



Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron
NESPRESSO YOUTH INTERNATIONAL MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS
12th – 16th February 2014
Auckland, New Zealand

AUSTRALIAN PRICE SURGES INTO CONTENTION AND JOINS KIWIS BRASELL, MACKAY AND GAUTREY IN THE SEMI FINALS OF THE NESPRESSO YOUTH INTERNATIONAL MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2014

PRESS RELEASE – SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2014

Lion Foundation Youth Training Programme skipper George Brasell, representing the RNZYS, has taken an early lead in his semi-final against CYCA's Harry Price, winning the first flight by only 1 second and topping off a very close day of racing off Bayswater Marina.

A very reserved Brasell commented after the day's racing "The boys were back on form this morning after a tough day yesterday, we learnt from our mistakes and are feeling comfortable again in the boat". Earlier in the day Brasell managed to win all of his last Round Robin races which put him in good stead to make the finals, where Price picked him to sail against. "We were pretty happy to make the semis for sure".

Price was in 5th position at the end of day two but brought his A-game today, winning his last 4 Round Robin Two races and storming up the leaderboard to claim the top spot overall. Price reflected on his efforts "We had a really good day yesterday and the momentum certainly carried through to today. Our pre-starts were clean and the racing was so close right the way through". Speaking on his semi-final match "We got a penalty early but managed to wipe it by the first mark – we did as much as we could but it wasn't quite enough".

In an all Wellingtonian semi-final, both Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club crews are in a tough battle for home town supremacy, with Sam Mackey taking on younger clubman George Gautrey in what is a truly heart-felt encounter. "I thought we had a good race against George but we just managed to lose which was a really bitter pill to swallow" Mackay admitted at the conclusion of the day.

Young Gautrey, who has been really strong all regatta, had a tough morning on the water and was pretty

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relieved to make the semi-finals. “Stoked – I love it! We had a frustrating morning, losing a couple of races and the light shifty winds didn’t help but we recovered and made the semi-finals by half a point.”

This morning the last 4 flights of Round Robin Two were sailed in trying conditions which added to the re-jig on the leaderboard. Race Officer Harold Bennett commented “It was a testing day for everyone and it was especially light to start with”. Tides were also a factor in today’s racing “We had a couple of boats in the mud at one point when it was right at the bottom of the tide, it wasn’t a major though”.

Places 5th through to 11th were decided in a sail-off, with Balboa’s Ryan Davidson beating the experienced local Rawiri Geddes to claim 5th spot. Geddes was naturally disappointed but couldn’t fault the competition or the regatta “It was a really tough regatta and all the races were really close. I am very disappointed to miss out by half a point but we just missed the last race and that’s what happens in these close competitions”.

Richmond Yacht Club’s Carey Shelley finished with a 7 second win over Royal Prince Alfred’s Malcolm Parker, ensuring he took 7th spot in his first match racing regatta for four years. “We did really well and I’m stoked for the team to make it this far.” Milly Bennett (RPAYC) and Matthew Bindon (KCC) took out places 9 and 10 respectively, with Bucklands Beach Yacht Club’s Michelle Tait finishing in 11th. However it wasn’t all doom and gloom for the BBYC “We really learnt a lot so we can take the knowledge into next month’s New Zealand Woman’s Match Racing Championships” – said Tait who will enter a RNZYS YTP team into next month’s regatta.

All in all today was another successful day of match racing, backed up by Race Officer Bennett’s comments at the close of the day “To finish off the second round robin and to fit in the 5th - 11th sail off leaves us in great shape heading into tomorrow. We have a North Easterly predicted but you never know, we will see how the conditions are in the morning and as the day progresses”.

So now we look forward to an exciting day of finals racing at RNZYS tomorrow, with racing due to commence at 1000hrs.

SEMI FINALS – FLIGHT ONE

Gautrey (RPNYC) beat Mackay (RPNYC) 6s

Brasell (RNZYS) beat Price (CYCA) 1s

MINOR PLACING STANDINGS

5. Davidson (BYC)
6. Geddes (RNZYS)
7. Shelley (RYC)
8. Parker (RPAYC)
9. Bennett (RPAYC)
10. Bindon (KCC)
11. Tait (BBYC)

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RESULTS AFTER COMPLETION OF ROUND ROBINS ONE AND TWO

1. Harry Price – CYCA – 15/ 5/20
2. Sam Mackay – RPNYC – 15/ 5 /20
3. George Brasell – RNZYS – 15/ 5/ 20
4. George Gautrey – RPNYC – 13.5/ 6/ 20
5. Rawiri Geddes – RNZYS – 13/ 7 /20
6. Ryan Davidson – BYC – 11/ 9 /20
7. Malcolm Parker – RPAYC – 9/11/20
8. Carey Shelley – RYC – 7/13/20
9. Matthew Bindon - KCC – 5/15/20
10. Milly Bennett – RPAYC – 4/16/20
11. Michelle Tait – BBYC – 1/19/20

ROUND ROBIN TWO

Flight Eight

Bindon (KCC) beat Gautrey (RPNYC) 34s
Price (CYCA) beat Geddes (RNZYS) 2s
Davidson (BYC) beat Bennett (RPAYC) 16s
Mackay (RPNYC) beat Tait (BBYC) 21s
Parker (RPNYC) beat Shelley (RYC) 22

Flight Nine

Price (CYCA) beat Mackay (RPNYC) 38s
Gautrey (RPNYC) beat Bennett (RPAYC) 10s
Davidson (BYC) beat Parker (RPNYC) 35s
Brasell (RNZYS) beat Geddes (RNZYS) 26
Bindon (KCC) beat Tait (BBYC) 3s

Flight Ten

Mackay (RPNYC) beat Davidson (BYC) 11s
Bindon (KCC) beat Shelley (RYC) 32s
Brasell (RNZYS) beat Bennett (RPAYC) 24s
Gautrey (RPNYC) beat Geddes (RNZYS) 20s
Price (CYCA) beat Parker (RPAYC) 25s

Flight Eleven

Brasell (RNZYS) beat Gautrey (RPNYC) 40s
Shelley (RYC) beat Tait (BBYC) 21s
Geddes (RNZYS) beat Bennett (RPAYC) 26s
Mackay (RPNYC) beat Parker (RPAYC) 19s
Price (CYCA) beat Davidson (BYC) 6s

All the action, draw, race results and photos will be constantly updated to the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron Website (www.rnzys.org.nz). Facebook page (www.facebook.com/RNZYS), and Twitter (@RNZYS).

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