



Grant Rollerson of Australia (r.) was on a roll when he capsized while leading last race

NESPRESSO® *International* *18 Skiff Regatta*



San Francisco, Calif. Aug. 27-Sept. 1, 2012

Wednesday's weather: Wind 15-20k W, temp. 65F.
Thursday's forecast: No racing.

Aug. 29, 2012

Rollerson's roll ends abruptly as C-Tech builds lead

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.

One feature of the Nespresso International 18 Skiff Regatta hosted by the St. Francis Yacht Club this week: some days the fortunes change as fast as the little boats sail.

But, Grant Rollerson said after Wednesday's three races on unstable San Francisco Bay, "It's not bad luck. You make your own luck."

The Australian veteran finished first and second in the first two races and was leading the third---a make-up of Tuesday's



Rollerson crossed the fleet on a port-tack start in the 2nd race

second race that was canceled because of strong winds---when his Mounts Bay W.A. (Western Australia) craft flipped moments after rounding the first windward mark. By the time he and crew Justin Healey and Marco Schurmann managed to right the boat in the churning waters near the Golden Gate Bridge, well . . .

"By the time we got up everyone else was at the bottom mark," Healey said.

So they sailed back to the beach and settled for discarding the last place as a throwout, which kicked in after five races.

Overall, Rollerson moved up from fifth to third in the 18-boat battle, a point behind the USA's Howie Hamlin, whose 3-3-4 day left him seven points behind pacesetter Alex Vallings. The C-Tech team has won three of the six races so far while tossing Wednesday's sixth-place finish.

"We could have done a bit better," Vallings said, "but that's all right. It's quite pretty where we are."

Jonny Goldsberry's CT Sailbattens, a local team with Jody McCormack and Nick Catley as crew, won the day's last race to move from seventh up to fourth.

"The second race we were late at the start," McCormack said, "but we stayed in the pressure and out of other boats' way, and when we had a chance to roll a boat we did it."

Remarkably, he added, "This was our third day together as a team."

Goldsberry, runnerup in the U.S. Olympic Trials in the 49er class, said, "Altogether, I've had about six hours driving the boat."

McCormack also is a member of the Chinese team competing on AC45s in the



Local entry American Youth Sailing Force hangs on as fleet passes by



The foiling trimaran i'Hydroptere checked out the 18ft Skiffs action

Downloadable high-res photo gallery

Past winning teams

2002 General Electric (Howard Hamlin, Mike Martin, Andy Zinn)

local America's Cup World Series, not to mention crewing on a more conventional boat in St. Francis YC's traditional Big Boat Series next week.

Wednesday's winds were 15 to 20 knots, relatively mild compared to Tuesday's boat-flipping 25 to 30 which, McCormack said, "would have been a lot more carnage with the AC45s."

Thursday will be a lay day, then racing continues Friday with an 18 race at 4 p.m. PDT followed by the traditional 7 1/2-mile Ronstan Bridge to Bridge Race from the Golden Gate to the Oakland Bay at 5:30. The last two of 10 races will be Saturday.

Nespresso began their association with the sport of sailing as co-sponsor of Team Alinghi for the 32nd America's Cup campaign between 2004-2007, as well as being the Official Coffee to the event. In 2010, Nespresso and Wally, the world leader in yachting innovation, launched the Nespresso Cup, an international regatta exclusively for the Wally Class in Portofino, Italy, bringing together some of the world's most respected world-class sailors, to deliver one of the most aesthetically pleasing sailing regattas. America's Cup sailors Loick Peyron, Paul Cayard, Francesco De Angelis, Jochen Schuemann were the Nespresso Cup Ambassadors, adding their own individual style to this unique event. Nespresso is now Proud Sponsor of Emirates Team New Zealand, Challenger for the 34th America's Cup to be held in San Francisco in 2013. More information on Nespresso on www.nespresso.com

The leaders

(18 boats; after 6 of 10 races; one discard)

1. C-Tech, Alex Vallings/Chris Kitchen/Josh McCormack, New Zealand, 1-1-3-(6)-1-2, 8 points.
2. CST Composites, Howard Hamlin/Matt Noble/Matt McKinlay, USA, 4-(5)-1-3-3-4, 15.
3. Mounts Bay W.A., Grant Rollerson/Justin Healey/Marco Schurman, Australia, 3-4-6-1-2-(19/DNF), 16.
4. CT Sailbattens, Jonny Goldsberry/Jody McCormack/Nick Catley, Australia, (14)-8-2-2-5-1,

2003 RMW Marine (Rob Greenlough, Dan Johnson, Sam Gardner)

2004 Computer Assoc. (John Winning, Euan McNicol, Anthony Young)

2005 Pegasus (Howard Hamlin, Mike Martin, Trent Barnabas)

2006 Pegasus (Howard Hamlin, Mike Martin, Trent Barnabas)

2007 Pegasus (Howard Hamlin, Mike Martin, Paul Allen)

2008 Gotta Love It (Seve Jarvin, Sam Newton, Tom Clout)

2009 Harken (Howard Hamlin, Matt Noble, Paul Allen)

2010 Thurlow Fisher (Michael Coxon, Aaron Links, Trent Barnabas)

2011 CST Composites (Howard Hamlin, Matt Noble, Paul Allen)

18.

5. Lumix, Jonathan Witty/James Hozack/ Marcus Ashley-Jones, Australia, 2-2-7-(8)-7-3, 21.

[Complete standings](#)

[2012 high-res photo gallery](#)

[Notice of race \(including daily schedule\)](#)

[St. Francis Yacht Club](#)

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