



Press Release: Robberg Fine Foods Hobie 16 Nationals Plettenberg Bay – all hands on deck!

21<sup>st</sup> December 2019

For immediate release

The Robberg Fine Foods Hobie 16 Nationals held in Plettenberg Bay from the 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> December almost didn't happen! Just three days before the event was scheduled to kick off, its fate hung in the balance, with the President shutting down all beaches in the Garden Route.

While sailing is one of the most socially-distant, Covid-safe sports possible, it requires rigging and launching from Plett's beautiful Hobie beach, which was officially closed to the public for recreational purposes.

Hobie sailors are by nature a positive bunch who nevertheless travelled from across the country to participate eagerly in what had become one of the only national sailing events held all year, and the first Hobie 16 nationals held in Plett in twenty five years.

As their catamaran trailers made their way down national and regional roads, with two teams coming from as far as Tanzania, careful negotiations with municipal and district officials and assurances by the organisers of extra Covid safety protocols, championed by the ever-enthusiastic Plett Tourism, under the watchful and helpful eye of municipal police officers, saw the event getting the green light the day before the start.

Sponsors, Robberg Fine Foods, Barrington's, Clement Gold, Choice Properties, the Bungalow, and Parrot Products ensured that the event was well funded, along with the generous support of the local boating fraternity and holiday volunteers, as well as officials from Knysna Yacht Club. Together their support in time and resources meant the ambitious event could take place in a year when little else was otherwise possible.

The fleet was an especially competitive one, with the country's top Hobie sailors – including Plett world champions Blaine Dodds and William Edwards joined by another world champion Shaun Ferry from Cape Town – tested by some tricky weather conditions that prevailed over four days of fabulous sailing.

After the tense will-it-won't-it-proceed debates, Thursday rewarded the sailors with a clear day and a light Southerly wind, and options to seek out the breeze close to land or head further offshore. After three races, there was little to separate the front runners, but William and Lucinda Edwards made their local knowledge count and ended top of the log establishing themselves as early favourites.

On the second day, a brisk 10-12 knot South-Easterly kicked up a 3 metre swell and the long rolling break on the beach made for especially challenging launching conditions. But nothing keeps a Hobie sailor down, and the top coastal teams helped launch the fleet through the surf without incident. It was tough on the bodies and the boats out on the water, with crews struggling to stay up on trapeze in the wet, bouncy conditions. This saw quite a few capsizes and some boats limped back to shore with breakages. After another three races, Team Edwards held on to their lead.

Saturday saw a lighter Southerly 8-10 knot breeze and calmer seas which enabled the Race Committee to hold a further four races, with Cape Town team Paul and Jayden Lagesse taking over as new leaders.

An overcast start on the last day with a light 6-8 knot South Easterly saw three final races.

William and Lucinda Edwards from Choice Properties emerged as deserved overall winners to ensure the National Championship trophy fittingly resides in Plettenberg Bay for the next year. They were followed closely by Paul and Jayden Lagesse in second place, Shaun Ferry and Alison Ball in third, and Blaine and Roxanne Dodds in fourth. Penny Alison and Heather Wares, all the way from Tanzania, won the Women's Team Trophy.

The Regatta showed the value of team work, behind the scenes, on the sea, and across the Plettenberg Bay community in one of the most trying years in history, with enthusiasm and old fashioned doggedness trumping all.

Ends.

For more details contact Kevin Allan (084) 226 0809

# Robberg Hobie Nationals 2020

## Hobie Beach Plettenberg Bay

Results are provisional as of 14:10 on December 20, 2020

### Overall

Sailed: 13, Discards: 2, To count: 11, Entries: 26, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Class	Sail No	Skipper Name	Crew Name	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	R12	R13	Total	Nett
1st	Hobie 16	117227	William Edwards	Lucinda Edwards	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	(9.0)	(8.0)	5.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	41.0	24.0
2nd	Hobie 16	91095	Paul Lagesse	Jayden Lagesse	4.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	(27.0 DNC)	(27.0 DNC)	1.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	2.0	8.0	85.0	31.0
3rd	Hobie 16	91089	Shaun Ferry	Alison Ball	5.0	3.0	1.0	(27.0 OCS)	(6.0)	2.0	3.0	6.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	2.0	64.0	31.0
4th	Hobie 16	8008	Blaine Dodds	Roxanne Dodds	1.0	(13.0)	4.0	1.0	4.0	1.0	(9.0)	4.0	8.0	6.0	3.0	7.0	1.0	62.0	40.0
5th	Hobie 16	117252	Andrew Ward	Angela Ward	3.0	(11.0)	6.0	4.0	2.0	7.0	2.0	(12.0)	6.0	5.0	6.0	3.0	4.0	71.0	48.0
6th	Hobie 16	16	Garth Loudon	Jennifer Goodyear	(17.0)	7.0	(10.0)	6.0	7.0	3.0	7.0	2.0	10.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	88.0	61.0
7th	Hobie 16	190300	Gerhard van Niekerk	Tammy Holden	(11.0)	6.0	8.0	9.0	3.0	5.0	6.0	3.0	4.0	9.0	7.0	8.0	(13.0)	92.0	68.0
8th	Hobie 16	113040	Duncan Ross	Gabriela Ross	9.0	(17.0)	7.0	8.0	8.0	4.0	(13.0)	8.0	5.0	8.0	9.0	6.0	10.0	112.0	82.0
9th	Hobie 16	117283	Richard Ayres	Lauren Pearce	6.0	5.0	9.0	10.0	5.0	(27.0 DNC)	(18.0)	16.0	7.0	14.0	10.0	9.0	6.0	142.0	97.0
10th	Hobie 16	109127	Mark Wijtenburg	Katelyn Wijtenburg	7.0	14.0	5.0	(27.0 DNC)	(27.0 DNC)	14.0	5.0	10.0	17.0	10.0	13.0	12.0	7.0	168.0	114.0
11th	Hobie 16	105212	Brandon Wijtenburg	Todd Fisher	10.0	9.0	(17.0)	11.0	12.0	15.0	(16.0)	13.0	11.0	7.0	11.0	10.0	11.0	153.0	120.0
12th	Hobie 16	113096	Andrew Rissik	Chantale Rissik	12.0	12.0	12.0	13.0	(17.0)	11.0	10.0	7.0	(22.0)	13.0	14.0	14.0	9.0	166.0	127.0
13th	Hobie 16	114884	Jethro Brophy-Tintinger	Yogi Divaris	15.0	4.0	16.0	12.0	10.0	6.0	(19.0)	17.0	12.0	(19.0)	8.0	15.0	19.0	172.0	134.0
14th	Hobie 16	115084	Douglas Edwards	Tayo Scott	8.0	(27.0 OCS)	15.0	19.0	(27.0 DNC)	27.0 DNC	4.0	11.0	9.0	11.0	17.0	18.0	12.0	205.0	151.0
15th	Hobie 16	117253	Liam Gunning	Stephanie Goodyer	16.0	10.0	(18.0)	14.0	11.0	13.0	17.0	(18.0)	16.0	12.0	15.0	13.0	17.0	190.0	154.0
16th	Hobie 16	91093	Penny Alison	Heather Wares	13.0	(22.0)	(20.0)	15.0	13.0	10.0	15.0	20.0	14.0	18.0	12.0	16.0	16.0	204.0	162.0
17th	Hobie 16	107681	Dino Moranduzzo	Joshua Young	23.0	18.0	21.0	5.0	9.0	8.0	11.0	9.0	(27.0 OCS)	21.0	19.0	20.0	(27.0 DNC)	218.0	164.0
18th	Hobie 16	91098	Mark Kopel	Natasha Brown	14.0	15.0	14.0	(21.0)	(27.0 DNC)	16.0	12.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	20.0	17.0	15.0	216.0	168.0
19th	Hobie 16	888	Ryan Robinson	Darren Till	20.0	8.0	22.0	18.0	14.0	17.0	23.0	(27.0 DNC)	(27.0 DNC)	16.0	18.0	11.0	14.0	235.0	181.0
20th	Hobie 16	117407	Camryn Doubell	Michaela Robinson	(25.0)	24.0	24.0	7.0	15.0	12.0	24.0	14.0	13.0	17.0	21.0	23.0	(27.0 DNC)	246.0	194.0
21st	Hobie 16	113051	Kevin Allan	Max Mhlanga	18.0	(21.0)	19.0	17.0	16.0	18.0	14.0	21.0	19.0	20.0	(22.0)	21.0	18.0	244.0	201.0
22nd	Hobie 16	106222	Calvin Brown	Vernon Brown	22.0	19.0	23.0	(27.0 DNC)	(27.0 DNC)	27.0 DNC	21.0	22.0	18.0	23.0	16.0	19.0	20.0	284.0	230.0
23rd	Hobie 16	1001	David Scott	Ruth Buck	21.0	16.0	11.0	16.0	(27.0 DNC)	(27.0 DNC)	22.0	27.0 DNC	27.0 DNC	22.0	27.0 DNC	27.0 DNC	27.0 DNC	297.0	243.0
24th	Hobie 16	113093	Japie Krynauw	Shane Blignaut	24.0	23.0	(25.0)	20.0	18.0	19.0	25.0	23.0	23.0	24.0	23.0	22.0	(27.0 DNC)	296.0	244.0
25th	Hobie 16	75469	Brett Gething	Ayden Gething	19.0	20.0	13.0	(27.0 DNC)	(27.0 DNC)	27.0 DNC	20.0	19.0	20.0	27.0 DNC	27.0 DNC	27.0 DNC	27.0 DNC	300.0	246.0
26th	Hobie 16	29461	Ryan Hodgson	James Hodgson	26.0	25.0	(27.0 OCS)	22.0	19.0	(27.0 DNC)	26.0	24.0	21.0	25.0	27.0 DNC	24.0	27.0 DNC	320.0	266.0