

Diaz/Kelly Win Yet Another World Title

2006 Snipe World Masters Championship

October 3-7, 2006

The Bahamians, as always, started the World Masters with a bang! Held on the porch of the Royal Nassau Sailing Club, the Royal Bahamas Police Band played calypso songs and national anthems while the rum flowed freely in the 25 knots of breeze. 10 countries flags were raised on the dock with the competitors paraded down the dock in grand style. Conch fritters and other munchies were served and people mingled rekindling old friendships and making new ones. The forecast for the coming days was for breeze – possibly too much to sail to comply with the Masters Deed of Gift.

Wednesday October 5

Brainard Cooper and the R/C Chairman Thierry Huguenin made a valiant attempt to get a race off today. The R/C sent the fleet out after a postponement on shore, and the group sailed around in 15+ knots. After one hour on the water, the R/C sent everyone in for a postponement on shore, but it was not to be. The breeze would not let up, but that did not deter Master sailors from catching up with old friends and preparing for the famous Bacardi Party. The breeze is predicted to be lighter for tomorrow morning.

Thursday, October 5

The RC started the first race at 9am in 8-10 knots of breeze. Terry Timm and Mandy Smith of the US led 3/4 of the race

until relinquishing the lead to Peter Commette/Barb Evans and Augie Diaz/Pam Kelly, also of the US. Because this was the scheduled layday, the organizers had a commitment on a fast boat to the Exumas to carry all competitors. In the Exumas, the competitors enjoyed the pristine waters, sharks and rays and relaxation. The beautiful white sand beaches and turquoise waters are a site to behold. Warm water, cool drinks and great friends – what else could you want?

Friday, October 6

The first race began on time at 10:30am in 8-10 knots. Commette/Evans and Diaz/Kelly rounded 1-2 and had a great duel the entire race, with an ensuing tacking duel on the last leg. Diaz/Kelly were able to push Commette/Evans back while Johan Melaender of Norway slipped into second. Timm/Smith finished 4th and Giorgio Brezich of Italy rounded out the top 5.

Final

The final two races of the World Masters were held in perfect conditions. The morning race was held in 6-8 knots of breeze with Giorgio Brezich/Lorenzo Soppani of Italy leading the race wire-to-wire. The breeze increased slightly for the 2nd race, held immediately afterwards, in 8-10 knots and hiking conditions.

Apprentice Master 45-54 years

Augie Diaz/Pam Kelly, USA
Peter Commette/Barb Evans, USA
Enrico Michel/Giovanni Turrazza, ITA

Master 55-64 years

Terry Timm/Mandi Smith, USA
Robert Dunkley/Michelle Hope, BAH
Jimmie/Lori Lowe, BAH

Grand Master 65 and older

Bibi Juetz/Dante Bianchi, BRA
Giorgio Brezich/Lorenzo Soppani, ITA
Jerry Thompson/Janett Krefting, USA

