



THE WESTERN BUGLE



About

The SMU-RM Western Circuit Regatta is one of Singapore's premier regattas uniquely organized by both Raffles Marina and Singapore Management University. It features the largest keelboat racing fleet in Singapore, fun filled Post-Regatta parties and a charitable heart for disabled sailors through sailability.

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13 August 2016

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Day 1 Highlights

Results are provisional pending protests, redresses and corrected timings

Day 1 started with overcast skies accompanied with a light drizzle. But that did not stop the sun from shining and kicking off Day 1 of racing.

Light winds were coming from West-Southwest, coupled with very strong current heading west, making for some tight and tricky racing.

IRC A

Rikki Tikki Tari had issues starting their engine and almost did not make the start. Luckily, they had some ice and a lighter, so they knew they would be fine. Also, coming prepared for anything, they already arranged for a tow out. Well done on their part!

Race 1

Zanzibar's Jonathan had a brilliant start leading the pack. They took the first left shift and dominated the fleet. With Zanzibar securing her position, Petit Bateau's Esben and Rikki Tikki Tavi's Chris were left to hustle for second placing at the mark. Later, Rikki Tikki Tavi lost some distance with their gybe as the spinnaker took time to fill fully. As the race went on, the distance between the boats lengthened and Race 1 went to Zanzibar.

Race 2

Like Race 1, wind stayed light and shifty, with a building current. The fleet headed to the left and played oscillations pretty well. Commanding the fleet was yet again Zanzibar, leading the pack comfortably. Rikki Tikki Tavi and Petit Bateau took 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Race 3

To end off the day, it was a test if the other 2 boats could give Zanzibar a run of its money. Sadly, Zanzibar had supreme dominance today and yet again controlled the fleet. That saw the same results as the second race.

Overall, Zanzibar won races for the day with a constant score line.



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IRC B

Before the races started, whilst everyone was doing their pre-race routine all focused, Born in Fire's kids on board fell in and were made to swim back. That was definitely a cute and funny sight for most, lightening up the mood.

Race 1

Shoon Fung Too took the race committee, followed by SMUve and Born In Fire to leeward. All coming out well from the start, it was SMUve that edged out her competitors with better speed, sending Born in Fire to the right. Shoon Fung Too continued to the left while SMUve followed Born in Fire to the right. At the top mark, it was Shoon Fung Too that took the lead. On the downwind, SMUve lost out due to spinnaker issues on a bad gybe. With the fleet so close together, it opened up lots of opportunities for those that made the least mistakes. And that was SMUMad, who came out well after that downwind. On the last loop, they took the lead, followed by Born in Fire and SMUve.

Race 2

The race started with a race committee favoured line and a shifty first beat. The fleet again headed left playing the oscillations there. It paid to go inshore and SMUMad did just that and was in front. They claimed the race with SMUve and Born in fire following.

Race 3

The third race saw similar results, with SMUve claiming first and SMUMad following behind. Born in Fire. Yet again, a race committee favoured start line saw most boats working hard for a spot there.

This time SMUve was out in front at the top mark, but SMUMad put up a good fight. SMUve caught a big right hand shift on the second upwind to pass SMUMad. That big right hander also made the whole fleet round and immediately gybe to port. SMUMad tried to inch back but in the end SMUve claimed the race win. Really good internal competition between SMU sailors today!



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SB20s

Race 1

Racing kicked off with light and unstable winds, forcing the crews to keep their eyes out of the boat. Sharp calls and upmost concentration were crucial. It was a grueling long race, with most boats heading inshore to the favoured left side. SSF 1 headed left and led the race by half a leg. It was a true mark of their patience and focus. After a 2 hour long race, SSF 1, Glasgow Kiss and Tara claimed the podium.

Race 2

It was a pin-end biased start with SSF 7 and SSF 8 hitting the line right at the gun. The fleet split with half headed in and the rest outwards. SSF 1 and Glasgow Kiss played the oscillations well, crossing in front of the left pack consisting of Tara, SSF 7 and Scumbag. Finally, Glasgow Kiss took the lead with SSF 1 and Tara right on their tail. With an 18-boat fleet, it called for intense competition, tight roundings and loads of mishaps. From twisted spinnakers to near misses, racing was definitely interesting. Bandit, out of nowhere, snatched the lead on the downwind and continued to lead the pack throughout the rest of the race. By playing it conservative and controlling their lead, they eventually took the race win! Glasgow took second and third placing went to SSF 1.

Race 3

The third race saw a different start, with the race committee biased and many boats fighting to claim a spot on the line. It was Bandit, Scumbag and SSF 7 that won the start and had the freedom to play the upwind beat however they liked. Scumbag and Bandit controlled the left side of the course and rounded in first and second respectively. Close behind was Glasgow in third placing. Throughout the next beats, the positions remained the same as the leaders defended their positions superbly, not leaving any room for their opponents to overtake.



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PY

Race 1

It was a tight start with all boats approaching from the race committee. Night Train had an excellent start from windward, followed by O'Blueyes and Sapphire Star to leeward. However, O'Blueyes edged Night Train off to the right whilst taking the left, rounding in first with Night Train and Sapphire Star close behind. Unfortunately, O'Blueyes did three loops instead of two and lost their opportunity to grab a race win. Then, Sapphire Star managed to pass Night Train to claim first.

Race 2

Race 2 was quite similar to Race 1 with light shifty winds, testing the crews ability to keep focus. Focus had to shift to something unexpected in this race. A barge! The barge went through the course which made for much alternative plans. Boats had to maneuver around to avoid it. However, even after that, that did not get in the way of O'Blueyes claiming its well deserved race win. Like Race 1, Sapphire Star and Night Train took 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Race 3

As with the first 2 races, playing oscillations on the left side has proven to be very favourable. However, things were a little different in this race. There was a big right shift that might have threw some crews off. But, I guess experience does show on the crew of O'Blueyes. They showed their dominance by stilling claiming the race win. Second and third went to Sapphire Star and Xtra Mile.

Overall, all the races today really proved that the start and first beat were key to a good race finish. Also, a reminder that, one strategy does not always work the whole day as conditions change unexpectedly. Crews have to always stay vigilant and never get complacent!



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Trimaran (Multihull)

Race 1

Races began with light patchy winds and most of the boats found themselves in lulls and unable to fly their hulls. It was rather uneventful. Hot Toad navigated to the wrong direction by their tactician and found themselves ending no so favorably. They also had no tell tales and used waterproof band aids and LV plastic bags as substitutes! That was resourceful of them!

Race 2

Like the SB20s, it was another very pin-end biased start with Eepai and Foreign Talent claiming the start. All the trimarans headed inshore and it was Foreign Talent that came out tops at the first mark, with Deb Dash, M23 and Cicak close behind. The rest of the race saw more of a conservative approach for the front-runners, with no further changes of finishing positions.

Race 3

Trimarans had a sluggish day with not enough wind to fly their hulls, but the crews sure did stay happy with food and drinks! As they got around the course, FT came up tops and stole the race win. Deb Dash and Eepal filled up the podium too!



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Windsurfing

It is the 19th annual Western Circuit Sailing Regatta, and the second edition in which windsurfing has made an appearance. A culmination of efforts by both the windsurfing and sailing fraternities, the competition features rising talent from the burgeoning local tertiary windsurfing clubs.

As the westerly venue would have it, the air was warm and the winds rather muted- threatening windsurfers competing in all categories with one of the more challenging inter-tiary tournaments faced yet. Compounding those unideal conditions were noticeably stronger currents and shifting winds as the day wore on, evident in the need to shift the course marking buoys several times.

With each passing blare of the race official's air horn, adrenaline spiked and emotions surged high. Interestingly, there was hardly a dominant figure in a few of the categories after four races today. In the 5.5m² category, Nicholas Yeow (SUTD) and Wee Zi Feng (SMU) each had their fair share of podium finishes, swapping first dibs to the finish line throughout the afternoon.

"This is one of the more exhilarating races that I've competed in- the currents were strong and some parts of my races were neck and neck," said Zi Feng, visibly exhausted, "but I'm definitely looking forward to the rest of the races in the second day."



Our Team

Organized By:



RAFFLES
MARINA



Sanctioned By:

