

Steve Kruger: Vice Commodore and Projects planner

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Editorial :J22 Youth Interclub Hartbeespoort Dam.

(By Anthony Money)

J22 Youth Interclub Regatta 14 -16 June 2014

The J22 Youth interclub regatta was started at TYC by the late Bernard Funke, 14 Years ago, and has SAS Youth National Status, not only is it a fun event, but it gives youth teams from various clubs, nationally, the opportunity to compete in one of the World's biggest international keelboat classes.

This year the event sponsored by Roodepoort Metals, hosted by TYC, & run by Ron Gurnel and Robert Wallendorf, saw 8 competitive entries representing clubs from all over the country.

The regatta, originally established to encourage each yacht club to select the most competitive youth crew and youth club champion was extended to more than one entry per club so as to encourage youth development in the J22 Class and compete for the trophy. Entries were received from the defending champions, Boskop Yacht Club, and challengers Royal Natal Yacht Club, Glenwood High School Yacht Club, Transvaal Yacht Club, Deneysville Aquatic Club, Lake Deneys Yacht Club, Witbank Yacht & Aquatic Club and Royal Cape Yacht Club.

Saturday saw the youth getting allocated boats loaned by the respective owners, some of whom had recently competed in the J22 World Championships. The Skippers brief was at 11h00 sharp, where skippers and owners reps were advised of the requirement of the first race where owner reps are to remain on board to encourage confidence and ensure competence and then would be collected to allow the teams to show their stuff.

Three races were held on the first day; the first race started around 13h00, with a light east south east breeze, around 5 to 8 knots, the first race was won by (TYC) Donovan Kruger on Hakahana, Second (BYC) Ryan Robinson on Joker Too, third (LDYC) Dominic van der Walt on DJ. The Owners reps hopped off for the second race, with the Skippers showing signs of nerves now on their own started the second race well back off the line, but once the race was underway, the positions continually changed, the winner of the second race being Henry Daniels (RCYC) Vulcan Racing, Second Donovan Kruger (TYC), third Dominic van der walt (LDYC). The Bridge managed to get a third race in for the day another highly competitive race, with first being Ryan Robinson (BYC), Second Henry Daniels (RCYC), Third Donovan Kruger (TYC), by the

end of day one, only one point separated the top three boats.

Day two: The competitors woke up to mist and no wind but, by 11h30 a North westerly wind came through, picking up to 13 Knots, gusting 24 knots, with nervous owners and parents on the spectator boat, NSRI on the water, the fleet went out and race four got under way, with no spinnakers! The winner being Henry Daniels (RCYC), Second Ryan Robinson (BYC), and third Donovan Kruger (TYC). As the breeze freshened gusting between 25 and 30 knots the fleet was called ashore, after a short break the race committee went out to check the breeze which had subsided to a moderate 11 – 15 knots. The fleet set off for race five, again closely competed, the winners being Henry Daniels (RCYC), Second Donovan Kruger (TYC), third Ryan Robinson (BYC)

In race six, Henry Daniels (RCYC) was OCS, resulting in the winner being Ryan Robinson (BSC), Second Donovan Kruger (TYC), third Dominic van der Walt (LDYC).

Day Three: Saw the fleet wake up to a light westerly breeze, 3 – 5 Knots, with the first race being abandoned, the bridge moved the race course further out and were able to get in two light wind races. Race 7 was won convincingly by Henry Daniels (RCYC), second Ryan Robertson (BYC), third Dominic van der Walt (LDYC). The eighth and final race was again won by Henry Daniels (RCYC), second Ryan Robinson (BYC), and third Damien Muller (DAC).

After eight races and 3 days of great sailing the event was finally won by Henry Daniels and his young lady crew of Illiana Boera, and Kirsty Clark.

The event was great, with highly competitive young sailors; thanks to the Sponsors, the volunteers and owners; who took the time out to make the event the success it was, we look forward to a another successful event in 2015.

Photos by Anthony Money