

Snipe Winter Circuit - Lots of Sailors - One overall Winner

Unfortunately no report was filed for the Midwinters in Clearwater, but next year they are celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Snipe Midwinters - so this will be a MUSTATTEND!

2010 Don Q

March 19 to March 21, 2010

Forty-seven Snipes came to the City of Miami and Biscayne Bay to race in the 44th Annual Don Q Rum Keg Snipe Regatta. The event is hosted by the Coconut Grove Sailing Club and Miami Snipe Fleet 7 and is sponsored annually by the Don Q Rum Destileria Serrallles, Inc. This was a great international event with teams from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Italy, Brazil, Canada and Puerto Rico.

On Friday, Snipers waited for over an hour for the breeze to kick in. The first race was started after one general recall with a prep flag start at 1331. The course was a Windward Leeward course with a downwind finish. The breeze was at 5.8 kts from 325 degrees. As the breeze increased and changed direction we increased the second windward leg and signaled a change to starboard as the breeze was now at 0 degrees. The breeze stayed constant from 0 degrees until the last 8 boats were finishing when it shifted to 160 degrees sending those few boats on a beat to a downwind finish. Henry and Christian Filter won race 1. The right side paid off big and Ernesto Rodriguez had a good lead only to be run down by the Filters at the downwind finish in a dying breeze. The second race was started at 14:54 under better conditions as the wind was now at 9.7 kts from 160 degrees. The course was once again a course W with a downwind finish. As the winds continued increasing the second weather leg was increased to 1.0 nm providing for some additional great sailing. Ernesto Rodriguez won race 2.

Saturday started with a light breeze of 8kts from 120 degrees and a slightly more aggressive fleet. The first attempt to start race three resulted in a general recall. The restart was a Z flag start with no boats receiving penalties. The course was a course W. The wind which remained at 120 degrees decreased to 6 kts which resulted in the shortening of the leg from 1 nm to .8 nm. Race four was a Windward Leeward course with a downwind finish. The breeze was now at 140 degrees however the first attempt to start resulted in a general recall and Z flag penalties to various competitors. The second attempt was successful despite a few OCS. The legs were set at 1 nm. Brian Kamilar and Enrique Quintero did a great job and won both races.

Race 5 on Sunday started in a brisk 16kts of breeze from 155

degrees. The fleet was sent on an Olympic course with 1.20 nm legs. The breeze dissipated to 9 kts resulting in a shortening of the windward leg to .9nm. Further decreases in the breeze resulted in the shortening of the downwind leg to .6 nm. As the breeze continued to decrease the last upwind leg was reduced to .5nm. The race was finished within the time limit with 7 minutes to spare however an error in the signaling of a course change at the weather mark resulted in a request for redress which outcome was the throwing out of the 5th race by the judges' panel. It was unfortunate since the Race Committee did a stellar job in changing marks during the races and setting courses and monitoring starts all regatta. That is sailboat racing!

Many thanks to Coconut Grove Sailing Club and the volunteers in Race Committee PRO and Scorer Jaime Ramon, the Signal boat for the regatta was the S/V Otra Cuba Libre owned by Marc Buller who was also our gunner. The Mark boat on Friday was manned by Susan Walcutt and Barry Simons while the on Saturday and Sunday it was manned by Brian Fink (owner), Laura Fink and Susan Walcutt. The Pin boat was manned throughout the regatta by Ron Rostorfer together with Frank Jansen who was accompanied by Jim Waldron on Saturday and Geoff Sutcliffe on Sunday. On the Signal boat we had Dottie Rostorfer as scribe; Liz Balbin on flags as well as scribe; Marvin Schenker and Jo Ann Mathieu as timers; Paco Calvet and Kit Temple on flags; Brainard Cooper as the class representative. The Protest Committee was comprised of Jere Woltz, USS Senior Judge, Elliot Levy, International Judge, and Jane Ann Pincus, US Sailing Judge, SCIRA rep Brainard Cooper, Regatta Chair Old Man Diaz, Entertainment Carmen Diaz and her team and Club management and many others.

Biscayne Bay is one of the greatest places to race small sailboats. The competition at this event is outstanding. Come and sail the Don Q next year and join the fun.



Don Q Results -top 15 of 47

	Sail No	Helm/Crew Name	Nat	Finishes	Total
1	30473	Ernesto Rodriguez/Mary Hall	USA	2 1 12 2	17
2	30741	Peter M. Commette/taylor Scheuermann	USA	3 6 16 5	30
3	25715	Jorge Murrieta/Alejandro Murrieta	MEX	7 16 4 4	31
4	30269	Enrico Solerio/Sergio Simonetti	ITA	5 11 7 10	33
5	30288	Augie Diaz/Kathleen Tockle	USA	23 10 2 3	38
6	28810	Brian Kamilan/Enrique Quintero	USA	32 5 1 1	39
7	30552	Henry C. Filter/Christian R. Filter	USA	1 3 27 9	40
8	30860	Carol Cronin/Kim Couranz	F	USA 8 7 9 18	42
9	30338	Raul A. Rios/Francisco J. Medina	PUR	4 15 11 13	43
10	29222	Michael V. Danish/Jason Hill	USA	9 8 14 16 ZFP	47
11	30737	Jesus Rodriguez/Megan Place	PUR	6 22 10 16	54
12	30391	Eric Reinke/Bridget Creney	USA	15 19 13 8	55
13	30551	Don Hackbarth/Bruno Mello	USA	12 14 19 17	62
14	30855	Andrew J. Pimental/Julia Marsh	USA	41 4 15 6	66
15	29	Gianpiero Poggi/Eugenia Vanni	ITA	13 2 6 48 OCS	69

Bacardi-Gamblin**Local Team Second in Tag Heuer Snipe Winter Championship Regatta**

Competition in the Tag Heuer Snipe Winter Championships hosted by the Royal Nassau Sailing Club ended with local Bahamian sailors Jimmie Lowe and Cameron Symonette finishing second to the overall winners Norwegians Birger Jansen and Kari Lockert Lie who were presented with Tag Heuer watches in addition to trophies by Abaco Ceramics. In a series in which all races count the Bahamian team were adversely affected by a breakdown causing them to withdraw from race 5 of the 8 race series. Robert Dunkley, the other top local sailor sailing with crew Brent Burrows Junior, also experienced a boat breakage causing him to withdraw from race 5 and miss race 6 while effecting repairs. Ultimately Robert Dunkley finished fourth overall after having finished top of the fleet in the Bacardi Cup, comprising the first three races of the series. Birger Jansen was third in the Bacardi Cup and first in the Dudley Gamblin Memorial series while Jimmie Lowe placed second in both series and overall. Third in the Gamblin and overall was Californian Eric Heim with crew Adrienne Korkosz.

The small but very international fleet included 5 boats from Scandinavian countries seeking respite from a cold dark winter in the warm sunny Bahamian waters. The weather obliged for while conditions varied from 8-10 on the first day of racing to 18-20 on the third day of racing the sun was always shining and the waters warm. In addition the hospitality of the host club, the R.N.S.C., and its Bahamian members were true to historic form and both the sailing and the parties made for a regatta that clearly followed the motto of the Snipe Class; "Serious Sailing, Serious Fun". A great time was had by all both on and off the water with all the participants looking forward to returning next year hopefully to a slightly bigger fleet.

Lori Lowe

**Bacardi - top 5 of 11**

Rank	SailNo	HelmName CrewName	Total
1	BAH 30630	Robert Dunkley Brent J. Burrows	6.0
2	BAH 30511	Jimmie Lowe Cameron Symonette	7.0
3	NOR 30840	Birger Jansen Kari Lockert Lie	9.0
4	BAH 29616	Fernando De Cardenas Daniel De Cardenas	15.0
5	RIN 30502	Hanna-Leena Lehtinen Juha Lehtinen	18.0

Gamblin - top 5 of 11

Rank	SailNo	HelmName CrewName	Total
1	NOR 30840	Birger Jansen Kari Lockert Lie	10.0
2	BAH 30511	Jimmie Lowe Cameron Symonette	16.0
3	USA 30337	Eric Heim Adrienne Korkosz	16.0
4	BAH 29616	Fernando De Cardenas Kimberly Pyfrom	22.0
5	BAH 30630	Robert Dunkley Brent J. Burrows	31.0

Overall Nassau: Birger Jansen & Kari Lockert Lie**Zimmerman - overall Winter Circuit:
ERIC HEIM**

