



FICKLE

WINDS

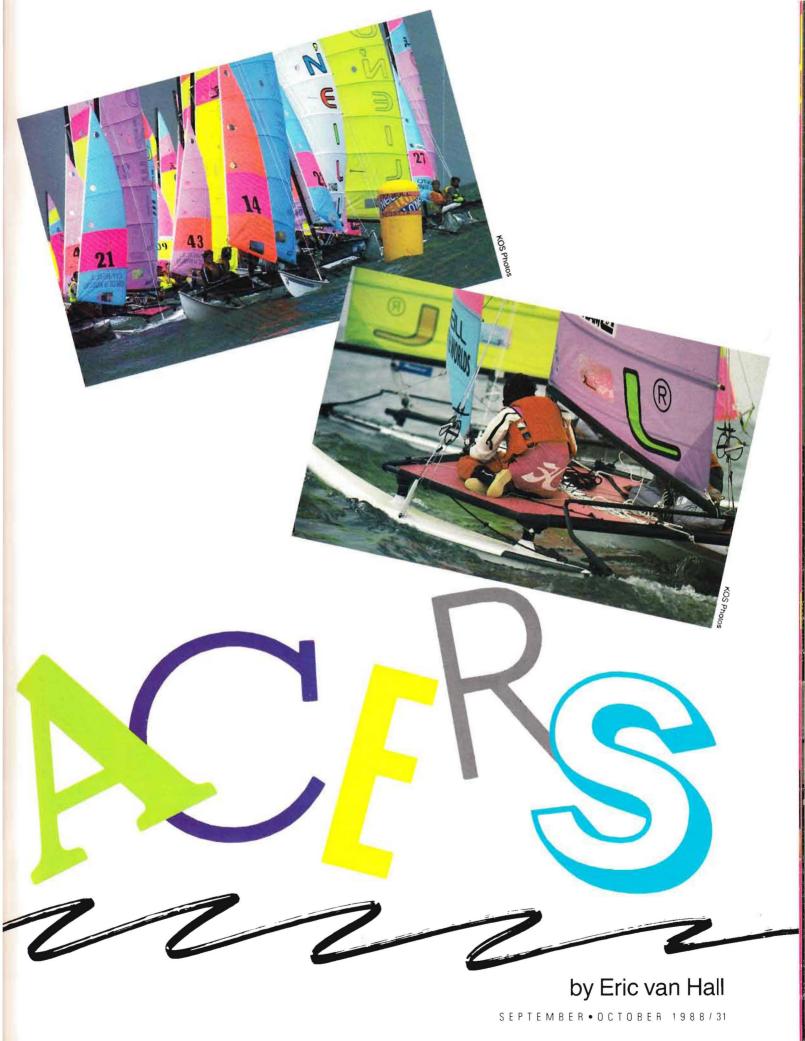
and

strong

CURRENTS

test





fter eight days of high performance catamaran sailing off the coast of the Dutch beach resort of Scheveningen, Holland, Australians Gary Metcalfe and Brian Miers remained the reigning World Champions in the Hobie 16 one design class. Since the Hobie 16 is the largest one design catamaran class, with 90,000 boats sold worldwide, both Aussies encountered fierce competition from the other sailors.

The elements proved to be tough competition, as well, during this year's O'Neill Hobie Cat 16 Worlds 1988, which were held from June 15 through July 3, 1988. Scheveningen saw some impressive meteorological extremes during the eight days of racing. One moment it was calm, the next there was a fierce thunderstorm. Sometimes one couldn't tell whether it was summer or winter. In these extremes, there could be no doubt that the winning team here in Scheveningen was definitely the best all-around Hobie Cat 16 team in the world.

Scheveningen was the first European beach resort to host the Hobie 16 Worlds after the two, yearly World Championships in this catamaran one design class started in 1976. In fact, that initial race was the first time this event ever took place in a moderate climate zone. All previous Hobie Cat 16 Worlds were organized at warm, exotic locations like Hawaii, South Padre Island, the Virgin Islands, Tahiti, Florida and Fiji.

Although a newer host of World Class racing, Holland already has a very rich Hobie history. In 1972 John Dinsdale and Martin Schuitema introduced the thenrevolutionary catamaran into this little, wet country located at the shores of the North Sea. The Hobie Cat was immediately a great success, especially at the coast. And it's no wonder: Thanks to its asymmetrical floaters, the Hobie Cat is very appropriate for sailing in the surf. Two short years later, in 1974, and again in 1976, Scheveningen hosted the European Hobie Cat 16 Championships. The sponsor, O'Neill Inc., put in a lot of effort and money to make this year's Hobie Cat 16 Worlds in Scheveningen the best Worlds yet. "It cost us more than 300,000 gulden, or \$150,000, to organize the O'Neill Hobie Cat 16 Worlds 1988," stated Robert Heilbron, promotions manager at O'Neill Europe, and himself a renowned Hobie Cat sailor competing in the Worlds. "But it should be worthwhile, because Hobie Cat and O'Neill strengthen each other's image," Heilbron explained. "Both Hobie Cat and O'Neill reflect the relaxed life style of Californians. In fact, O'Neill is

entos NEILL HOBIE 16 WORLDS

already a long-time sponsor for the American Hobie Cat championships.

"By organizing the O'Neill Hobie Cat 16 Worlds 1988," Heilbron continued, "two exceptional men of water sports' history embrace each other once again. Hobie Alter and Jack O'Neill, inventors respectively of the Hobie Cat and the wetsuit, used to surf the same waves together in

the fifties. Now, over thirty years later, both men are legends in sailing, and excellent examples of the American dream come true. The life style of these men appeals very much to our target group, making it very logical for us to sponsor this event."

The O'Neill influence on the 1988 Hobie Cat 16 Worlds was obvious, to say the

ATTAZ

least. All sixty Hobie 16s used for the races had extremely bright, colorful fluorescent sails which displayed the O'Neill name conspicuously, but very aesthetically, as well. Obviously, the big O'Neill advertisements on the sails didn't offend the public. In fact, all the boats in question had already been purchased before the race. The Hobie 16s were colorful, bright and perfectly matched: they were distributed to the sailors by using a round robin system that prevented any team from sailing on the same boat more than once. Between heats, all competitors had thirty minutes to tune their newlyassigned boats to their liking. These rules were made so everyone could be confident that, in the end, the best sailor, not the best boat, would win.

Local conditions played a major role during the O'Neill Hobie Cat 16 Worlds 1988. First, there was the cold. Although it was summer in Holland by the calendar, the weather was quite bad on most days. A rare shift of the jet stream caused air to flow over the Low Countries which was cold and, above all, unstable. This resulted in fickle, almost freak, conditions. In less than ten days, the best Hobie Cat 16 sailors in the world got to sail in very light air, moderate winds, gusty winds, strong winds and even thunderstorms. One moment they were steaming in their wetsuits as the sun broke through the clouds, the next they were freezing as rain and hail poured out of an almost completely black sky.

Another complex, and often decisive, factor in Scheveningen was the strong tidal current. Holland's most mundane beach resort is situated some three hundred kilometers north of the English Channel where a mere thirty-two kilometer wide connection between the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean works like giant rapids in the tidal movements. As a result, the tidal currents are parallel to the coast in Scheveningen. Twice a day these currents shift 180 degrees. On top of that, piers, jetties and sand banks make the current pattern even more complex. Especially on days with light air, the current played a major role in the races. In fact, one race had to be abandoned because the whole fleet was sailing backwards due to the strong current!

The fickle winds and the strong currents not only made life tough for the competitors, they also placed high demands on the race committee's judgements. Principal race officer Tonie van Oeveren, who is well known for heading the race committee of the world's biggest Cat race, the so-called Ronde om Texel which runs some nine hundred catamarans each year, did a great job. He

managed to get 21 fair races done in eight days, although conditions were not always favorable.

During the first days of the O'Neill Hobie Cat 16 Worlds 1988 in Scheveningen, a great number of qualification rounds were sailed. In these preliminaries, a total of one hundred-twelve teams competed to qualify for the semi-finals. During these qualification races especially, the Dutch team of Peter Manvis and Frank Boom, and the Brazilian team of Sergio Gama and Paulo Feirreira, showed promising form. In the ten closely-fought qualification races, the Dutch team finally had the edge and took first place, just in front of the Brazilians. The renowned Dutch team of Lange/Son never won a single race, but sailed consistently in front of the fleet to finish third. Competitor and organizer. Robert Heilbron of O'Neill Europe, along with his crew Wiebe Schuitema, displayed some very strategic tricks and sailed to a nice fourth place. The best Americans in the qualification series were George and Judi Boone, who took ninth.

The first races of the semi-finals were sailed in very light air. This demanded a lot of tactical skill from the sailors. In these conditions, reigning World Champion Gary Metcalfe encountered fierce competition from the Brazilians. After two races, two Brazilian teams were leading the pack. Metcalfe and his crew Miers were pretty much behind. After a total of eight semi-final races, the "Thunder from Down Under" was in a modest 9th place.

At this point, there was only one day and three races to go, not a very promising position for either of the Aussies, especially because they had to take their semi-final points with them into the finals. On top of that, first and second place after the semi-finals were taken by two very strong American teams. Mike Shearer and Cathy Ward of the U.S. had been sailing very consistently during the semi-finals and were able to enter the finals with a second place. In first place, after eight semi-final races, stood Jeff Alter and his crew, Sue Kelly. Alter/Kelly had been sailing very strongly, especially in the races with heavy air and rain. These were also the prevailing conditions the day of the finals. How would Metcalfe/ Miers go about defending their World Title with this situation?

"I was just very determined to win," Metcalfe said afterwards. "It also helped that the wind was finally strong, twenty to twenty-four knots, and not so gusty as the days before. We like those conditions." That was clear to see. In the first race, Metcalfe/Miers took second place behind the surprisingly fast, but inconsistent, Dutchmen Peter Manvis and Frank Boom.

But Metcalfe's lead on Alter and Shearer was more important than that. In the following race, Metcalfe/ Miers took the lead immediately, at the starting line. On each leg, they managed to extend their lead to win far ahead of the fleet. The World Champions from Down Under were finally able to rule the field like they usually did, eliminating their closest opponents one by one, and were now in first place. But Alter/Kelly were just 0.75 points behind, making that last race of the O'Neill Hobie Cat 16 Worlds 1988 a real show down between the Aussies and American Jeff Alter.

In the last race, great excitement was caused by a nerve-racking struggle for first place between American Alan Egusa and Dutchman Onno van der Plaat which ended in the order indicated above. Not too far behind Egusa and Van der Plaat, Metcalfe had something else on his mind. "We sailed for the championship," Gary Metcalfe explained immediately after the last race. "As we were in first place after the first two finals, and Alter/Kelly were in second place, we only had to stay ahead of them and finish in the top ten to win the title."

For Metcalfe/Miers, the O'Neill Hobie Cat 16 Worlds 1988 in Scheveningen were the most difficult Worlds yet. "The main difference for us between these Worlds and those of 1984 and 1986 (which Metcalfe/Miers also won), is that, at those championships, we did well in the beginning and could defend our position," Metcalfe commented afterwards. "Here in Scheveningen, we started off poorly and had to sail more aggressively to fight our way back to the top of the ranking list. But it worked out fine. That's probably because when I lose, it makes me fight back harder. I'm always extremely determined to win. I'm glad it worked out like this again, because one can never take a World title for granted. You know, to get there is hard, but to stay there is at least twice as hard. The whole world tries to beat you. They often even forget the other competitors because they want to beat the World Champion so badly."

Jeff Alter was still leading the fleet at the beginning of the final day. "We made some mistakes, and on top of that, we encountered a lot of problems today. But to be honest, Gary Metcalfe had some troubles too. He managed to solve them better than us. One thing is sure, the best team definitely won here in Scheveningen," Alter said modestly. "Anyway, I'm very happy with this result, so I'm going to phone home right now. My dad will be stoked!" (See the race section for complete race results.)

# **REGATTA RESULTS**

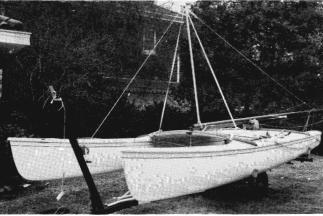
HOBIE 17		POINTS
1. G. Sparacc	a	3.00
<ol> <li>J. Simon</li> <li>J. Ternync</li> </ol>	k	9.00
HOBIE 16		POINTS
1. E. Bernard		19.70
2. G. Delmas		26.00
<ol> <li>L. Lavaysse</li> </ol>	e	30.00
HOBIE 14		POINTS
1. J. Levogues	r	0.00
2. P. Duport		17.40
<ol><li>O. Aguerre</li></ol>		31.00
HOBIE CAT 18 EU	JROPEANS	
GAETA, ITALY		
MAY 29-JUNE 4,	1988	
NAME	COUNTRY	POINTS
1. Matagliati	Italy	30.75
2. Bozano	Italy	42.75
<ol><li>De Marinis</li></ol>		46.25
	Switzerland	
<ol> <li>Chelini</li> <li>Braccini</li> </ol>	Italy	106.00
7. Marcolini	Italy	107.00
8. Van Daelen	Holland	
9. Goater	France	114.00
10. Ferrone	Italy	119.00

## NATIONAL

HOBIE 17 U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WILDWOOD, NJ JUNE 5-11, 1988

NAM	Ē.	POINTS
1.	Bob Curry, 1st lt.	25.25
2.	Alan Egusa, 2nd lt.	34.25
3.	Bob Seaman, 3rd lt.	41.75
4.	Michael Garrett, 4th lt.	50.00
5.	Bill Whitehurst, 5th lt.	51.75
6.	Wally Myers, 1st hvy.	55.00
7.	Al Campbell	57.00
8.	Alex Kirby	57.00
9.	Bret Moss	67.50
10.	Bruce Fields	79.00
11.	Wick Smith, 2nd hvy.	79.00
12.	Bob Bergstedt	82.75
13.	Woodie Cope, 3rd hvy.	84.00
14.		89.00
15.		101.00
16.	Tom Korzeniewski, 5 hvy.	103.00
	Roger Jenkins	105.00
	Brad Carpenter	105.00
	Wayne Mooneyhan	107.00
20.	Dexter Ploss	109.00
21.	John Sullivan	120.00
22.	Charles Carpenter	121.00
23.	Pete Laue	129.75
24.	Ron Wagniere	132.00
25.	George Schmidbauer	137.00
26.	Dan Kulkoski	138.00
27.	Terry Karaim	140.00
28.	Larry Ashton	144.00
29.	Douglas Efland	146.00
30.	Bob Fecowicz	155.00
31.	Bob Shay	156.00
32.		161.00
	₩olfgang Kornwebel	163.00
	Kim Higgs	165.75
	Bill Hanna	175.00
36.	Greg Ursich	187.00





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### **WORLDS**

HOBIE 16 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEVENINGEN, HOLLAND JUNE 26-JULY 3, 1988

	FINALS		
NAM	<u>E</u> .	COUNTRY	POINTS
1.	Metcalfe/Miers	Aus	21.50
2.	Alter/Kelly	USA	31.75
3.	Egusa/Pesane	USA	43.75
4.	Mohr/Mohr	Ger	47.00
5.	Shearer/Word	USA	47.75
6.	Laurent/Schuitema	Fra	55.00
7. 8.	Springford/Cooke Van Zon/Van Uunen	N.Z. Hol	58.00
9.	Materna/Kleiin	USA	58.75 60.00
10.	VanDerPlatt/Bosman	Hol	64.00
11.	Holleman/Benckhuysen	Hol	66.00
12.	Spijker/Treur	Hol	66.00
13.	Salmon/Petard	Tah	67.00
14.	Bardram/Zillmer	Den	69.00
15.	Lange/Son	Hol	81.00
16.	Dangel/Knoch	Ger	82.00
17.	Neergaard/Christensen	Den	83.00
18.	McCarty/Newton	USA	84.00
19.	Eddington/Drum	USA	85.75
20.	Pradel/Waetman	Fra	93.00
21.	Manvis/Boom	Hol	98.75
22.	Hitch/Hammond Daelen/Van Der Wal	USA	99.00
24.		Hot	104.00
	Loffmann/Lyng	Den	108.00
	Cardoso/Costa	Bra	109.00
	Leal/Cuna	Вга	109.75
	Cook/Dalgleesh	Eng	117.00
29.	Heilbron/Schuitema	Hol	120.00
30.	Schonenberg/Dijk	Hol	120.00
31.	Hurford/Hurford	Aus	123.00
	Hars/Lagadec	Tah	132.00
33.	Roturier/Hannecart	Fra	137.00
34.	Stender/Stender	Ger	139.00
35.	Morgan/Matter	Eng	141.00
36.	Niederquell/Niederque		141.00
37.	Gama/Ferreira	Bra USA	141.75
38. 39.	Porter/Robertson Visser/Visser	Hol	142.00
40.	Hislop/Holdt	N.Z.	143.00
41.	Dockstader/Willett	USA	148.00
42.	Christa/Femmer	Ger	149.00
	Houting/Perdaan	Hol	155.00
	Dautel/Atkinson	Aus	158.00
45.	Shearer/Marilyns	USA	161.00
46.	Oltmans/Fields	USA	161.00
47.	Worrall/Williams	Aus	163.00
48.	Costa/Costa	Bra	167.00
49.	Bogrand/Valton	Fra	168.00
50.	Szameitat/Blum	Ger	171.00
	Glanden/Glanden Soares/Ferreira	USA BRA	173.00
53.	Leo/St Sure	USA	175.00
54.	Worrall/Watters	Aus	177.00
	Rendler/Worrall	USA	180.00 202.00
56.	Newsome/Newsome	USA	209.75

#### CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

NAME		COUNTRY	POINTS
1.	Alter/Kelly	USA	4.75
2.	Shearer/Word	USA	9.75
3.	Metcalfe/Miers	Aus	15.75
4.	Niederquell/Niederqull	Ger	17.00
5.	Bardram/Zillmer	Den	18.00
6.	Laurent/Schuitema	Fra	19.00
7.	Leal/Cuna	Bra	19.75
8.	Egusa/Pesane	USA	20.00
9.	Veeloo/Al	Hol	21.00
10.	Holleman/Benckhuysen	Hol	21.00
11.	Van Zon/Uunen	Hol	23.75
12.	Mohr/Mohr	Ger	24.00
13.	Lange/Son	Hol USA	25.00
14.	Materna/Kleijn	N.Z.	26.00 27.00
15.	Springford/Cooke Oltmans/Fields	USA	27.00
16.	Spijker/Treur	Hol	31.00
18.	Neergaard/Christensen	Den	32.00
19.	Dockstader/Willett	USA	32.00
20.	Pradel/Waetman	Fra	35.00
21.	Cardoso/Costa	Bra	37.00
22.	McCarty/Newton	USA	39.00
	Dangel/Knoch	Ger	39.00
24.	Hars/Lagadec	Tah	41.00
25.	Carsten/Lyng	Den	42.00
	Morgan/Matter	Eng	44.00
27.	Salmon/Petard	Tah	45.00
28.	Sergio/Ferreira	Bra	45.75
29.	Schonenberg/Dijk	Hol	46.00
30.	Eddington/Drum	USA	46.75
31.	Manvis/Boom	Hol	47.00
32.	Hislop/Holdt	N.Z.	47.00
33.	Van Daelen/Wal	Hol	48.00
	Heilbron/Schuitema	Hol	48.00
	Hitch/Hammond	USA	50.00
36.	Hurford/Hurford	Aus	51.00
37.	Porter/Robertson	USA	53.00
38.	Visser/Visser	Hol	54.00
	Glanden/Glanden	USA	54.00
	Roturier/Hannecart	Fra Hol	55.00
41.	Van De Plaat/Bosman	Aus	55.00
42.	Worrall/Watters Leo/St Sure	USA	58.00 58.00
43.	Worrall/Williams	Aus	61.00
45.	Soares/Ferreira	Bra	62.00
46.	Stender/Stender	Ger	62.00
47.	Dautel/Atkinson	Aus	64.00
	Costa/Costa	Bra	64.00
	Christa/Femmer	Ger	64.00
	Bogrand/Valton	Fra	65.00
51.	Cook/Dalgleesh	Eng	65.00
	Houting/Perdaan	Hoi	66.00
	Rendler/Worral.	USA	67.00
54.	Shearer/Marilyns	USA	69.00
55.	Szameitat/Blum	Ger	70.00
56.	Newsome/Newsome	USA	70.75
57.	Tastet/Tastet	Fra	71.00
	Eisenburger/Eisenburge	er Hol	72.00
	Westphal/Amstei	Hol	72.00
60.	Vedder/Baleson	Hol	72.00

52.	Hutzler/Hutzler	Bra	74.0
53.	Vries/Plooy	Hot	74.0
54.	Bakker/Bakker	Hol	76.0
55.	Boone/Boone	USA	77.0
56.	DaSilva/DaSilva	Ven	78.0
57.	Kalwij/Counsel	Aus	79.0
58.	Vink/Krythe	Hol	79.0
59.		Den	79.0
0.	MacFarlane/Tholstrup	Aus	82.0
71.	Peeters/Peeters	Bel	83.0
72.	Wetters/Cunha	Bra	84.0
73.	Junco/Sabra	Pye	86.0
74.	Zeekant/Lange	Hol	86.0
75.	Wulff/Flemming	Den	87.0
6.	Leske/Altena	Ger	87.0
77.	Ross/Wylisk	Com	93.0
8.	Van De Plaat/Kelder	Hoi	93.0
9.	Burwell/Lankhout	Can	95.0
30.	Pieters/Tulder	Hol	96.0
31.	Forgrave/Williams	USA	97.0
32.	Kappelmann/Siebert	Ger	99.0
33.	Schwarzlow/Schwarzlow	Ger	99.0
34.	Demesmaeker/Water	Bel	102.0
	Dupiereue/Grima	Spa	103.0
86.	Smith/Woodhead	Aus	103.0
37.	Blom/Blom	Hol	103.0
8.	Winkler/Winkler	USA	104.0
19.	Revay/Merio	N.C.	105.0
	Englander/Englander	Ger	106.0
11.	Goritz/Lund	Ger	107.0
2.	Maison/Louet	Fra	109.0
3.	Clarijs/Clarijs	Hol	109.0
	Bergsoe/Olsen	Den	112.0
	Meehan/Baird	Aus	115.0
6.	Espelmann/Diebels	Ger	115.0
7.	Kersseboom/Coule	Hol	115.0
8.	Shearer/Tuckett	USA	116.0
9.	Mateo/Lopez	Spa	123.0
	Wiesmann/Bosch	Swi	125.0
	Annels/Annels	Eng	125.0
	Zeilmaker/Zeilmaker	Hol	125.0
	During/Sundborn	Swe	127.00
	Martens/Hopner	Ger	128.00
	Bianchi/Cirri	Ita	130.00
	Saito/Kudo	Jap	130.00
	Annels/Annels	Eng	131.00
	Crean/Crean	Aus	134 .00
	Thurecht/McNeilly	Aus	135.00
	Giannessi/Giannessi	Ita	137.00
	Ros/Simoons	Hol	143.00
	Blanken/Abelskamp	Hol	149.00
			147.00

# **PROFESSIONAL**

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TEAM	NAME	SKIPPER	POINTS
1.	Sails by Smyth	Randy Smyth	10.00
	Fosters Australia	Brett Dryland	22.00
3.	Hood Sails	Carlton Tucker	24.00
	Hobie Sunglass II	Jeff Alter	31.00
5.	Eddington Bros.	Rick Eddington	53.00
6.	Hobie Sunglass I	Hobie Alter, Jr.	61.00
7.	Team Torgan	David Sweeney	66.00
8.	San Fran. Speed Sailors	Alan Egusa	67.00
9.	Poche Beach Racing Team	Wayne Schafer	72.00
10.	Mariah Sail Sports I	Carl Roberts	75.00
11.	Team Texas	Chuck Miller	88.00
12.	Fortune 500	Scott Self	97.00
	Mariah Sail Sports II	John Barnett	101.00
	Specialized Graphics	Mike Bender	121.00
15.	Team Dallas	Chris Rumsey	122.00
16.	Team VanGo	Geo. Vandervort	140.00

PLACE	TEAM NAME	SKIPPER/CREW
1.	Aus-Tex	Dryland/Eddington
2.	Hobie Sunglass II	Alter/Parizeau
3.	Aus-Tex II	Bashford/Eddington
4.	Hobie Sunglasses	Alter/Nunes
5.	Team California	Schafer/Moore
6.	Barnett Racing	Barnett/Ramsey
7.	Team VanGo	Van Der Gort/Lundber
β.	Team B.M.W.	Probst/Parseghian
9.	Hobie Sport Center	Miller/Bobadilla
10.	Clacher, Loose	Clacher/Loose

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CE	TEAM NAME	SKIPPER/CREW	
	Aus-Tex	Dryland/Eddington	
	Aus-Tex II	Bashford/Eddington	
	Hood Sails SSI	Tucker/Purcell	
	Hobie Sunglasses	Alter/Nunes	
	Hobie Sunglass II	Alter/Parizeau	
	Team California	Schafer/Moore	
	Barnett Racing	Barnett/Ramsey	
	K-Z00	Sundberg/Melbur	
	One Off Actionwear	Nelson/Seaman	
	Team Harken	Roberts/Frakes	
	Sailing Spirit	Tannert/Fahle	
	Team Florida	Daniel/Labbt	
	Urban Squirrel	Flynn	
	Sailing Systems	Greenwald/Greenwald	
	Team Cincy	Clawitsch/Arscoll	
	Hawk Mountain	Moriarty/Moriarty	