



KNYSNA YACHT CLUB

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JANUARY 2021

COMMODORES CORNER - MIKE JACOBS

Compliments to you all and let's believe that 2021 will improve and become just an awesome year. Besides trying to shake off the negatives of 2020, 2021 has had to deal with draconian and absurd decisions by Government starting over the festive season and now extended to mid-February.

KYC had the privilege of hosting a few cruising Yachts making their annual migration around the world.

A Swiss Family (not Robinson!) with two young girls became so attached to Knysna and as they put it, the friendliness and helpful manner in which KYC welcomed them, they had never experienced anywhere in the World.

The Husband actually did a paragliding course in Wilderness causing them to stay two weeks longer, which made the kids so happy. Our children's playground and especially the 'foofie' slide was much used.

A crewman from a French yacht serenaded us on the deck, what a character!

All visiting yachts complimented KYC on our hospitality and friendliness.

At one stage we had seven boats visiting with no less than four tied up in front of the Club.



Back to us..

Due to the fact that we cannot sell alcohol which is a huge money spinner for the Club, we have had to think 'out the box'.

The restaurant is now open for breakfast and lunch from Tuesday till Sunday.

Tuesday afternoons is Pizza on the deck from 5 till 7.

Wednesday, also 5 till 7-30 is Burger and chips with a free beer or wine for only R95.- Non-alcoholic of cause. ☺

Fridays, 5 till 7-30 is fish and chips, also with a beer or wine, again for R94.

Saturday and Sunday 12 till 2-30 is Grilled 1/4 chicken plus ribs served with onion rings and chips and a beer or wine for only R125.00.

Sunday afternoons is music on the deck from 4 till 7 and pizzas will be served. Come and listen to the music from the good old days with Gary White. Gary is on Knysna FM from 6 till 9 every Wednesday.

Please come and support KYC we really need your support to keep the Club going and especially to pay the Staff's salaries.

We have postponed our Interclub regatta to a date to be confirmed as we are in a semi lockdown. We will keep you posted, watch this space!

Presently we are in discussion with SanParks to allow our Sailors, (inshore and Keelers), Canoeists and Canoe Polo players to return to the water. World Championships are coming up for our Surfski paddlers and our Polo players and they need to train.

Till next time stay safe out there and be responsible. I enclose a Quip to lighten your day!

**Have faith in the Pfizer vaccine, after all they make Viagra.
If they can raise the dead, they can save the living.**



DABCHICK NATIONALS - 31st Dec - 3 Jan

The Dabchick Nationals took place at GLYC.

Great regatta 15 races sailed with a full wind range from very light to hectic. Had a parents race which was also a bit of fun. Nyasha and Ayden both learnt a lot since it was their 1st regatta in Dabchicks.



Nyasha Tembo wrote this article on his experience

The Dabchick event took place at George lakes Yacht Club from the 31st of December until the 3rd of January. Due to Covid restrictions the competitors had to travel everyday and this delayed the races to start at 12:00 most of the days. The first day was more of a practice, the rest of the days we sailed 4 to 5 races per day and usually finished around 17:00

The Dabchick nationals were fun and educational. I learned much more on how to sail the Dabchick by talking to and observing other sailors while they sail. We had 15 races in total. The wind was light most of the days. I sailed quite better in the light winds than in heavy winds. I did not sail race 11,12 and 13 because that day it was too windy and quite rough, I kept capsizing so the best decision was not to continue racing. I got better as the races progressed due to

experience from previous races because now I can turn without capsizing and gradually I'm getting used to the Dabchick.



The dabchick is a lot different mainly because it has 2 sails and it is a bit of a challenge since I am used to a one sail boat. I finished 16th out of 17th competitors and with more practice I believe I can do better. The prize giving was fun, I got a bag for being a newbie, it was a memorable event that I shall not forget.

Ayden Gething wrote this article on his experience

Training

I would like to say thank you to Matthew and Evelyn for all the practice.

Practice Day

On the practice day I was very nervous. I was trying to set a goal for the regatta the goal was to get to the top mark first once in the whole regatta. So I launched my boat and I went out to practice my tacks. After the committee boat went out and set the start line I set my land mark for the start, it was a house on the hill to the South West. In the first practice race I had a good start and managed to round the mark around about 5-8th, there was a fleet of 16. On the first downwind I gained one place & on the second downwind I caught up to the people in-front. On the upwind I tacked right away after rounding the mark and passed those people and stayed in the same position the whole race. On the next race I did the exact same.

Day 1

The first race I was very nervous but knew I could do it cause I proved it to myself yesterday on the first race. I had a good start & rounded the top mark in a good position, stayed in that place the whole race and managed to place 5th in the first race. In the second race it was interesting I didn't have the best start and rounded the top mark 9th and caught up on the downwind cause I was the lightest in the fleet. In the 3rd race I had a perfect start & was second off the start line I kept on going for another 50 meters after all of the other boats then tacked on the shift and was first to the top mark and maintained my lead all the way to the finish. In the 4th race I tried the same thing. I got very close but learnt a lesson after that race that you can't do the same thing every time when you are sailing.

Day 2

On the 5th race I was trying to figure out a which side was the favoured side of the course & found it but it was to late I had already got ridden over at the start by all the other boats and didn't do to well in that race & it was the same until race 7 were I did well so not much to say for day 2.

Day 3

Day 3 was going to be interesting because there was a-lot of wind coming it was sad news for me because I am only 40kg's and most the others were around 60 and up to 95kg's, so I went out for the 1st race & it didn't blow for half the race but then it started to pickup. It was fun on the downwind but on the upwind it was really hard work I managed to hang on the second race and on the third race I was going along down wind but when rounding the mark I pulled in my jib to point high because

there're was a boat capsized in-front of me and then one strong gust came and pulled me over just on my jib and I capsized and went turtle but managed to right her. I held on to the daggerboard cause I knew it was going over again so under I went still holding onto the board and it capsized to the other side but cause I was still holding on tight to the daggerboard it was easy but I am very light and there was still water in the mast. Meanwhile I was drifting down into the other boat and we got tangled so the rescue boats had to help so I got disqualified from that race and had to go in. On the way in I had a dry capsize and then went in safely. After lunch all the big boys went out I went out on the rescue boat. I had to jump on a boat with another sailor to help her get to shore and a while after that had to help another sailor get his boat to shore. After that we watched the racing.

Day 4

I didn't do to well and didn't have the best starts but did ok. It was a really fun regatta now onto the fun prize giving.

Day 1 of fun prize giving

All the people that capsized on day one got a water gun to get all the water out of their boats. I got a Bluetooth speaker cause I won a race and then we were supposed to do tug of chomp but now there are no more chops so its tug of tex :(with lots of sanitizer so that it is impossible to grab onto and the tex is 1cm longer so its social distancing. Let me explain that tug of chomp is it is tug of war just with a chocolate, a certain type of chocolate chomp/tex :(

Day 2 fun prize giving

I capsized right Infront of the club house so I got a squeaky duck which every one regretted but when we were watching videos of the starts one of the sailors took my duck and gave it to my dad and he just threw it into the bush :(and a special mention to Hamilton Slater the winner of the regatta for fetching it :) We ran out of toys on day 3 and day 4 was the main prize giving. I didn't win anything :(

It was a very fun regatta over all. I placed 10th and learnt a lot. I learnt how to have sort of consistent starts and how to pick the right side of the course and how to dry capsize.

Congratulations
Ayden Gething and Nyasha Tembo.
You are keeping the KYC flag flying
high and are an inspiration to your fellow
juniors.



