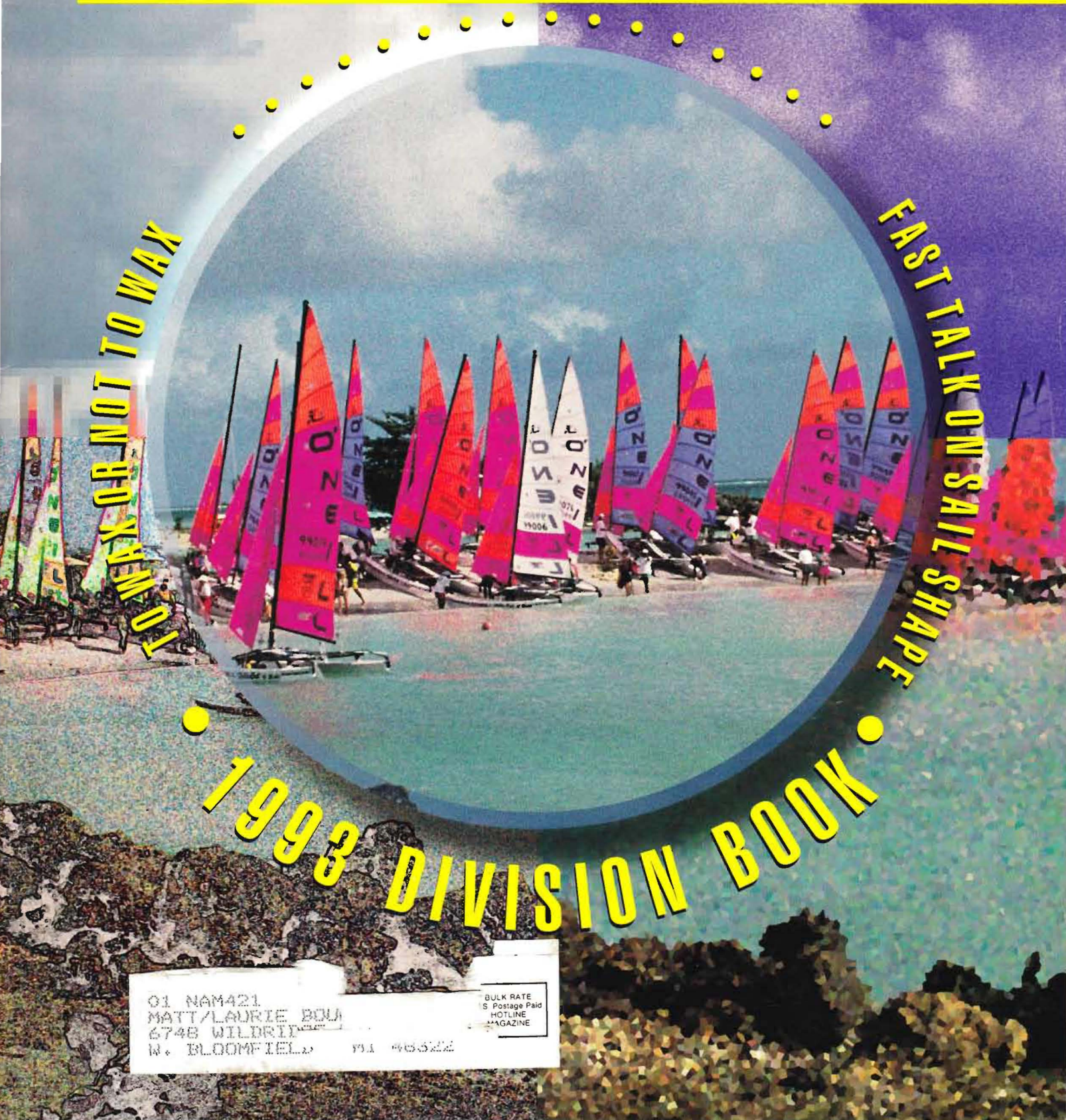


Hobie



MARCH/APRIL 1993

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ROLL OVER



COLUMBUS

RACERS FROM AFAR DISCOVER A HOBIE 16 WORLD OF FUN IN GUADELOUPE

BY FRANCES HERN

Christopher Columbus brought the first foreign sailboat to Guadeloupe in 1493. Exactly 500 years later, the International Hobie Class Association assembled over 50 European-made Hobies along the beach of La Creole Beach Hotel in Gosier. On this warm and windy part of the Caribbean, the world's best Hobie 16 sailors gathered at the beginning of January to compete in the ninth Hobie Cat 16 World Championship.

The small size of Guadeloupe's local Hobie fleet, combined with its distance from financial backers, IHCA headquarters and a Hobie factory, made this year's event harder to organize than previous championships. A number of sails disappeared from a banded warehouse and another shipment had to be sent. The different administrative approaches by the French Sailing Federation and the International Hobie Class Association had to be negotiated. After a lot of hard work, however, the puzzle pieces began to fit together.

An amazing 192 teams representing 29 countries came to compete. The championship round consisted of 112 teams battling for 56 spots. After the cut, 16 countries remained racing in the two-day final round. This was truly a "World" championship and competition was fierce. With points carried forward from the previous three days, final favorites began to emerge.

South Africans Strut Their Stuff

South African competitors were looking good. At the end of the penultimate day, Shaun Ferry and crew Shelly Polson were sitting in first place ... until a broken trapeze harness resulted

in one DNF (a 50-point throwout). Any errors of the final day would mean the South African team would be moving down.

Mark Laruffa and his 15-year-old crew Clayton Holmes from Papua, New Guinea were sitting in second place. Mark's support crew had rigged his boat for him the final morning while Mark was at the hospital. A displaced contact lens trapped at the back of his eyeball was causing the problem. With his eye cleaned out, he got back in time for the first race.

Brazilian skipper Claudio Cardojo and crew Frederico Monteiro were in third place going into the last day of the finals. Garth Loudon and Robert Edouard-Betsy from South Africa were fourth, with Americans Jeff Alter and Kathy Ward fifth.

David and Janine Kruyt, reigning champs from the 1992 Hobie 16 World in South Africa, saw their streak of success disappear when a rudder pin broke, resulting in a DNF that sent them spiraling down to tenth place. The final

day's racing was delayed while judges resolved David's breakdown protest.

I found David and Janine on the beach and asked them why the South Africans consistently do well. I was told that with no Hobie 17s and very few 18s in the country, expertise is concentrated on the Hobie 16. Also, the time of the event has worked out in the South Africans' favor. David and Janine, for example, had sailed every weekend for the preceding four months; an unattainable record for racers in those parts of the world then experiencing winter, such as Europe and North America. Wind and wave conditions at Guadeloupe are similar to conditions in Capetown, and keen sailors are not separated by the vast distances that make it hard for top sailors in some countries to give each other the support and competition needed to improve.

Frenzied Competition

The wind blew consistently all week. Typically, by 10 AM there would be a 20-



IHCA

knot east to southeast wind with gusts up to 35 knots sometimes accompanied by short, sharp showers. For those not used to it, the waves and swell, which ranged from three to ten feet, provided an extra challenge, especially on those days when the two were heading from different directions.

Sickness was a problem for a few competitors, and a couple boats were seriously damaged by collisions. Luckily, however, human injuries were restricted mostly to sunburn, bruises and raw hands. Dave Shearer said he could recall only three serious injuries in all the many championships he has attended. One was inflicted on a lady unfortunate enough to stand beneath a coconut palm just as one of the coconuts parted company with its stalk.

As might be expected, with over 50 teams on the line anxious to do well, general recalls were the norm. One race clocked up five in a row. Favorite courses were 3 and 7, with races lasting 90 minutes or more.

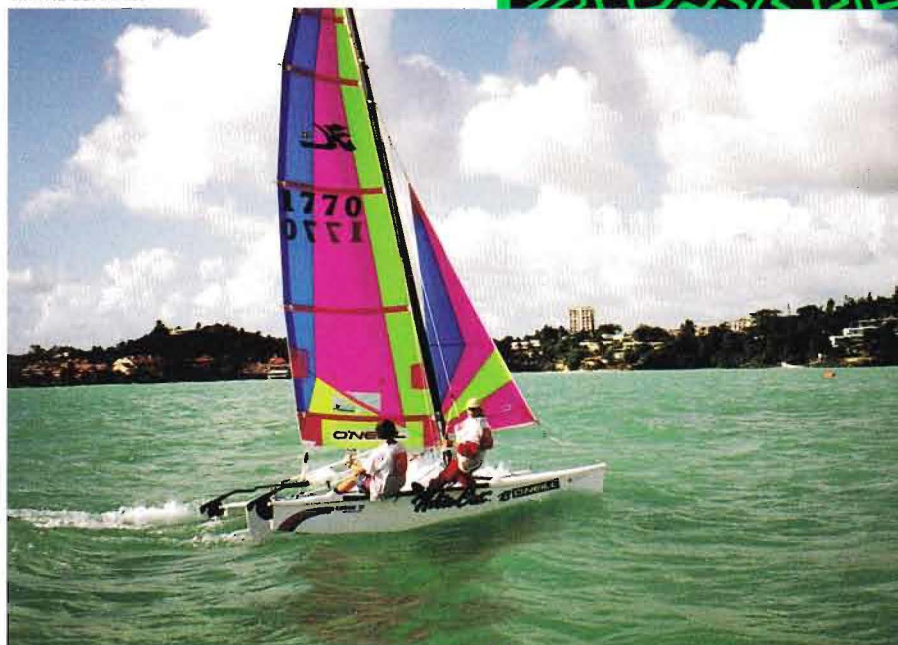
A strong geographical wind shift created by the island and the reduced swell favored the left side of the course. A long starboard tack toward La Creole Beach Hotel before tacking onto port for the lift to A-mark created a rare viewing opportunity for spectators on the beach. Less-experienced crews found the races grueling and more than one DNF was a result of exhaustion rather than boat failure.

The sometimes frenzied activity on the beach each morning as crews raced to fine-tune their allocated boats after the skippers' meeting provided a sharp contrast to the island's lazy pace. Hobie Cats launched into the water to the rhythm of local groups of drummers, and strains of the theme tune from the movie "Christopher Columbus" reached the ears of windswept sailors as they made their way back to the beach. I couldn't help wondering what Columbus would have thought of this colorful nimble craft that tacked upwind so easily.

Inevitably, the Championship hinged on the final race of the final day. Shaun Ferry and Shelly Polson were able to maintain their lead and became the new Hobie 16 World Champions. Claudio Cardojo and Frederico Monteiro from Brazil were second. Americans Carlton Tucker and Jim Sajdak (who replaced Ann Marie Avaling due to injury) sailed into third place.

Despite the jury's decision not to award breakdown points to David Krut for his broken rudder pin, he and Janine managed to take fourth place, keeping two South African boats among the top four. Fifth place was filled by Aldo Cailleuk and Roland Bone from New Caledonia. Jeff Alter pitchpoled attempting to miss a starboard boat, moving him back to eighth.

WAYNE SCHAFER



The Flavor Of Guadeloupe

The warm Caribbean evenings were filled with cocktails around the pool and dinner at one of the many excellent restaurants on the island. Two sponsored parties offered an abundance of rum punch (made up of 90% rum) and pots of paella with banana pie. The awards ceremony was seasoned with spectacular race videos shown to the accompaniment of steel drums.

The ninth Hobie World was an unforgettable experience for spectators and competitors alike. Never has an international event attracted so many entrants and finalists from so many parts of the globe.

The local fleet in Guadeloupe did a superb job of promoting and attracting local television attention. Press coverage was the best a Hobie World has had in a long time, thanks in part to the major sponsor O'Neil, as well as La Creole Beach Hotel, Air France, Banane Guadeloupe, Jet Sea, Hobie Sunglasses and Alrec.

Where In The World Is Next?

It's hard to imagine that the tenth Hobie World Championship could be better, but the challenge is out. At the IHCA annual meeting held during this event, bids were discussed for New Caledonia, Thailand and Cabo San Lucas as the site for the next Hobie 16 World Championship.

The upcoming Hobie 17 World is slated to be held at the Gorge, Hood River, Oregon. There's a lot of work to be done between now and then. 1995 will be here only too soon. *SK*

YOUTH NOT WASTED ON HOBBIE YOUNG

The South Africans work hard to perpetuate their strong fleet. On the average, their top skippers are five to ten years younger than Americans. In addition, racers have a strong junior Hobie 14 fleet hungry for their expertise. Shaun Ferry told me he first crewed for Blaine Dodds in the 1976 Hobie World in Hawaii when he was 12 years old.

South Africa is not the only country to realize the importance of developing junior fleets. Europe has a strong junior group racing on Hobie 13s. As a matter of fact, the first Hobie 13 Championship was run concurrently in Guadeloupe by Wayne Schafer, in the adjacent bay to the Hobie 16 event.

The Hobie 13 regatta offered great spectating, as two-person teams under the age of 16 single-trapped around the windy waters. Most of the competitors were from Guadeloupe, but also there was one team each from France, the United States and Belgium.

The junior champions were Guadeloupeans Dufaur and Penseotvillon.

HOBIE RACING

RACE RESULTS

DIVISION 3

**TURKEY REGATTA
FLEET 222, DIVISION 3
MONTEREY, CA
NOVEMBER 7-8, 1992**

HOBIE 20	POINTS
1. Wayne Mooneyham	5.50
2. Roger Jenkins	7.50
3. Eric Rodal	14.00
4. Dan Ketterman	15.00
5. Rafi Yahalom	16.00
6. Jack Hill	17.75
7. Margaret Harris	28.00
8. Ron Bishow	32.00
9. Bill Timms	35.00
10. Tom Thompson	43.00
11. George Pedrick	45.00
12. Tony Probst	52.00

HOBIE 18A	POINTS
1. Kit Wiegman	5.50
2. Phil Heberer	6.50
3. David Head	8.75
4. Chris Harris	16.00
5. Steve Kieffer	19.00
6. Rod Nixon	20.00

HOBIE 18B	POINTS
1. Sandra Stranahan	3.75
2. Denny Hermann	7.75
3. Michele Melone	10.75
4. David Adams	11.00
5. Fred Wurster	17.00

HOBIE SX-18	POINTS
1. Brian Jones	4.25
2. Hubert VanDijk	7.75
3. Steve Lawlor	8.75
4. Lloyd Wagner	16.00
5. Michael Britt	18.00

HOBIE 17A	POINTS
1. Doug Johnson	4.25
2. Ron Kitowski	7.50
3. John Bauldry	10.00
4. Al Leonard	14.00
5. David Baumgartner	18.00
6. Gordon Gracia	23.00
7. Steve Osborne	26.00
8. Brett Dingsen	32.00

HOBIE 17B	POINTS
1. Keith Ledbetter	4.25
2. Ron Souza	5.50
3. Mike Little	11.00
4. Mark Godfrey	15.00

HOBIE 16A	POINTS
1. Pat Porter	7.75
2. Paul Hess	14.00
3. Steve Leo	16.75
4. Mike Montague	19.75
5. Will Tully	26.00
6. Ed Reese	29.75
7. Jean Tully	30.00
8. John O. Hauser	30.00
9. Jim Sajdak	31.00
10. Mark Skvarla	33.00
11. Les Leyer	42.00
12. Lew Stark	43.00
13. Mike Duane	43.00
14. Doug Buescher	45.00
15. Van Parseghian	50.00
16. Mike Forbert	55.75

17. John Ziolkowski	58.00
18. Roger Neathery	61.00
19. Wes Weber	62.00
20. Dale Apple	66.00
21. Mark Peters	71.00
22. John Schroyer	72.00
23. Steve Klein	78.00
24. Chuck Schroyer	81.00
25. Hony Shahinfar	88.00
26. Duesy Englehardt	95.00

HOBIE 16B	POINTS
1. Jim Eggleston	4.50
2. Jim Kennedy	5.50
3. Tom Oswald	7.00
4. Mike Marriott	9.00
5. John Jeffries	13.00
6. Dave Thomas	16.00
7. Gary Rall	21.00

HOBIE 16C	POINTS
1. Allen King	2.25
2. David Alarezos	6.75
3. Olli Jason	8.00
4. Mike Murphy	10.00
5. Bill Reiman	12.00
6. Hannah Zydervelt	15.00
7. Ron Ragsdale	17.00

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

**SINGLE HANDED NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA
OCTOBER 3-10, 1992**

HOBIE 17 SKIPPER	ST	POINTS
1. Wally Myers	NJ	22.00
2. Alan Egusa	CA	23.50
3. Wick Smith	NC	77.00
4. Bob Bergstedt	NJ	79.75
5. Paul Garlick	ONT	85.75
6. Wayne Mooneyham	CA	92.00
7. Paul Carter	WA	106.00
8. Roger Jenkins	CA	108.00
9. Matt Bounds	MI	110.00
10. Michael Garrett	VT	130.00
11. Douglas Ackroyd	NJ	144.00
12. James Travis	NJ	162.00
13. Bruce Fields	CA	173.00
14. Ken Vinson	VA	185.00
15. John Krause	VA	215.00
16. Kathryn Garlick	ONT	231.00
17. Chris Upton	ONT	241.00
18. Stephen Acquart	MA	245.00
19. Andrew Elstathiou	MA	245.00
20. Roger White	NJ	246.00
21. David Koons	TX	250.00
22. John Sherm	PA	259.00
23. Jim Gladen	MD	269.00
24. Tim Carney	VA	274.00
25. Nigel Pitt	SC	278.00
26. Peter Pattullo	TX	283.00
27. John Krause, Jr.	VA	303.00
28. John Knatzka	SC	316.00
29. Bernie Villa	NJ	317.00
30. Mike Eason	NJ	318.00
31. Mick Roberts	NJ	345.00
32. Ronald Walters	NJ	352.00
33. Dan Koch	VA	385.00
34. Jay Jackson	NJ	389.00
35. Steve Weatherford	NC	394.00
36. Tom Veirs	VA	411.00

37. Charles Smith	ONT	412.00
38. Olive Warwick	ONT	412.00
39. Reggie Poplin	NC	418.00
40. Jonathan Needham	NJ	441.00
41. Rob Wagner	NJ	445.00
42. Thomas Kimmel	NJ	446.00
43. Lee Christoffersen	NY	450.00
44. Kathy Villa	NJ	470.00
45. Chris Merrell	VA	481.00
46. John Midyette	NC	484.00
47. Chuck Brown	CA	494.00
48. Milt Dinhofer	NY	497.00
49. Bill Kast	FL	523.00

HOBIE 14 SKIPPER	ST	POINTS
1. Val DeKreek	FL	7.50
2. Steve Howse	VA	22.75
3. Ann Karnitsnig	VA	25.00

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

**HOBIE 16 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
GOSIER, GUADELOUPE
JANUARY 3-9, 1993**

HOBIE 16 FINAL			
SKIPPER/CREW	COUNTRY	POINTS	
1. Ferry/Polson	SA	41.25	
2. Cardojo/Monteiro	BRA	69.00	
3. Tucker/Sajdak	USA	75.75	
4. Kruyt/Kruyt	SA	80.75	
5. Calieux/Bone	NC	82.00	
6. Louden/Edouard-Betsy	SA	82.75	
7. Figueroa/Balzac	PR	94.50	
8. Alter/Ward	USA	98.00	
9. Laruffa/Holmes	PNG	98.25	
10. Mohr/Mohr	GER	109.00	
11. Dadds/Arnold	SA	111.00	
12. Arnold/Dekating	TAH	114.00	
13. Edwards/Edwards	SA	133.00	
14. Springford/Oleary	NZ	135.00	
15. Ross/DeJamar	SA	136.00	
16. Hars/Devos	TAH	145.75	
17. Thelie/Thelie	GUA	147.75	
18. DeToro/Rogge	ITA	150.00	
19. Peeters/Van Heurck	BEL	154.00	
20. DeMaeyer/Richeldeer	TAH	157.00	
21. Dangel/Peterson	GER	158.00	
22. De Lima/Covillier	NC	163.00	
23. Bride/Bride	TAH	164.00	
24. Roth/Roth	GUA	165.00	
25. Whitehead/Whitehead	SA	166.00	
26. Manvis/Van De Bunt	HOL	168.00	
27. Kroger/Dallmann	GER	168.00	
28. Kohler/Narsaou	AUT	169.00	
29. Johnston/Deschamps	NC	169.75	
30. Rattin/Doudoute	TAH	179.00	
31. LeFautrec/Herbin	FRA	183.00	
32. Frei/Bird	NC	187.00	
33. Reyay/Merlo	NC	195.75	
34. Ward/Arnold	SA	198.00	
35. Rourke/Mayer	USA	199.00	
36. Peien/Nicolas	NC	201.00	
37. Bardran/Zillmer	DEN	213.00	
38. Backes/Erlen	GER	214.00	
39. Egusa/Shala	USA	218.00	
40. Kila/Stanley	PNG	220.00	
41. Schouten/Dekker	HOL	226.00	
42. Plichtart/Janicand	TAH	230.00	
43. Knoetze/Gorlei	SA	232.00	
44. Materna/Brown	USA	237.00	

45. Lange/Bruning	HOL	244.0
46. Voelker/Voelker	BRA	244.00
47. Pozzini/Mungo	ITA	255.00
48. Posani/Brauer	ITA	266.00
49. Porter/Blessing	USA	272.00
50. VanderPlaat/Kelder	HOL	276.00
51. Gachet/Chollet	NC	280.00
52. Seaman/Margelits	USA	281.00
53. VanderKlug/Schenker	BRA	287.00
54. Waller/Fendt	AUT	298.00
55. Dockstader/Dockstader	USA	302.00
56. Kopcke/Vostka	GER	307.00

QUALIFYING SKIPPER/CREW	COUNTRY	POINTS
57. Eisenburger/Eisenburger	HOL	101.00
58. Shaw/Weich	USA	101.00
59. Christen/Wiking	DEN	102.00
60. Colombel/Cairo	FRA	103.00
61. Brown/Stucky	USA	104.00
62. Leo/Seaman	USA	106.00
63. Artault/Cuarretier	IVO	109.00
64. Wurtz/Zignego	ITA	112.00
65. Johnson/Ohn	SWE	113.00
66. Van Der Plaet/Zeilmaker	HOL	114.00
67. Montague/Burton	USA	116.00
68. Cunningham/Brock	NZ	121.00
69. Maegli/Maegli	GUA	125.00
70. McKenzie/McKenzie	NZ	127.00
71. Newsome/Nackel	USA	129.00
72. Sterra/Rita	ITA	129.00
73. Froeb/Froeb	USA	130.00
74. Schaffer/Bunt	HOL	132.00
75. Kosuge/Kosuge	JAP	134.00
76. Petron/Petron	USA	134.00
77. Fuchs/Boone	SA	134.00
78. Stende/Stende	GER	135.00
79. Gazonnaud/Gazonnaud	NC	135.00
80. Bass/Winteritz	USA	135.00
81. Marshack/Marshack	USA	143.00
82. Bourgnon/Leray	FRA	147.00
83. Bourbon/Bourbon	MAR	148.00
84. Tastet	FRA	149.00
85. Liebel/Liebel	CAN	151.00
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88. Romero/Borges	BRA	156.00
89. Scantlebury/Cooper	HON	157.00
90. Meehan/Kilborn	AUS	163.00
91. Kusumoto/Matsumoto	JAP	163.00
92. Darius/Boureaux	IVO	164.00
93. Lethuillier/Lethuillier	GUA	169.00
94. Rodal/Rodal	USA	169.00
95. Heilbron/Vincent	HOL	170.00
96. Hess/Hess	USA	172.00
97. Poulain/Naves	GUA	174.00
98. Burwell/McCune	CAN	177.00
99. Munaf/Lenardon	ITA	177.00
100. Boone	USA	177.00
101. Fongueteau/De Poyen	GUA	179.00
102. Daniels/Daniels	GUA	179.00
103. French/French	SAU	186.00
104. Hern/Dawson	CAN	190.00
105. Aveling/Aveling	SA	192.00
106. Klappa/Bensimon	NIG	193.00
107. Sears/Sears	CAN	194.00
108. Costa/Scireurs	BRA	197.00
109. Sweetnam	NIG	201.00
110. Leicht/Farias	BRA	201.00
111. Cowper/Wagner	CAN	207.00
112. Agniray/Huck	TAH	215.00

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329 Walter Steiner	Altenrhein, SWITZERLAND
341 Werner Wittwer	Echandens, SWITZERLAND