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WESTERN CAPE CHAMPIONSHIP 2018 **LANGEBAAN 6-8TH APRIL**

ORGANISING CHAIRMANS REPORT

THE EVENT

The Western Cape Champs for 2018 have had a very rough ride. Plan was to hold a regatta out of the V&A into Granger bay..All classes of yacht from Oppies to Cape 31's , including kite-boarding and windsurfers, a festival of sail over the Easter weekend.. During the first meeting it became apparent that maybe we can run this regatta. But this being end Jan and Easter the end March, not much time and hopefully things were in place, nope that was not the case we had to start from zero.

As a committee none of us have ever work together before, let alone run a major event.

Joining me on this committee are Brian Webb, Paul Allardice, Rob Foreman, Karen Slater, Andre Bestha, Andrew McKenzie and Peter Dauelsberg.

As the clock ticked away it became obvious that plan A would not work. So at a meeting 5 weeks to D-day, we switched the regatta to another venue, dropped the all encompassing fleet and most difficult, moved the date now with plan B+ in place we organized in the shortest time a major sailing regatta.

New dates 6, 7 and 8 April, venue Langebaan .

On 6 April a motley bunch arrived at the Hobie center in Langebaan. Soon yachts and sailors arrived and registration began. Around noon a skippers briefing was held and sailors headed to the beach. Condition were perfect, unfortunately logistics were not smooth and only a race was run on course 2 but 2 were run on course 1.

Day two began with little or no wind at 10:00 but bridge crew went to their boats and mark laying boats went out to setup for a days racing as soon as the wind filled in. Racing began around noon and on both course a good number of races were run.

Wind was perfect it was light at the start building through the day but as the late afternoon cooled down the wind died down. But at the end of racing many tired sailors returned to shore to rest and prepared for the next day.

Sunday the final day started with good wind for the start and racing started as soon as courses were set.

As per the Sailing Instructions no races were to start after 14:30 and over the previous days a good number of races had run so we had a regatta.. result was fewer races were raced of Sunday but the races that were sailed were again sailed in perfect wind conditions.

Results for the regatta were a bit of a challenge and Cathy Avieniros and Karen Slater worked hard to get them done ASAP and prize-giving was held at Langebaan Yacht Club the events host club , a very friendly club. Their Club President and great supporter of sailing, Admiral(retired) Koos Louw welcomed us encouraging us to hold more regattas at this wonderful venue of Langebaan.

Langebaan has some of the best sailing waters in our country. From winds of all strengths depending on the season to waters that have tidal conditions to flat calms, deep and shallow. The beach launching facilities are superb and the beach can accommodate large fleets of yachts. We must thank SAN Parks for authorizing our use of this great venue..

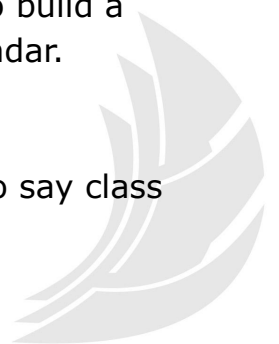
Hobie Center , as the Regatta Center worked fantastically, to be recommended for future events.

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THE ISSUES

- The event was scheduled over a year prior but there was no organizing committee was put in place.
- NO PREP BEFORE APPOINTING A COMMITTEE
 - the committee that picked up this event were not given any documentation or plan about the event.
 - We were invited to 'discuss' the event
- POOR VENUE SELECTION
- VENUE CHANGE
 - The venue was selected without full assessment well in advance, it was pushed until xx February, a few weeks before due to happen.
 - To begin, V&A too much needed to be planned and time before Easter was not enough. Major planning is required to have dinghy's sailing offshore .
 - Plan A – V&A - FAIL
 - Plan B – HYC for junior classes, other classes V&A , too complex – FAIL
 - Plan C – Langebaan, all classes but date change – PASS
- DATE CHANGE
 - Traditionally event happens on Easter weekend, this posed early issues as a change was risky.
 - SANParks would not authorize, helped with date change issues.
 - Some sailors had planned for Easter therefore they were not able to participate.
 - Advantage of change was to allow for accommodation bookings , Easter weekend in Langebaan is very busy and popular, booked out months in advance.
- NO FUNDS TILL 3 DAYS PRIOR
 - Limited extra activity planning
 - No opening ceremony, could not secure a venue to accommodate.
 - R10000.00 of the committed funds was never received and we were required to sign an agreement that we would fulfill certain obligations. An amount of R10k was a loan to be repaid when we received the entry fees., therefore we have contra'd the loan with this unpaid amount.
- POOR COMMUNICATION WITH VOLUNTEERS
 - Volunteers are not easy to find and work must be done to build a database and pre-book people per events per event calendar.
- RO'S ISSUES WITH SI's
 - there were different versions of SI's
- 29'S NATIONALS, didn't happen, not aware of reason, except to say class didn't pull it together.
- SUPPORT CRAFT, limited availability
 - NAVY craft promised but didn't deliver



- two craft could not be towed up
- operating range of craft
- craft chartered leading to costs
- SAFETY
 - As a result of the issues around support craft, at times we were short of safety craft.
- EQUIPMENT
 - there were failures and this can be attributed to no maintenance or following up on problems from previous regattas .
 - We were fortunate to be able to get additional equipment from SBYC , LYC and Club Mykonos.
- Additional reading Neil Armitage report, **APPENDIX 'B'**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Langebaan a great venue
- HOBIE CENTER, excellent base
- LYC, was under utilized because of lack of time and funds to book, but are very keen to host future events.
- ORGANIZE 2019 START NOW
 - FUNDS AVAILABLE
- Create a mobile Regatta Center
- Two computers
 - Skill more people on Sailwave
- Marketing , budget for
 - Links on SA Sailing site
 - FB Page
 - Posters
 - PRESS, pre-event and during
- QUICKET, good and bad ...
 - If you have operating cash it works well but if you are cash strapped no ...
- Late Entries, with good marketing these should be fewer.
- Regatta organizing timetable – see **APPENDIX "C"**

THANK YOU's

- RO's
 - Craig Leslie
 - Neil Armitage
- Bridge Crews
 - specially those who stepped in at the last minute
- Protest Chairman
 - Dave Hudson
- Bridge boats



- Lars Kessel, First Lady
- Captain Graeme
- Paul Apsey
- Results
 - Cathy Avieniros
- SA Sailing Cape Town District Committee
 - Brian and Fatima
 - Rob
 - Paul
 - Andre
 - Karen

RESULTS

- See APPENDIX "A"

BUDGET

- See APPENDIX "D"

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, after a very rocky start, with all the challenges along the way and the dropped ball we ran a successful regatta.

I must also congratulate and thank most sincerely my fellow committee members who worked so hard and were committed to making this event happen.

We made many sailors very happy .. this event was all about SAILING and SAILORS.

YOURS IN SAILING



RUSSELL



APPENDIX "A"

Sailwave results for WC Champs Langebaan at 2018

file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/blw7807.htm

WC Champs Langebaan

Results are provisional as of 16:20 on April 8, 2018

small Fleet

Sailed: 10, Discards: 2, To count: 8, Rating system: PY, Entries: 23, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	School	Boat	Class	SailNo	Club	HelmName	CrewName	PY	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Total	Nett
1st	small	SACS High School		Optimist	1425	ZVYC	Matt Ashwell			(6.0)	1.0	1.0	(24.0 OCS)	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	39.0	9.0
2nd	small	CBC Parklands		Optimist	1400	MAC	Jared Tyler			(7.0)	(9.0)	5.0	6.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	40.0	24.0
3rd	small	Bryandale		Optimist	1328	Other	Jude Stanley			2.0	2.0	(6.0)	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	6.0	(8.0)	40.0	26.0
4th	small	Parklands college		Optimist	1445	MAC	Chiara Fruet			(9.0)	6.0	2.0	3.0	5.0	3.0	(12.0)	4.0	2.0	4.0	50.0	29.0
5th	small	D F Malan High School		Optimist	1391	MAC	Karl Hofmeyr			4.0	(11.0)	3.0	1.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	5.0	(8.0)	2.0	49.0	30.0
6th	small	Qingdao Nanjing Road Primary School		Optimist	1398	Other	Linqing Li			3.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	7.0	(11.0)	3.0	7.0	5.0	(15.0)	64.0	38.0
7th	small	Experimental Primary School of Sifang Di		Optimist	1392	Other	Zeyu Wang			8.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	(10.0)	6.0	5.0	8.0	7.0	(13.0)	78.0	55.0
8th	small	Westerford		Optimist	1368	ZVYC	Oscar Duys			5.0	3.0	(14.0)	10.0	11.0	12.0	7.0	(14.0)	11.0	5.0	92.0	64.0
9th	small	Bryandale		Optimist	1387	Other	Alec Stanley			1.0	4.0	12.0	12.0	15.0	(16.0)	10.0	10.0	4.0	(17.0)	101.0	68.0
10th	small	SACS High School		Optimist	1367	ZVYC	Bryan Carstens			10.0	8.0	8.0	5.0	6.0	8.0	(13.0)	(15.0)	13.0	10.0	96.0	68.0
11th	small			Optimist	1451	MAC	Eugenie Burger			12.0	12.0	10.0	(14.0)	12.0	7.0	8.0	(13.0)	10.0	7.0	105.0	78.0
12th	small	Panorama Primary		Optimist	1268	ZVYC	Thomas Slater			13.0	(14.0)	9.0	13.0	8.0	10.0	11.0	6.0	(14.0)	9.0	107.0	79.0
13th	small	SACS High School		Optimist	1428	MAC	Ross Mackinnon			(15.0)	10.0	11.0	8.0	(14.0)	9.0	9.0	12.0	9.0	11.0	108.0	79.0
14th	small	Qingdao No. 5 Middle School		Optimist	1429	Other	Xixi Xu			11.0	13.0	13.0	11.0	9.0	13.0	(14.0)	9.0	(15.0)	6.0	114.0	85.0
15th	small	Qingdao Qiyuan School		Optimist	139217	Other	Haoyang Dang			16.0	16.0	(19.0)	9.0	13.0	15.0	15.0	16.0	16.0	(21.0)	156.0	116.0
16th	small	Pinehurst Primary		Optimist	1408	ZVYC	Dean Carstens			19.0	15.0	16.0	(20.0)	18.0	(22.0)	16.0	11.0	12.0	12.0	161.0	119.0
17th	small	Blouberg International School		Optimist	1321	MAC	Patrick Kessel			14.0	17.0	20.0	(21.0)	(21.0)	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	14.0	175.0	133.0
18th	small	Outeniqua High		Optimist	1399	GLYC	Kyle Koeries			17.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	16.0	18.0	(24.0 DNS)	(19.0)	19.0	16.0	183.0	140.0
19th	small	DSK		Optimist	1432	ZVYC	Elisa Faloon			(23.0)	20.0	15.0	15.0	17.0	19.0	19.0	(23.0)	18.0	20.0	189.0	143.0
20th	small	George High		Optimist	1438	GLYC	Thomas Lawa			18.0	21.0	23.0	17.0	22.0	14.0	(24.0 DNS)	20.0	20.0	(24.0 DNC)	203.0	155.0
21st	small	Noordhaven Montessori		Optimist	1407	ZVYC	Joe Groenhof			21.0	(24.0 DNC)	17.0	16.0	(23.0)	20.0	21.0	21.0	23.0	19.0	205.0	158.0
22nd	small	camps bay		Optimist	1332	MAC	Chiara Ross			20.0	(22.0)	21.0	19.0	19.0	21.0	20.0	(22.0)	21.0	18.0	203.0	159.0
23rd	small	RGJS		Optimist	1367	ZVYC	Isabella Keytel			(22.0)	19.0	22.0	22.0	20.0	(23.0)	18.0	18.0	22.0	22.0	208.0	163.0

open Fleet

Sailed: 10, Discards: 2, To count: 8, Rating system: PY, Entries: 8, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	School	Boat	Class	SailNo	Club	HelmName	CrewName	PY	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Total	Nett	
1st	open	Herschel Girls School		Dabchick	3438	IYC	Amber De Decker			1170	2.0	3.0	(6.5)	2.0	1.0	1.0	(6.0)	3.0	1.0	6.0	31.5	19.0

APPENDIX "A"

sailwave results for WC Champs Langebaan at 2018

file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/biWFA/2.htm

sailwave results for WC Champs Langebaan at 2018

file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/biWFA/2.htm

Rank	Fleet	School	Boat	Class	SailNo	Club	HelmName	CrewName	PY	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	Total	Nett
9th	open	DSK		420	53801	ZVYC	Sara Falcon	Siena Jones	1110	2.0	8.0	(11.0)	11.0	7.0	9.0	10.0	8.0	6.0	72.0	61.0
10th	open		Fireball	14321		USYC	Cundell Statt	Lawrence Wilson	959	7.0	9.0	(10.0)	10.0	9.0	7.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	80.0	70.0
11th	open		420	5309		ZVSC	Luke Topass	Juan Benjamin	1110	(12.0 DNC)	6.0	8.0	7.0	10.0	11.0	12.0 DNC	10.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	88.0	76.0

finn Fleet

Sailed: 9, Discards: 1, To count: 8, Rating system: PY, Entries: 11, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	School	Boat	Class	SailNo	Club	HelmName	CrewName	PY	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	Total	Nett
1st	finn		Finn	7		IYC	Gareth Blanckenberg			2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	(12.0 DNC)	22.0	10.0
2nd	finn		Finn	594		KYC	David Shilton			(4.0)	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	22.0	18.0
3rd	finn		Finn	1		RCYC	Greg Davis			1.0	(4.0)	2.0	4.0	2.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	27.0	23.0
4th	finn		Finn	5		TSC	Richard Hutton-Squire			5.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	4.0	(6.0)	5.0	5.0	1.0	36.0	30.0
5th	finn		Finn	77		ZVYC	Constantine Hatzilambros			3.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	(8.0)	5.0	2.0	7.0	4.0	44.0	36.0
6th	finn		Finn	51		ZVYC	Philip Baum			7.0	7.0	6.0	(9.0)	7.0	3.0	6.0	4.0	5.0	54.0	45.0
7th	finn		Finn	577		RCYC	Morgan Evans			6.0	9.0	7.0	8.0	5.0	7.0	9.0	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	75.0	63.0
8th	finn		Finn	581		KYC	Dudley Isaac			8.0	(10.0)	10.0	6.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	6.0	6.0	75.0	65.0
9th	finn		Finn	1111		ZVYC	Marco Tobin			10.0	6.0	8.0	7.0	6.0	9.0	8.0	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	78.0	66.0
10th	finn	alan serritslev	Finn	2		ZVYC	Ali Serritslev			9.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	8.0	7.0	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	85.0	73.0
11th	finn		Finn	593		ZVYC	Cedric Jakobsen			(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	108.0	96.0

multi Fleet

Sailed: 9, Discards: 1, To count: 8, Rating system: PY, Entries: 12, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	School	Boat	Class	SailNo	Club	HelmName	CrewName	PY	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	Total	Nett
1st	multi		Hobie 14	63271		RCYC	Nicholas Ryall		879	(13.0 DNC)	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	22.0	9.0
2nd	multi		Hobie 14	63295		LYC	Simon Russell		879	2.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	7.0	(8.0)	3.0	3.0	31.0	23.0
3rd	multi	Bishops	Hobie 14	60533		LYC	Alex Russell		879	1.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	(8.0)	2.0	31.0	23.0
4th	multi		Hobie 14	63314		Other	John Ryall		879	(13.0 DNC)	4.0	5.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	6.0	5.0	8.0	51.0	38.0
5th	multi		Dart 18	7844		ELYC	Lawrence Haw	Nathan Muller	816	3.0	6.0	4.0	6.0	6.0	(11.0)	10.0	4.0	4.0	54.0	43.0
6th	multi		Hobie 14	60395		Other	Jack Hartland		879	(13.0 DNC)	5.0	6.0	7.0	5.0	9.0	5.0	7.0	6.0	63.0	50.0
7th	multi		Hobie 14	60526		MAC	Duncan Ross		879	(13.0 DNC)	8.0	7.0	5.0	13.0 DNC	5.0	7.0	6.0	7.0	71.0	58.0
8th	multi		Hobie 14	60		FBYC	Robert Fine		879	(13.0 DNC)	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	2.0	3.0	9.0	5.0	84.0	71.0
9th	multi		Hobie 16	90985		VYC	Des Green	Mark Green	811	(13.0 DNC)	9.0	9.0	8.0	8.0	10.0	12.0	10.0	9.0	88.0	75.0
10th	multi		Hobie 14	60527		FBYC	David Power		879	(13.0 DNC)	7.0	8.0	13.0 OCS	7.0	6.0	11.0	11.0	13.0 DNC	89.0	76.0
11th	multi		Hobie 14	63292		LYC	Richard Ayres		879	(13.0 DNC)	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	8.0	2.0	2.0	13.0 DNC	90.0	77.0
12th	multi		Hobie 14	63293		LYC	Hennie de Villiers		879	(13.0 DNC)	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	12.0	9.0	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	112.0	99.0

radial Fleet

Sailed: 9, Discards: 1, To count: 8, Rating system: PY, Entries: 11, Scoring system: Appendix A

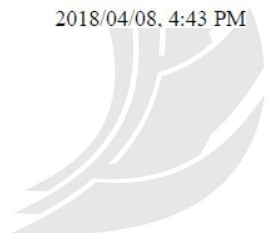
Rank	Fleet	School	Boat	Class	SailNo	Club	HelmName	CrewName	PY	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	Total	Nett
1st	radial			Laser Radial	191033	IYC	Calvin Gibbs			1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	(4.0)	1.0	1.0	1.0	12.0	8.0
2nd	radial	SACS High School		Laser Radial	191056	HYC	Cullen Keytel			2.0	(5.0)	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	24.0	19.0
3rd	radial	York high school, George		Laser Radial	191057	GLYC	James Hellstrom			4.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	(5.0)	3.0	2.0	2.0	26.0	21.0
4th	radial			Laser Radial	201755	Other	Sonja Stock			3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	2.0	(5.0)	4.0	4.0	34.0	29.0
5th	radial	Wynberg girls high		Laser Radial	191120	ZVYC	Sarah-jane Deary			(7.0)	2.0	5.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	4.0	6.0	6.0	48.0	41.0
6th	radial	Herschel		Laser Radial	191101	IYC	Isabella Wright			5.0	6.0	7.0	6.0	(8.0)	6.0	6.0	5.0	5.0	54.0	46.0
7th	radial	Bishops		Laser Radial	160109	IYC	Cameron Clark			6.0	7.0	6.0	9.0	5.0	9.0	(11.0)	7.0	7.0	67.0	56.0
8th	radial	Bishops		Laser Radial	16	HYC	James Rumbelow			8.0	(9.0)	8.0	7.0	9.0	3.0	8.0	9.0	8.0	69.0	60.0
9th	radial	York high school, George		Laser Radial	191040	GLYC	Robyn Hellstrom			9.0	8.0	9.0	(10.0)	10.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	9.0	82.0	72.0
10th	radial			Laser Radial	160132	ZVYC	Ken Holliday			(12.0 DNC)	11.0	11.0	8.0	7.0	10.0	7.0	8.0	12.0 DNC	86.0	74.0
11th	radial			Laser Radial	144183	IYC	Giselle Deuchar			10.0	10.0	10.0	(11.0)	11.0	11.0	10.0	11.0	10.0	94.0	83.0

standard Fleet

Sailed: 9, Discards: 1, To count: 8, Rating system: PY, Entries: 11, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	School	Boat	Class	SailNo	Club	HelmName	CrewName	PY	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	Total	Nett
1st	standard			Laser Standard	191090	ZVYC	Alistair Keytel			1.0	2.0	1.0	(12.0 DNC)	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	22.0	10.0
2nd	standard			Laser Standard	208174	ZVYC	Alan Keen			2.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	1.0	(4.0)	3.0	2.0	21.0	17.0
3rd	standard			Laser Standard	160088	TSC	Dylan Long			3.0	4.0	4.0	1.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	(12.0 DNC)	3.0	38.0	26.0
4th	standard			Laser Standard	204518	ZVYC	Matthew Allardice			4.0	5.5	3.0	2.0	(6.0)	4.0	6.0	4.0	4.0	38.5	32.5
5th	standard			Laser Standard	160096	ZVYC	Yusuf Sampson			6.0	(7.0)	5.0	6.0	4.0	7.0	7.0	2.0	7.0	51.0	44.0
6th	standard			Laser Standard	160130	HYC	Dane Collingridge			5.0	5.5	6.0	4.0	2.0	5.0	5.0	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	56.5	44.5
7th	standard			Laser Standard	157695	ZVYC	Dealtry Pickford			8.0	3.0	(9.0)	9.0	9.0	8.0	2.0	7.0	6.0	61.0	52.0
8th	standard			Laser Standard	161599	MAC	John Raynor			(10.0)	9.0	7.0	5.0	7.0	9.0	9.0	5.0	5.0	66.0	56.0
9th	standard			Laser Standard	144414	RYC	Jordan van Zyl			9.0	(10.0)	8.0	7.0	8.0	6.0	8.0	6.0	8.0	70.0	60.0
10th	standard			Laser Standard	184811	MAC	Alan Cargill			7.0	8.0	10.0	8.0	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	93.0	81.0
11th	standard			Laser Standard	188051	KYC	Yogi Divaris			(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	108.0	96.0

Sailwave Scoring Software 2.24.0
www.sailwave.com



APPENDIX "B"

WC Championships, Langebaan 6-8 April 2018

Report by Neil Armitage, RO on Course 2 (Senior boats)

Prior to the event

- I initially volunteered (Email to Bev le Sueur) to assist as a Race Officer on 21 November 2017 when the WC Championships was advertised as to be held in Table Bay 30 March – 2 April 2018. I asked: *‘to see the draft NoR and SI sooner rather than later.’*
- I repeated my offer (Email to Bev le Sueur) on 24 February 2018 after seeing the notice of the change of venue to Langebaan, and the change of dates to 6-8 April.
- I received a draft NoR from Russell Volmer on 5 March 2018 – and responded immediately.
- On 8 March 2018, I asked Bev le Sueur for *‘a list of all the ‘on-the-water’ officials including Race Officers, timekeepers, flag officers with an indication of where they will be likely stationed’*. My query was referred to Russell Volmer.
- On 9 March 2018, I was assured by Paul Allardice that: *‘The intention is to form a sailing committee for the event. It would be good if both you and Craig were on it. Bruce and Dave Hudson will put the SI’s together’*.
- On 10 March 2018 I completed the documentation for 29er Nationals Application.
- On 12 March 2018 I once again requested to be updated on the courses and was informed I would be informed after *‘the meeting’* that night and was told *‘we will plan a sailing meeting where we will require your presence’*. I once again suggested I be invited to the committee. I repeated my concern about the SI.
- I eventually received a draft SI from Russell Volmer on 19 March 2018 and responded with several comments on 20 March 2018. *Inter alia*, I requested that the Finish Bridge be relocated on Course 2 to provide for a beating finish as this makes it much easier for the RO to read the sail numbers. I provided more comment on 20 March 2018.
- When I still had not received an appropriate response I followed up with an email to Russell Volmer on 27 March 2018. I specifically asked for: Start Boat name and type; Skipper; Timekeeper on Start Bridge; Flag Officer on Start Bridge; Recorders (x3); Mark Layers (x3 boats – with crew); Additional safety boats (each with skipper and crew); Finish Boat name and type; Skipper on Finish Boat; RO on Finish Boat; Recorders (x3) on Finish Boat; Equipment Officer. I suggested Leonor Holliday as Timekeeper and Millicent Keen as Flag Officer on Start Bridge and was emphatically informed that they *‘WILL BE INVITED’*
- I received response on 28 March that began to make me very suspicious that some of my key comments had been ignored. I requested a copy of the updated SI – but did not receive one.

I have summarised the communication I had with the Sailing Committee (or what passed for one) prior to the event to put into perspective what happened next. I visited Hobie Cape, Langebaan at 15:00 on 5 April and again 08:00 on 6 April to find the venue deserted. When the presumed ‘Sailing Committee’ arrived, it became evident that:

1. The issues that I had addressed on the SI had not been addressed; in the end Dave Hudson, Craig Leslie and I had to quickly amend – almost rewrite – the draft SI prior to putting it on the Notice Board.
2. Other than Millicent Keen, no-one had been assigned to assist me on the Course 2 Start Bridge; specifically, Leonor Holliday had not been invited as promised. Fortunately, Leonor arrived at the venue and kindly agreed to help. Others were ‘press-ganged’ to assist with recording.
3. The only mark laying boat that appeared to be assigned to Course 2 was Yebo – this despite me making it clear from the start that a minimum of three mark-laying and safety boats were required.
4. Not all the flags were supplied in the bridge boxes; Millicent Keen had to run around to find missing flags e.g. the flags for the mark-laying boats.

5. The Bridge Boat had yet to be prepped for carrying the flags.

In short, there was inadequate preparation for the regatta. However, things were about to get worse.

Racing – Friday 6 April 2018

- Racing was due to commence 14:00 on Friday 6 April, however it was soon apparent that was not going to happen. Apart from the organisational chaos previously mentioned, 'First Lady' – the boat serving as the Start Bridge – could not get into Langebaan or Club Mykonos to pick up the bridge crew and consequently last-minute arrangements had to be made to transport everyone to Club Mykonos, motor out to the course on the boat serving as the Bridge Boat for Course 1 that day (a luxury catamaran) and make a difficult 'boat-to-boat' transfer using the available safety boats. 'AP' was hoisted on the shore flag post at Hobie Cape.
- Once on station, mark laying proceeded with the two mark-boats ('Yebo' and one other). Further problems were revealed; the mooring ropes were too short on most of the buoys and we were one buoy short. In the end, the skipper of 'First Lady' provided spare lines to lengthen the moorings on the buoys and, at the suggestion of Hein Brits – the RO on the Finish Bridge – the 'First Lady' tender was used as a mark boat in place of a buoy for Mark 5. 'AP' was dropped on the shore flag post at 14:41 and raised on the Start Boat at 15:48.
- 'AP' was dropped on the Start Boat at 16:29. The start procedure for Race 1 was then initiated at 16:30. The wind was southerly 8-10kts. The starting order was: Hobies and Darts; 420s and Fireballs, Laser Stds and 4.7s; Laser Radials; Finns; and finally, Extras. There were no recalls throughout the entire sequence. Most competitors took around 45-50 minutes to get around the course. Although the original intention had been to complete two races, the late start precluded this and the competitors were sent home upon completion. 'AP over A' was raised 17:26.
- Throughout the afternoon and immediately afterwards I complained to Shore Control (via radio – no response), 'Andre' (supposedly in charge of the safety boats – via cell phone) and others about insufficient mark and safety boats. I was assured arrangements would be made to see this did not happen again.
- Back on the shore it was established that there had been an error in the start sequence; we had started the boats in the order advertised for the flag allocations on the noticeboard and not the official start order. Thankfully, there were no protests over this. For subsequent races I decided to continue with the start sequence used for Race 1 to avoid confusion and wrote a notice to this effect.

Racing – Saturday 7 April 2018

- The forecast for Saturday was a steady 8-10kt breeze from the south, however there was little wind in the early morning. I got the Bridge crew to Mykonos to board First Lady and we motored to our course to set up – departing the shore at around 09:30. Meantime, the 'Y' and the course flags were flown on the shore to prevent launching.
- Although I was now provided with the necessary six buoys with sufficiently long mooring lines, once again only two mark-laying / safety boats arrived on the water – 'Yebo' and 'Rib Mykonos'. Once again, I attempted to contact shore re the need for more boats.
- The wind started filling in from a southerly direction at around 12:00 and the 'Y' Flag was dropped on shore to get the boats out. We set up the course. It took a while for all the boats to get to the starting area so the first start (Hobies and Darts) for Race 2 was only at 13:35. This was followed by Race 3 (first start at 14:18) and Race 4 (first start at 15:03). The wind was predominately southerly at around 8-10kts throughout.
- At around 15:30 I was asked permission – by radio – whether the crew of 'Rib Mykonos' could transfer to 'First Lady' so that the boat could return to base with its driver who 'had to knock off at 16:00'. This was clearly unacceptable as we were already short of safety boats and could not afford to lose one. Furthermore, it was now brought to my attention that 'Yebo's' tiller had broken off / been removed and the boat was being steered by a crew member sitting on the outboard motor and rotating it from side to side! Essentially, I was to be left out at sea with a fleet of some 70 dinghies without a single seaworthy safety boat should 'Rib Mykonos'

leave and thus refused permission for the driver to go home. Illustrative of the problem we had, Alistair Keytel's Laser outhaul snapped as he rounded the leeward mark heading up for the 2nd beat of Race 4. To fix it he had to capsize his boat. He was in the water for a considerable length of time without anyone going to enquire whether he needed assistance. Thankfully, he is an excellent sailor and was never in danger.

- Refusing to release 'Rib Mykonos' immediately brought a belated flurry of activity as I was phoned by Russell Volmer and ordered to release this boat. I refused on grounds of safety. After some argument I agreed that it could go once a replacement was on the course – and not merely 'on the way'. Meantime, I suspended all further starts and allowed the competitors to collect around the Start Bridge ('First Lady'). This angered some of the yachtsman with at least one skipper (Hobie 60526) shouting at us to start the next race.
- At around 15:50 the NSRI boat arrived on the course and I released 'Rib Mykonos'; the first start for Race 5 was at 16:04.
- Given the inadequate situation regarding safety craft and the lateness of the day, 'AP over A' flags were hoisted at 16:38 and the last boat finished the course and headed for home at around 17:20.
- Once back at Hobie Cape I was asked by Russell Volmer if I had been informed ahead of racing about the need for 'Rib Mykonos' to be released at an agreed time. I said I had not, but whatever the arrangement, safety could not be compromised and thus I could not have been expected to let it go until I was comfortable with the safety arrangements. Once more I emphasised that it was necessary for Course 2 to be serviced by at least three safety boats. I was promised – for the umpteenth time – that arrangements would be made for the racing to follow.

Racing – Sunday 8 April 2018

- The forecast for Sunday was for calm early on with an 8-10kt breeze from the southeast. I got 'First Lady' on station and in due course three safety boats: 'Yebo 2' (a replacement for the unserviceable 'Yebo'), 'Marco' and 'Jabberwocky' arrived with the buoys and I set up for a south-easterly wind. To my surprise, once the course was set up 'Jabberwocky' was abruptly withdrawn to Course 1.
- The first start for Race 6 was at 10:50. Almost at the same time the wind started to shift to the south resulting in a heavy starboard bias on the start-line. The next start (420s and Fireballs) resulted in a General Recall and I used the opportunity to move the pin-end some 10m to windward. The class was restarted under the 'U' flag at 11:03. The rest of the starts ('P' flag) went without hitch. Once all boats had cleared each mark it was shifted to reflect a southerly wind. I also adjusted the pin again.
- Once again, I found myself with insufficient safety boats and, to make matters worse, 'Marco' was abruptly withdrawn. Once again, I found myself begging for more safety boats to be made available. Once again, I was assured more were on their way. I forget at what time, but 'Marco' did return, however that still left us short.
- The first start of Race 7 was at 11:48 and that of Race 8 was at 12:35. A new problem became evident at this point; some of the Hobies were sailing into the Naval Restriction Zone whilst beating up to Mark 1A. I had to repeatedly send 'Marco' to tell them to desist – but the crew of 'Marco' was ignored, the sailors allegedly telling them that they 'had no choice with the course as set', although it was patently obvious this was untrue as there was considerable sea-room on that side of the course – just not for anyone wishing to take two tacks only. Whatever, this left me with a double dilemma; boats routinely violating the Naval Restriction Zone and only one safety boat, 'Yebo 2', left to patrol the course to help boats in trouble / move marks whatever. More appeals for assistance did result in 'Jabberwocky' from Course 1 being sent to assist – but 'Jabberwocky' was almost immediately recalled to Course 1 to help an Optimist in trouble.
- The wind now started to strengthen – with gust speeds approaching 20kts – and, although it was still sailable, it was clear that the sailors were getting tired with a few boats capsizing. I initiated a debate with Hein Brits on the Finish Boat about the wisdom of continuing without adequate safety support. His view was that it was getting dangerous and we should stop the racing and get everyone off the water. I, however, took the decision to attempt one more race and, if no more support was forthcoming by the end of the start sequence to end the regatta with Race 9 (Race 8 for the Extras as they were lagging the others).

- The first start for Race 9 was at 13:09. After a short wait for one of the 420s, the second start was at 13:26. The Finns started at 13:41 – and, with no additional safety boats visible, flags ‘AP over A’ were flown a minute later.
- Shortly thereafter I was informed that the NSRI boat was coming to help us, however it was ‘too little, too late’. We waited for everyone to finish and cleared the course.

Concluding remarks

- This was arguably the worst-organised regatta I have ever been involved with. Documentation was faulty. Equipment was inadequate. Insufficient arrangements had been made ahead of time for assistance on the bridge and safety boats. Communication with me, the Race Officer on the Senior Course (Course 2), was abysmal.
- There were never enough safety boats. I requested three minimum. Apart for a few short minutes at the beginning of racing on the Sunday, I never had more than two. Often, I was down to one. Once, the one boat I had was not fully serviceable. Thankfully the wind was not that strong throughout the regatta. Had it been, sailors’ lives would have been at risk. I have sailed in several regattas where inadequate numbers of safety boats nearly ended in disaster. I had a nasty experience at a Laser Nationals in Simonstown once; a friend of mine nearly lost his life in a Laser Nationals in Mossel Bay. When is SAS going to start taking safety seriously? When someone dies?

Neil Armitage

16 April 2018



APPENDIX “D”

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE - WC CHAMPS APR '18 – LANGEBAAN Y.C.

	2017	2018	2018 Actual	NOTES
Income	114,700.00	85,000.00	99,250.95	
dcas DCAS Sponsorship	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	
dcas SASWC Sponsorship	20,000.00	20,000.00	50,000.00	
q DCAS / Qingdao	800.00	0.00	0.00	R 60K ???
q DCAS / Qingdao Sailor entry fees	1,800.00	0.00	0.00	
Entry Fees - Quicket	57,750.00	45,000.00	44,650.95	only available after closing entries
dcas Entry Fees - Transformation sailors	5,400.00	0.00	0.00	
dcas Entry Fees - late entries CASH	8,950.00	0.00	4,600.00	
Expenditure	99,569.09	100,500.00	29,246.47	
Quicket Commission	3,226.13	2,000.00	2,649.05	
Lunch packs - volunteers 50 persons	9,072.00	10,000.00	0.00	
SAS COF, Safety boat survey	400.00	400.00	0.00	
Tent?HOBIE Center	2,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Security	3,000.00	7,500.00	4,040.00	@ R25/hr @ 60 hrs @ 5 guards X 3
Braaiwood	481.12	0.00	0.00	
Fire extinguisher, Safety boat survey	160.00	0.00	0.00	
Blitsdruk, bridge sheets	55.00	0.00	0.00	movedg to race cobsumables
El shadia, signal horn	190.00	0.00	0.00	movedg to race cobsumables
Podium cash prizes	16,000.00 ??	0.00	4,000.00	SPONSORS ??
Boltman, shackles	140.00	0.00	0.00	movedg to race cobsumables
Classica, pens and pencils	100.00	0.00	0.00	movedg to race cobsumables
Mikeva, erasers, sharpeners	111.71	0.00	0.00	movedg to race cobsumables
Midas & Agri, duck tape and bridge	575.84	0.00	0.00	movedg to race cobsumables
Fuel and Oil	8,362.09	18,000.00	2,657.77	12 hour for 10 boats for 3 daays
Safety Boat hire	8,000.00	8,000.00	2,800.00	
dcas Transport - SAS equipment + Development boats, fine	8,200.00	8,200.00	0.00	
Entertainment	1,500.00	5,000.00	0.00	
Guesthouse Race Officers	5,700.00	6,000.00	6,500.00	2 RO, 1 Peotest
Camping subsidy volunteers	5,185.00	6,000.00	2,471.00	50 per night
Duck Hire – Club boat	3,300.00 ??	4,000.00	0.00	is this duck usable ??
Smart Digital, boat stickers and tallies	3,900.00	3,500.00	0.00	
dcas Entry fee for transformation sailors x 30	5,400.00	5,400.00	0.00	
dcas Volunteer thank you shirts (not alcohol) x 60 ppl	11,890.20	12,000.00	2,128.65	
dcas Thank you presents (Open Ceremony photo framed)	2,120.00	2,500.00	0.00	
dcas SANPark boat licences		1,700.00	5,350.00	
dcas Welcome Platters		9,000.00	0.00	
dcas Prize Giving		15,000.00	0.00	
dcas Race consumables		1,500.00	1,000.00	
dcas MEDALS		4,000.00	0.00	
dcas Transfoemation camping		2,000.00	1,160.00	
dcas Electrician		0.00	0.00	
dcas Stationery – Land based		2,500.00	1,000.00	
dcas Arm Bands		1,000.00	0.00	
PROFIT / LOSS	15,130.91	-15,500.00	70,004.48	

