

Notes and Lessons Learned from the 2004 Sunfish Championships

Summary of Expenses and Effort

Income and Direct Expenditure

Income:

Entries:	14 @ \$25 each	350.00
Barbeque:	1 @ \$10 each	10.00
Total Income		360.00

Direct expenses:

Barbeque	30 servings @ \$10 each	300.00
Trophies	9 trophies	444.53
Total Direct Expenditure:		744.53

Net Income (Loss)

(384.53)

Indirect Expenses and Donations (primarily boat maintenance)

Na Hoa Holomoku:

Sails	12 sails @130 each	1560.00
Blocks	12 blocks @ ~ \$21 each + shipping	279.80
Parts	Bulkhead caps, tiller universals, springs	87.80
Rope	Bungee cord and mainsheet	43.00

University

Rope	50' 5 mm dacron pre-stretched	25.00
Rope	50' 5 mm dacron	15.00

Big Island Sailing Foundation:

Booms	3 sets @280 each	840.00
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Larry and Robbyn Peck:

Mahogany	10 Centerboards @\$20 each	240.00
Epoxy	3 quarts @ \$20 each	60.00
ACE, HPM	Miscellaneous fastenings	50.00

John Luchau:

Race Flags	10 flags	73.00
Paint		200.00
Epoxy	1 quart @ \$20	20.00
ACE, HPM	Miscellaneous fastenings	50.00

Nick Rees

APS fittings	Sail rings, drain plugs	75.00
North Sails	Rudder fittings	40.00
Airport	Leis	48.00
ACE, HPM	Miscellaneous fastenings	50.00

Total Indirect Expenses 3756.60

Approximate Effort Contributions

First daggerboard working bee (17 April 2004)

15 people, 6 hours. 90

(John Luchau, Kevin Horton, Nick Rees, Larry and Robbyn Peck, Ron Reilly
Dominic Zempel, Kim Magnuson, Tereza and Tania Chylkova, Albert Chylek, Nick
Heinrich, Mauricio Barbis, Skip Neilson, Bill? + one other.)

Second daggerboard working bee (15 May 2004)

5 people for 2 hours 10

(John Luchau, Nick Rees, Tomas Chylek, Tereza Chylkova, Kevin Horton)

First beach working bee (1 August 2004)

22 people, 4 hours 76

(Nick, Alan, Jan, Samuel and Thomas Rees, John Luchau, Mauricio, Paola,
Brunella, Luciano and Stefano Barbis, Larry and Robbyn Peck, Tomas Chylek,
Tereza Chylkova, Kevin Horton, Ron Reilly, Kim Magnuson, Lynn Houston)

Second beach working bee (20 August 2004)

5 people, 4 hours 20

(Mauricio Barbis, Nick Rees, John Olson + some others)

Finishing daggerboards (say 4 hours each):

Nick (4 boards) 16

Mauricio (2 boards) 8

Tomas (2 boards) 8

John (3 boards + #14 board) 16

Rudders and tillers (say 2 hours each)

Tomas (3 blades) and Nick (3 blades) 12

Final 2 boats

John Luchau for countless hours (say, 40) 40

Mending existing boats

Jim Patterson (C-2, C-3, + 2 YMCA boats) (say, 40). 40

Total Donated Effort (hours) 336

Comments Submitted from Individuals

Eric Jones:

As I'm sure your well aware of, It takes a good number of reliable people to run an efficient race event as the State Sunfish Championship. I was impressed with how well everyone worked together and will not take aim at the organization. You certainly have a wonderful, interesting membership of people who volunteered for the many jobs needed.

Since I worked on the race committee, I will make a few observations:

1. The (working) race committee cannot be involved with anything to do with the swapping of or moorage of extra race boats. As planned, the exchange of boats ashore is OK, but takes time from an otherwise tight schedule. Having extra boats on a mooring (outside the race course) was good, except there

needs to be some feature on every boat to make the tying up easy and uniform.

2. Considering the constantly changing weather conditions there is a need for a fast stake boat and crew to keep up with changing the course to suit. I know, we did have one, but didn't utilize it to full advantage until the second day. Again, a learning curve.
3. Since the requirement of fourteen races (fourteen boats) was needed to make the racing fair to every participant, time spent racing is most important. Less time spent on breaks is the best way of getting those races in. I understand, if the wind had come up sooner, it wouldn't have been a problem.

I think that Kevin did an excellent job of handling the on-water race committee job. I would be happy to work with him again. Also, I can't imagine a better or more beautiful place to have a sailing regatta than right off the beach in Hilo. I hope that the club does it next year.

John Luchau:

1. Raise entry fee to \$50.00 and provide BBQ for skipper plus one guest
2. Plan on race starts at 1100. Racers can eat lunch early or take something with them on the boats.
3. Less races per day.
4. Lots more publicity earlier to get more entrants involved.
5. Race committee contact powerboat skippers early enough to make certain engines are in order.
6. Smaller budget for trophies.
7. Get together with YMCA about insurance earlier.
8. Recruit more club members (not racers) for help and support.

Nick Rees:

Positive points:

We achieved most of the goals I personally set myself which were:

1. A great big learning experience for all concerned.
2. I really felt it had the feel of a championship, and not just a couple of club races.
3. The race committee came on wonderfully.
4. Everyone became far more expert on every aspect of racing.
5. Massive improvement in the boats as a result.
6. Have ramped up the learning curve so that a similar championships next year should be easier.

Having said this, it is too early to tell if this will have a long term effect...

Lessons learned:

1. It was difficult to get volunteers to focus on the task at hand (this may have been due to my inability to convey what was intended).
2. We now have a better feel on the budget for a championships, and so need to carefully budget next time.
3. We were probably overly ambitious – we didn't need 14 races to determine a winner and we didn't need to set a national championship standard for this level of event.
4. As Claudia says, we have to maximize our use of the YMCA – they can help us, but they also have to have a Y person working with us and helping us out.
5. Don't overestimate what volunteers (particularly those with full time jobs) can do. The upturn in the Hawaii economy counted against us.
6. Providing 14 serviceable boats is a lot of work. Can we arrange a better way to do this (adopt a Sunfish?).

Robbyn Peck

1. Less T-Shirts.

Ron Reilly

I thought the Sunfish Championships were great. For me it was:

1. Learning a lot...in a,
2. A supportive environment...which was,
3. Gentle on those (me) who sometimes screwed up and should by rights been DQ'd (like when I cut in front of you on port tack at the windward mark)...and gave me
4. My first experience of small boat racing for two full days...and
5. Provided the thrill of victory (twice I got to be first to a buoy ahead of my betters)...and
6. The agony of defeat (flat last when a squall showed me that laying down in the boat just doesn't cut it in a good wind).

Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make it happen.