South-George Hill	Bermuda		dnf	dnf	10	56	13

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