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Peconic Bay Sailing Association

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THE 2018 ANTIGUA & BARBUDA HAMPTONS CHALLENGE REGATTA

August 18, 2018. Win a local sailboat race and you usually win a plaque that says something like, “The Rogers Memorial Race 2018, First Place Overall, Stardust”. But Saturday saw the 4th running of the Antigua & Barbuda Hamptons Challenge - - a sailboat race held in Noyack Bay with a truly grand prize.

This year’s winner was Phil Walters and the crew of his yacht ‘August Sky’. Courtesy of the Government of Antigua & Barbuda, they will receive 6 round-trip air tickets and accommodations at the beautiful St. James’s Club, free registration and a free local yacht charter to race in Antigua Race Week (April 2019). And a plaque!

Runners-up Seventh Heaven (skipper Greg Ames) and Osprey (skipper George Martin) also received prizes in addition to their 2nd and 3rd-place plaques.

The race featured 24 boats sailing in three divisions, most of them recognizable to local sailors as some of the most able skippers and crew for miles around.

This high-quality fleet was organized in Noyack Bay for a start shortly after 11am Saturday, in a relatively gentle breeze out of the West-South-West. The Principal Race Officer, Tony Dill, set a 1.5 nautical mile upwind leg and sent the first division off at about 11.15am. Two other divisions were sent after approximately ten-minute intervals.

The racing was tight, with the first leg starting to spread the fleet. The wind backed slightly over the course of the first half hour, making some legs more difficult to navigate and others a little easier. The weather was overcast but not raining, and the wind varied at around 5-7 knots, later strengthening slightly to 8 knots or a little more - - perhaps a help to the later-starting boats.

After nearly 2 hours of sailing the leaders of the three divisions started to cross the finish line and onboard the Race Committee vessel, ‘High Hook’, each yacht’s time was adjusted to correct for its handicap rating.

At this stage, several boats felt optimistic about their overall performance, and no doubt a few skippers started to mentally book their seats from JFK to Antigua.....

But once the full results were in, the top 6 boats were:

- August Sky, Phil Walters
- Seventh Heaven, Greg Ames
- Osprey, George Martin
- Silent Passage, Bill Coster



- Bravo, Sedge Ward
- Firefly, Peter Carroll

I stopped at six because I was skipper of Firefly but there were many well-sailed and fast boats in this fleet: great racing and a tight result, with only three minutes separating the top 10 boats after several miles of racing.

Once the racing was done, most of the participants cleaned up and repaired to the party tent at Havens Beach in Sag Harbor. Here everyone enjoyed great Antiguan food and music, local wines and beers and generally had a grand old time, waiting for the Minister of Tourism & Development, The Honorable H. Charles Fernandez, to award the trophies and prizes.

Just before this highlight of the evening, Colin James - - the CEO of Antigua Tourism - - led the crowd in a minute's silence to honor Rob Roden, the architect of this annual event, who had succumbed only a week earlier to a sudden illness. Theresa Roden, Rob's wife, committed herself to the successful conclusion of this event, and did so with amazing grace.

The event benefited the charity, i-tri, a local organization that empowers young women and girls by encouraging them to participate in triathlon events.

Everyone involved is now looking forward to next year's Challenge - - but the crew of August Sky first has the 2019 Antigua Race Week to look forward to.

Overall	Sail	Skipper	Boat	Club
1	43969	Philip Walters	August Sky	Lloyd Harbor/Centerport
2	80	Greg/Jennifer Ames	Seventh Heaven	Breakwater YC
3	13812	george martin	OSPREY	Sag Harbor/ Breakwater
4	68	William Coster	Silent Passage	PBSA
5	60909	Andrew Ward	Bravo	Shelter Island YC/NYYC
6	944	Peter Carroll	FIREFLY	PBSA
7	360	William Rogers	Big Boat	Breakwater YC
8	7	james sanders	Team Tonic	osc
9	2510	bob voelkel	Shamrock	PBSA
10	23941	Peter Kreiling	Yawateg	PBSA
11	24	Jody LoCascio	Boogie Van	Breakwater YC
12	1328	Beth Fleisher	Faster, Pussycat! Kill! Kill!	PBSA & Southold YC
13T	131	Daniel Montero	Gracious	Breakwater YC
14T	40271	Louis Grignon	Street Fighter	Sag Harbor YC
15	50718	David Whelan	ANGEL under the moon	Breakwater YC
16	USA211	Blake Marriner	MilfordSailingFoundation.Org	Windjammers SC
17	274	Steve & Liam Kenny	Gossip	Breakwater YC



18	332	Dan Corcoran	Strider	Lloyd Harbor YC
19	123	LEE OLDAK	PURPLE HAZE	BREAKWATER YC
20	317	Greg Cukor	Corossol	PBSA
21	33948	Paul Kreiling	Zoop!	PBSA
22	USA7	Adam Sandberg	Embla	Manhattan Yacht Club
23	11	John Breuer	Tangled Up In Blue	Wet Pants Sailing Assn
24	478	Tom Wacker	Trading Places	Old Cove YC