



At gun's puff, Oracle Team USA's AC72 joins the 18' Skiffs' start from outside the line

**NESPRESSO**

## ***18' Skiff International Regatta***

***for***



## ***the Mark Foy Trophy***

San Francisco, Calif. / Sept. 8-15, 2013

**Sept. 9, 2013**

Monday's weather: Wind 22k W; high temp. 70F.  
Wednesday's forecast: Wind 12k W; high temp. 69F.

***Everyone is chasing C-Tech (2-1-1) again***

**SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.**

The first rule of sailboat racing is "read the Sailing Instructions," because the boring details will tell important little things like don't just sail from upwind to downwind but go through a midcourse gate, too, if required (see *Attachment A, MCG*).

**A fun day for everybody**



New Zealand's Alex Vallings read 'em before the Nespresso 18' Skiff International Regatta for the Mark Foy Trophy started Monday and picked up where he left off in last year's runaway win with a second and two first places in the first of 10 races running through Friday.

"Some of those boats didn't go through the mark," Vallings noted.

One was six-time winner Howard Hamlin of Long Beach, Calif., who was running second in the first race when, his bowman Paul Allen said, "[The boat] Yamaha yelled at us, 'Hey, you didn't go through the gate.' "

By the time they went back to correct their error, they were in sixth place and finished fifth on an otherwise solid day of 5-4-3 good for fourth place among 22 boats, behind Vallings, David McDiamid's Yamaha from New Zealand and Grant Rollerson's Fisher & Paykel from Australia.

Hamlin said, "We were so focused on where we wanted to go that we forgot about it. That was a definite shift in morale."

Monday the wind hit 22 knots, but it was in tune with a flood tide that made for a smooth surface. Nevertheless, there were capsizes aplenty---including one by C-Tech just past the final finish line.

Worse off was the local yellow boat, American Youth Sailing Force skippered by Mikey Radziejowski that spent most

C-Tech asks CST Composites,  
'Hey, who's the big guy?'



C-Tech also flipped – after its 2nd win



Those darn Moths were everywhere



Rookie entry American Youth Sailing Force spent most the day this way

of the afternoon drifting down the course on its side or upside down. The 18s are a learning experience.

Rollerson had no problems, describing the day as "bloody good fun out there. It was awesome."

And he also pointed out, "Our best race was the first race. We were OCS [over the start line early] and had to go back, but we still got fourth."

Otherwise, Hamlin said, despite a persistent fog, accompanied by groaning horns from afar, blocking traditional views of the Golden Gate Bridge, "It was a perfect day"---much better than the late afternoon carnage experienced on practice day Saturday just getting boats launched off the temporary ramp.

The biggest problem was a small fleet of foiling Moths zipping around the course like dragonflies, but a couple of hundred spectators enjoyed them, too, especially sitting free in the America's Cup bleachers on Marina Green.

Worth noting: after a policeman told them before the first race that they'd have to leave the bleachers, another authority pulled official strings to have them readmitted to a limited section. His name: an Australian named Iain Murray, the America's Cup regatta director and a multiple 18-foot skiff world champion.

The skiffs' revised schedule, brought on by unusually extreme late afternoon wind and water conditions, now calls for racing at noon on the America's Cup



Australia's veteran Fisher & Paykel team is in 3rd place overall

[Hi-res photos](#)

### Past winners

- 2002 General Electric (Howard Hamlin, Mike Martin, Andy Zinn)
- 2003 RMW Marine (Rob Greenhalgh, 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)
- 2012 C-Tech (Alex Vallings, Chris Kitchen, Josh McCormack)

off-days with three races Wednesday and the last two of 10 races Friday, with no racing on the weekend. An exception will be two races late Thursday after the AC72s are finished--one at 4:30 p.m. and the traditional and mostly downwind 5.3-nautical mile Bridge to Bridge race at 5:30 from the Golden Gate to the Bay bridge, open to a wide array of entries.

The time change helped.

"Perfect," Hamlin said. "It can't get any better."

St. Francis YC manages the skiff event, independent of the AC competition, while the event is being hosted in conjunction with the AC Open as part of the Summer of Sailing, taking place at the America's Cup Village on Marina Green.

While the JJ Giltinan regatta run annually in Sydney since 1938 is regarded as the class's world championship, the Mark Foy has gained global status entering its fifth year of spreading the skiff spirit to various world locations.

*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 in San Francisco. More information on *Nespresso* on [www.nespresso.com](http://www.nespresso.com)

## **The leaders**

(after 3 of 10 races; one discard after 5, two after 9).

1. C-Tech, Alex Vallings, New Zealand, 2-1-1, 4 points.
2. Yamaha, David McDiamid, New Zealand, 1-5-2, 8.
3. Fisher & Paykel, Grant Rollerson, Australia, 4-2-4, 10.
4. CST Composites, Howard Hamlin, USA, 5-4-3, 12.
5. Yandoo, Nick Press, Australia, 3-3-8, 14.

[Complete results, previous reports, Notice of Race, schedule and other information](#)

[18skiff.com](http://18skiff.com)

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