

# Only the brave tackle strong Midmar winds

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**Yachting Log**  
by KEITH GERSON

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A STRONG, blustery south-westerly gusting to 20 knots greeted competitors on Saturday for HMYC monthly long-distance keeler race. Only eight intrepid crews braved the conditions to sail round Midmar.

It soon became apparent that the J22s were far too fast for the rest of the fleet and they soon drew away steadily. "Stateline Warlord" sailed by Craig Millar/Ian Statham/Yestin Hundley took line honours by beating "Great White" sailed by Rob Tarboton/Tony Cockerill/Andrew Walford by five minutes.

Third place went to the Flying Fifteen of Rob Bell/Vaughan Gerson, who relished the strong wind especially on the reaches.

The Lavranos 20 sailed by Paul Brandon/crew crossed the line fourth having sailed an excellent race.

Hans Schroder/crew were first Hunter, in fifth position, finishing ahead of Keith Gerson/Eric Naude who managed to beat Dave Christie/crew in his Flamenca. Geoff Scallan/crew made a brave attempt to catch the Flamenca but finished eighth. Handicap results have still to be calculated.

Sunday morning brought perfect weather with a light easterly which proved testing to all crews as the direction kept switching, necessitating tacking and manoeuvring to make the most of the available wind.

Five Hunters competed in class championship race C9 and Keith and Vaughan Gerson took line honours nearly seven minutes ahead of second-placed Hans and Ingo Schroder. Harold Deg/family from Durban finished third with Nick Konyon/Elspeth Gray fourth.

In Lasers, Linda Hutchinson sailed away to victory from Rhys Willington in second place with Gareth Willington third.

The Miracle fleet had a most exciting race with the leaders never far apart. Eventually Ian Brown, sailing single handed, pipped John/Jonty Field over the line by a mere five seconds. Stewart and Debbie Robinson came third.

The two beautiful J22 keelers enjoyed their weekly "match" racing.

This week Rob Tarboton/Tony Cockerill/Mark Hawksworth won both races beating Craig Millar/Ian Statham/Yestin Hundley. A lone 505 sailed by Wim Juressen/Antonio Paraino joined the J22s for some practice in both races.

In the afternoon class championship race C10, the wind increased and made for closer racing. In Hunters the Gersons again sailed to victory from the Schroders by three minutes with Nick Konyon/Elspeth Gray third. V. Vesey/J. Ventura came fourth.

Another close race took place between the Miracles with the Fields crossing the line first followed by Ian Brown and the Robinsons.

Rhys Willington sailed his Laser to a comfortable win over Mike Tarboton with Gareth Willington third.

This weekend no club racing will take place as the club are hosting the annual inter-schools regatta starting on Saturday.

Durban beat Maritzburg in a radio control model yacht inter-club at Camps Drift on Sunday sailed in a light switchy wind with 17 yachts taking part. Best placed local sailor was Des Fairbank who came third.

#### Result of Inter-Schools racing on Saturday

**Race D3:** Laser: 1. Jeremy Guimaraens (Hilton); Dabchick: 1. Ryan Turner (Hilton); Mirror: 1. Simon Southwood/Dean Williamson (Michaelhouse); Windsurfer: 1. Brett Lederle (Hilton).

**Race D4:** Laser: 1. Ryan Dingley (Hilton); Dabchick: 1. Ryan Turner (Hilton); Mirror: 1. Oliver Stainer/Justin Brown (Michaelhouse); Windsurfer: 1. Brett Lederle (Hilton).