BAHAMS WINTER SNIPER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bacardi Cup and Dudley Gamblin Memorial Series

PERENNIAL WINNING TEAM OF KELLY AND WASSICK TAKE BOTH PRIZES

by Peter Christie, National Secretary for Bahamas

HAPPY CREW accompanies his skipper, Basil Kelly, as the 1956-57 SIRA Commodore receives the highly prized Gamblin Trophy. Photo by Don Bic.

This first leg of the Caribbean S NPe Series (Nassau, June 24-25) was scheduled for Feb. 21-March 5, 1973 in Nassau on Montagu Bay.

The "M.V. Kelly K IV" delivered the 13 Snipe to the Kelly's backyard deck in Nassau Harbor at 3:00 p.m. on the morning of the 27th of February. The weather was good, and the Snipes were quickly taken to the Royal Bahamas Yacht Club where at close to 3:00 p.m. in the afternoon. This was a beautiful

afternoon with a 15 m.p.h. breeze and a swell of 20 knots out to a perfect start. There were 3 Nassau entries and 2 Carolos Bosch represented Bermuda.

At the first windward mark of this race, it looked as if the results would be a repeat of the two previous regattas, with Tom Ritz leading a sweep by Cali- formia of the races. Doug DeSouza in "Captain America" turned the mark first with Tom Ritz second and Basil Kelly with his favorite crew, Pedro Manente, following closely behind. In fact, everyone was surprised to see Basil Kelly staying close to the Californians on the reach up the wind and taking the lead from them to the second beat in weather, and held it to the end with DeSouza running second and Tom Ritz third. Godfrey Kelly, with his brother David as crew, was fourth and Pierre Steghennie, with crew Colin Calender, was fifth, show- ing the strength of the Nassau fleet.

The first leg of the Bacardi Cup began at 1100 and 900 for the first and second races, with Tom Ritz getting a 1100 and a 900 and Doug DeSouza getting a second and fourth. Pedro Manente and his wife Janet were the hero and heroine of the day by lead- ing the foreign entries with two wins 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 were to have taken place. Winds were in excess of 20 m.p.h.

On Monday, the winds were still 20 m.p.h. and over in the morning and there was a good race. On Monday afternoon the wind was steady 20 m.p.h. and no one was sailed to sail two short races. A much calmer drop of expert sailors ventured forth under those conditions. In the second race, the two Kelly boats were close up to the fleet finished in the same order of first and Godfrey second. Tom Ritz was third. Doug DeSouza had a very close third place when he dropped on the wind ran just 300 yards from the finish. The DeSouzas 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 that flattened first and second. August Duce, with Mark Albury as crew (The Miami is the title given by Miami when they finish their regattas in comparison to their performance in the previous regattas, as did Tom Ritz after his redrunder literally exploded from the pressure. In this race Jerry Jenkins was in a good position when his contacts pulled up through his deck and he was put out of action for the rest of the series.

By Thursday morning, the wind was a still and fresh 17 m.p.h. but beautifully calm and bright, sunny conditions, and the Series consisted of three races instead of the usual five. In this morning race, the lead changed several times.
between Harold Kelly, Tom Note and Augie Diaz, but Augie demonstrated his tremendous speed on the run and came through to win the first and second place in the Series. In this race, Tom Note was second and Bals Kelly third. Bruce Cooper from Fort Lauderdale, with his wife Gwen as crew, showed as well in his race and finished fourth to be followed by the Dories. The Doolby Gamble Memorial Trophy therefore, also returned home this year, and the Californians were aced. Bals Kelly did some fine sailing in his new vintage Laplaced Sail with North sail. Geoffrey Kelly, the Californian, the Dories and Dias all had Chafee Snipes and Geoffrey Kelly and many of the others raced Elmo Sails.

On Monday evening, the Snipperslicked their wounds over cocktails at the

**FINAL RESULTS - DOOLBY GAMBLE MEMORIAL TROPHY RACES**

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