



# Junior Sailing *MAKING WAVES*

Hope Town, Abaco, Bahamas

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## Preliminary Report – 2016 Opti Nationals

The 2016 Opti Nationals were hosted in Nassau this year, extremely well organized and sponsored. Thanks to Jeff Gale, the Abaco Optis arrived in Nassau in good shape. (See our boats with names “Rat Rage”, “Star Fish”, “Jackal”, and “Ting-Um”).



Here is the Sunday report from the Nassau hosts:



“What a fantastic weekend was had by all at the Bahamas Optimist Nationals ! Our thanks go out to the Nassau Yacht Club and staff for their amazing hospitality, to our sponsors: Sun Bum, Powerade, Dasani & Coke, to Goodfellow Farms, BTC, The Sports Center, Majestic Tours, Lickety Split, Pearl Island and to our major sponsor The Ministry Of Agriculture and Marine. Without these guys our event could not have taken place ! Massive thank you also to all our organising committee, our race committee on the water and all the many volunteers who worked tirelessly all weekend. We wish to thank everyone who took part ... not only from New Providence, but also from Grand Bahama, Abaco, Eleuthera, Long Island and not forgetting the 2 contingents from Grand Cayman and Turks and Caicos !”



From Hope Town -

Reportedly our “retiring” Opti sailor Joey Gale medaled with a third in his age group, even as he aged out in Optis. Congratulations Joey for many years of really fine sailing! What’s next?!!!!

Maison Koepke also placed third in his age group.

The final results will be published soon in the next newsletter.

How wonderful that the Junior Sailors from all over the Bahamas can come together through the Opti Nationals. Hope Town hosted the event in 2015, and we hope that other Family Islands can also take their turn and continue the tradition.

Hurricane is also an unfortunate tradition. This time of the year is the worst. The Junior Sailors and their families are leaving a wonderful experience in Nassau, only to go into survival mode back at home. Take care, all of you, our special sailing kids and their families.

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