1998 Midwinter Circuit

Midwinter's
Clearwater, Florida
Clearwater Yacht Club
March 21-24

Former National Champion Doug Hart and Scott Lindley from San Diego, CA won the 86th annual Snipe Midwinter by half a point over defending champions George Szabo and Carol Newman. Uniformly brisk and cool temperatures (50's on Sunday) dominated the six races, one throwout series, and the victory came down to the final minutes of the last race.

Constantly changing conditions rewarded the2-5-2-1-3 finishes, 13.5 ahead of the second place Jimmie Lowe and Kevin McKinney from the Royal Yacht Club, Nassau Bahamas with 25 points. We had sailors from Japan, Argentina, Bahamas, and Norway participating in this international regatta. The Japanese crew, Shinichik Udaka and Kenji Sawada, sailed a chartered boat, placed 4th with very consistent finishes 7-4-8-4-7. The Argentinians, Federico and Sebastian Romano, sailed very well to a 10th place finish in spite of a DSQ. High winds did not let us sail on Friday but we had magnificent weather on Saturday and Sunday. 5 races on Saturday with 10 to 13 kts winds from East and Northeast and 2 races on Sunday with Northeastly winds 15 to 20 kts. Biscayne Bay at its best!!

The Coconut Grove Sailing Club Race Committee Chairman, Jack King organized and successfully conducted the races and was helped by SNIPS CLASS Rep. Phil Richardson from Annapolis and many C.G.S.C.

Midwinter Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skipper/Crew</th>
<th>Start #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doug Hart/Curtis Lindley</td>
<td>23914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Szabo/Carol Newman</td>
<td>28672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Beavis/Will Baker</td>
<td>23762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Mounson/Ryan Rosenthal</td>
<td>27032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alvaro Hite</td>
<td>29134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryan Johnson/Lee Ulvick</td>
<td>32400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Robinson/Lorn Grabit</td>
<td>30909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Bickford/Will Olson</td>
<td>29342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Graham/Bruno Silver</td>
<td>29032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Christiansen/Ruben</td>
<td>26053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Craft/Kiri Wawanski</td>
<td>25010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shinichi Udaka/Kenji Sawada</td>
<td>27383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Baker/Robert Cusano</td>
<td>27587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael O'Sullivan/Ed Brennan</td>
<td>24648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Bryant/Ren Fujii</td>
<td>29731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Walsh/Barbara Waters</td>
<td>26984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Raab/Mark Johnson</td>
<td>22014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristin/Kristin Sogon</td>
<td>27933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Welch/Anne Rogers</td>
<td>29400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Richman/Jan Livingston</td>
<td>24000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David McIsaac/Mark Ballentine</td>
<td>15104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halke Poulton/Todd Riker</td>
<td>27400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Thompson/Mike Capellin</td>
<td>23003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shano Williams/Thelma Haddix</td>
<td>27292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Foster/Cathy Franklin</td>
<td>23397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Automatico/Keller</td>
<td>24900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Jones/Dennis Robertson</td>
<td>24500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Winners Present:
Don G Results

1. George Szabo/Cindy Neumann 28972
2. Jannic Lejeune/Guy R. Mckinny 25811
3. Joe Gruver/Will Olsen 28142
4. Steven Buen/Sheldon Noonan 25259
5. Allen Olin/Phil 25467
6. Craig Emerson/Tracy Hiner 29148
7. Brian Jamison/Lia Brown 29510
8. Terry Thompson/Brian Lindsey 24402
9. David Strong/Mike Brown 27267
10. Fredrick/Scholar Kooto 29583
11. George Drum/Willie Cartier 28612
12. Guiseppe Dina/Scott Sahana 28614
13. Frank Bart/Sybil Linckley 2914
14. Rob Worth/Marvin Carson 29044
15. Steve Stahlan 21109
16. Ernie Boudreau/James Tiller 27930
17. Dave Robinson/Greg Stewart 29613
18. Kevin Laxton/Chris Smit 24776
19. Balto Lunden 26437
20. Rob Osgood/Blake Burton 25120
21. Steven/the Cat 27376
22. Brent McLamb/Nancy Cicchelli 23840
23. Caddy Lafitte/Ernie Ferris 7916
24. Eddie West 26900
25. Mac Hayman/Dean Park 20233
26. Don Heimlich/Wilhelm Olszewski 24514
27. Lee Griffith/Lisa Griffith 22204
28. Cam Moody/Jack Memer 27634
29. Bill.watch/Steve Rupley 25400
30. Tom Scripture/Lisa Sillion 28575
31. Lee Low/Shelley Winch 28313
32. Reto Reit/Robby Kelle 25258
33. Fernando DeGaudenzi/Johnny Roberts 689
34. Jay Chen/Olivia Stewart 24930
35. John Kridl/Nick Green 26971
36. Janet Reiter/Tony Workman 24400
37. John Hill/Stephanie Carroll 28228
38. Mark W/Scott Goodale 28594
39. Dave/Susan Carroll 28244
40. Harald Faulhout/Roger Edal 27410
41. Peter Wolinski/Ty Dinger 79579
42. Montanye/Kimberly 24993

The Skipper Bulletin/May 1998

Overall Winter Circuit
Zimmerman Trophy
Final Results

1. George Szabo 121
2. Roger /lynn Lejeune 136.75
3. Frederick/Sebastian Romero 168.25
4. Sandy Udichi 172
5. Don Bedford/Steve Stewart 186.75

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Photos: Skip of the Records. 75424: Chuck Stab/Scat Lindsey; 59168: Don Bedford/Steve Stewart; 28205: George Szabo/Jeff Baker; 28096: Jim Beloford/Peter Thielas; 27915: Umberto Valletta/Peter Ahbro, Dennis Kelly photo.
Bacardi & Gamblin Series,  
Overall Zimmerman
Nassau, Bahamas
Royal Nassau Sailing Club
April 1-4 (Seaborn's Snipe Journal)

Took the noon flight from Miami to Nassau, it looked like half of the Mission Bay Snipe fleet was onboard, a taxi cab to the sailing club, went straight to the bar, said hi to "your the man" Eddie the bartender, ordered a Kalik and joined the rest of the Snipe fleet that was sitting on the porch. Eventually the buses showed up so we began rigging. Back to the clubhouse a new parking order was being established on the ping pong table. Don Bedford had a strong start, and was looking unbreakable. We threw everything we had at him. When no one could beat him, our hopes were on Shiroki Uchida from Japan. Unfortunately Don beat him too, so now Don is the new man to beat on the ping pong table in Nassau. Maybe one day he will be able to put his name on the wall for Don.

The first day of sailing was blowing straight down the bay with good whitecaps. The whole fleet looked out and thought "we're not going out there" we later found that the wind ruffled by the club and was stronger in front of the bar and the big white caps were caused by the outgoing tide. We ended up with 12 knots and Jeff and I won both races. The Bacardi Party was last evening. Three blenders running one at a bar enough rum to make the table sag at the other bar, and more Conch fritters than you wanted to eat.

Day two and lighter breeze, two more firsts for us but that was the end of our luck. John Pappas was knocked out of the race, and was in the front of the fleet for a bit and The heavy team of Bedford/Stewart (350lbs) had a great race before lunch but were a bit slower in the afternoon race. The Commodore’s party is always the evening when you realize that Nassau can be a little bit different than the rest of the world. When we pulled up the mast at the gate politely told us that the boat would like for us to park in the parking lot. Every homes should have a parking lot.

Day three, back for more sailing, this time with slight breeze off the land. Two teams were over early, one was us. When we finally got to the weather mark, the fleet was just about at the reach mark. Chuck, back at the pool at the lunch break the Argentines who didn’t go back we even more unhappy than we were. After lunch the second race was very ugly. A large shift just after the start put those that went right in front. We were on the left of course. That evening there was an excellent Bahamian dinner at the sailing club. The last day (4) of the Gamblin was the beat. Blowing 20 knots, t-shirt and shorts, and a great reach in the start (didn’t write the same thing last year). Both races started and we got to the mark first. Two squaring reaches and we open up a nice lead until we headed port and the mast came down. Chuck. We tried hitch-hiking, the Argentines wanted us to show them coming long but they then decided that our flags didn’t look good enough. Oh well. On the second triangle Chuck Davids’ second came out of this spreader and beat his mast. When we get back to the dock we added up the points for the Zimmerman and found that we would still win so we pushed our boat and steered from corners for the rest of the afternoon.

The best story of the last day is all of the "I could have worn n’ stories. Of course if we hadn’t broken a mast then... if Jimmie Lowe had gone back when he was over early and had passed just one boat... if Bedford hadn’t had the 12th... if Jim Wilber had tucked for the other end of the line and passed Shiroki then Jerry Thompson... cooks have way upon running Jim’s story wanted to know where that Jim guy was and have a few words, and then there was Tilber’s “if I hadn’t stayed out so long...” The trophy dinner was great! Day five was spent at Rose Island.

Day six we flew back to Miami, picked up the boats from the shipping company and spent the next 6 hours on the road driving back to California.

George Swayne