



Junior Sailing MAKING WAVES

Hope Town, Abaco, Bahamas

HOMER LOWE REGATTA REPORT

March 24-25-26, 2017

The 26th Annual Homer Lowe Memorial Regatta was held March 25-26 in Hope Town, sponsored by the Abaco Rage Sailing Syndicate and Hope Town Junior Sailing. The event attracted 28 sailors from six different islands and cays, including Grand Bahama and New Providence.

The weekend kicked off with a welcome BBQ at Jarrett Park, organized by the Abaco Rage Sailing Syndicate. Local and visiting sailors had a chance to get to know each other, during the meal and registration at the Sailing Club.

Especially welcome from Nassau were Permanent Secretary Rena Glinton from the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources, and Sindy Gay, who heads the Regatta Desk at that ministry.

The regatta featured sunshine and very strong winds, both Saturday and Sunday, as racers in three classes battled for position in a series of six races. Awards were presented at the Hope Town Inn & Marina after Sunday's races. Here are the results:

Optis

- 1st – Jack Guinness, Hope Town, winner of the Hugh Cottis Memorial Trophy
- 2nd – Maison Koepke, Hope Town
- 3rd – Dawson Thompson, Hope Town
- 4th – Ethan Lowe, Hope Town
- 5th – Sophia Stanton, Hope Town

420's

- 1st – Branden Sands & Rachel Sands, Cherokee (alternate crew Blue Mertz, Scotland Cay)
- 2nd – Helena Wassitch & Max Wassitch, New Providence
- 3rd – Hugo Ahrbeck & Michael Sanchez, Grand Bahama

Sunfish

- 1st – Bradley Winslett, Man O' War, winner of the Homer Lowe Memorial Trophy
- 2nd – Peter Vlasov, New Providence
- 3rd – Andrew Wilhoyte, Hope Town
- 4th – Peter-Bruce Wassitch, New Providence
- 5th – Gavin McKinney, New Providence
- 6th – Dwayne Wallas, Marsh Harbour
- 7th – Jeff Gale, Parrot Cay
- 8th – Jimmy Lowe, New Providence
- 9th – Lori Lowe, New Providence
- 10th – Joey Gale, Parrot Cay
- 11th – Ross Darmody, Grand Bahama
- 12th – Jeremy Pleydell-Bouverie, Man O' War
- 13th – Colin Buffin, Hope Town
- 14th – Christian Wilhoyte, Hope Town
- 15th – Blue Mertz, Scotland Cay
- 16th – Dan Forman, Hope Town
- 17th – Sabine Probst, Hope Town

Planning for next year's Homer Lowe Regatta is already underway, as Hope Town plans to make this an annual event. For more information, email hoptownjuniorsailing@gmail.com.

(scroll down for photos)



Wild Sunfish Start!



No room at the mark!



Opti and 420's



420 teamwork



Sunfish and 420 hard-pressed



Optis round the mark



Jack Guinness – Opti Winner of the Hugh Cottis Trophy



Sunfish Winner Brad Winslett (right) – the Homer Lowe Trophy is presented by Jimmie Lowe



420 Winner - Branden Sands (right) with second day crew Blue Mertz (Rachel Sands was first day crew)

In addition to the two permanent trophies for Sunfish and Optis, Nakia Wilhoyte's shop "Hope Town Canvas" supplied all the other trophies.

First place for each class was a duffel or backpack with the class symbol applied on it. Second and third places were custom ditty bags, very colorful and each one unique.

Hopefully this year's sailors will pack these bags for next year's Homer Lowe Regatta!

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