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I hope that all the islands have worked out ,or are working out, who they will send to Ireland as their representative for the ISAF Annual Conference meeting.
Now is the chance to use our voice and vote for who we would like to see running ISAF.
I hope to see as many of you there as possible. (Voting is the 10th November 2012).

ISAF Annual Conference—Dun Laoghaire—Dublin, Ireland

1—11 November



Mark your calendars!

Regatta Organizers Conference (ROC) and AGM
20 and 21 October 2012
St. Maarten

Confirm attendance with Cary on director@bigboatseries.com

Caribbean Dinghy Championships

hosted by the Antigua Yacht Club and held over the weekend of August 10th, 11th & 12th.

Article by Cary Byerley
Photo's by Jessica van Vliet



Teams from 4 islands congregated at the Antigua Yacht Club on Friday August 10th. Teams were given their allocated boats to rig up, which they did, then they went for a practice sail. When the teams felt they had all in order, everyone headed to Pigeon Point beach where "Anything but Sailing" games were organized for all teams to compete in. Teams were encouraged to intermingle and form combined teams.

The rowing races were a big hit while the tug of war proved that it was not always the big guys that would win. Jolyon Ferron and Omari Scott went head to head in a push up contest, with Jolyon coming out the outright winner (85 push-ups in a minute). For some reason no one wanted to take Jolyon on after his victory!

After fun on the beach a BBQ was brought in with delicious grilled local corn served along with other delights. Teams woke up Saturday morning to a very windy day due to Tropical Storm 7, not un-similar to last years conditions also due to a storm.

Racing was delayed slightly as the race committee tried to lay a course that would work well for everyone in the very blowy conditions. The morning's racing saw some sailors finding the conditions a little too challenging with many cap-sizes and a few retirements - mostly in the Optimist class.

The Caribbean Dinghy Championships (CDC) is sanctioned by the Caribbean Sailing Association.



The Laser Standard class

Jason Tindale from Barbados got the win in this class. He started off with a win showing the rest of the fleet that he had his eye on the bullet and was not going to make it easy on anyone who tried to take it from him. He had a lapse in the last three races after lunch on Saturday but came back true to form on Sunday morning getting three bullets.

In 2nd place was Phil Martin sailing for Antigua 2. Phil, it would seem, was far more comfortable in the heavy breeze on Saturday than in the lighter winds on Sunday.

In 3rd place tying on 27 points was Daniel Briggs from Trinidad and Jolyon Ferron from St.Maarten. These two battled it out all weekend, and the tie was broken in favour of Daniel by the fact that Daniel had two 2nd place finishes whilst Jolyon only had one. Jolyon said he had problems by capsizes too many times on the down wind legs.

It would seem that Patrick Watson was not happy in the strong breeze of the first day of racing, which resulted in poor results. On Sunday, when the wind had dropped a good deal, he sailed to two 2nd place finishes, showing that if the wind had not been blowing the way it was, maybe the results would have been very different.



The Laser Radial class

Wesley Scott from Trinidad won this class with a fair amount of dominance getting 6 bullets out of 9 races. Shawn Ambrose sailing for Antigua 1 came in 2nd with a wide variety of results while Rhone Findlay came in 3rd. Omari Scott sailing for Antigua 2 was holding steady and would have got a 3rd or 2nd place finish had it not been that he had a car accident early Sunday morning and was unable to compete in the races on Sunday. (Omari is fine and will be back to compete once again). Amy Cox sailing for Barbados, the only girl sailing in Lasers, came in 5th. The weather conditions was not really the weather for a girl to compete in a laser against men, but she was still able to pull off two 2nd place finishes showing that she was no push over.



In the Laser Pico class

This was the first time this class has been used as the Antigua Yacht Club has only just received this fleet of brand new boats to be used in their program. First in this class was Rhone Kirby and River Andrews from Antigua (Antigua 1). These two produced steady results, never going below 2nd place which gave them a good strong lead. Their only real challenge came from the two youngest competitors in this class, Bart van Vliet and Alec Scarabelli from St.Maarten. These two managed to sail to 3 wins but were unable to convert their wins with other better results. Bart and Alec had to settle for 2nd place, but next year might be a different story! 3rd in class went to Aldrick Meade and Tyvone Samuel sailing for Antigua 2. They had two DNF's and one retirement which did not really help their chances of getting the win, but some very good steady sailing kept them in the top three. 4th in class went to the only girls in the class - Kim Gittens and Leisl Brewster from Barbados. After a good result in the first race these two had some hic ups with gear failure and were awarded average points for race 2 & 3. Following their misfortune, they were unable to get some good results to help with their average points. In 5th place was Michael Steward & Patrick Francois from Trinidad. These two never really seemed to find their groove in this boat but maybe next year it will be a different story.



ZOOM 8 Class (12 years to 16)

1st in the class was Kelly Arrindell from Trinidad who sailed an almost perfect day on Saturday, except for one hic up while in the gusty winds in the 2nd race she capsized and did not finish the race. Sunday was interesting when the winds dropped and Kelly did not have it all her own way, as she did on Saturday.

2nd was Hosea Williams sailing for Antigua 1. Last year Hosea won this class and in fact beat Kelly, but this year they changed this around. Hosea once again sailed a very steady regatta.

3rd was Scott Gittens from Barbados. Scott sailed a very strong regatta and was lying in 2nd place, when due to being protested in the 8th race - and losing that protest— put him in 3rd place. Last year Scott was also 3rd in this class. These 3 sailors have many more years ahead of battling it out and will be fun to watch them grow and excel.

4th was Jules Mitchell sailing for Antigua 2. It was hard for Jules to break into the stronghold that the 3 above mentioned sailors have on this class. 5th was Bodine Beenjtes from St.Maarten. Bodine had two excellent port start starts and most of her other starts were also very good— but unfortunately she was unable to convert her strong starting ability into any strong finishes!



Optimist Class (11 and under)

1st place, with a very strong showing of 9 bullets, was Louis Bavay - sailing for Antigua 1. Louis has come a long way since last years CDC's when he was unable to get any better than a 4th place in any of the races. A big congratulations needs to go out to him for working hard at improving his sailing.

In 2nd place was Joshua Belle from Trinidad sailing a very solid regatta and trying his best to get a win from Louis.

In 3rd place was Anish Persaud from Barbados who showed he has what it takes in sailing and will very shortly be getting far better results.

4th was Jalese Gordon sailing for St.Maarten. Jalese is in fact from Antigua but due to the fact that at the last minute St. Maarten's Opti sailor was unable to make it - Jalese stepped in. This was her first regatta and we were shown that we will be hearing more from this young girl.

5th went to Jemel Debbesette sailing for Antigua 2. Jemel really struggled in the heavy winds and was not able to finish any races on Saturday, but on Sunday, with the wind lighter, he came back out and finished all the races. Well done!



Many of the competitors have been sailing in the CDC's since they first started sailing in the Optimist class, and have been competing almost every year since then. This is the case with Jason Tinsdale of Barbados, who participated in his first Caribbean Dinghy Championships in 2003. Amy Cox, also from Barbados, first raced in 2004, and from St.Maarten, Jolyon Ferron who's first race was in 2005. Another competitor who grew with the CDC's was Andrew Lewis, who missed this year CDC's because he was representing Trinidad in the Olympics.

Congratulations once again to Antigua with team Antigua 1 being the overall team winner for 2012 with 77 points.

2nd place went to Team Trinidad with 91 points.

3rd Place Team Barbados 98.2 points

4th Place team St.Maarten 121 points



A sincere Thank You to Elizabeth Jordan, her team, and the Antigua Yacht Club for hosting the Caribbean Dinghy Championships 2012.

Upcoming Regattas.

Course de L'Alliance

AN EXCEPTIONAL SPORTING EVENT



23 – 25 November 2012

La Course de l'Alliance, originally the initiative of Marina Fort Louis, has been sanctioned by the Sint Maarten Yacht Club since its initiation. This year for the first time, the SMYC will also take on the complete organization.

The regatta cements the alliance between Saint Martin, Sint Maarten, St. Barth's and Anguilla. For the 9th consecutive year, the 4 yacht clubs work effortlessly together to organize a regatta that will start and/or finish at each of the destinations.

For more info: contact: info@smyc.com

REGATE GUADELOUPE, ANTILLES FRANÇAISES FRENCH WEST INDIES



DATES FOR TRISKELL CUP IN GUADELOUPE

2012 NOVEMBER 1,2,3,4

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