



Cabrillo Beach Windsurf Enduro

Overview and Final Race Results

On July 14, Cabrillo Beach – also known as Hurricane Gulch, as it is one of the windiest sailing spots in Southern California -- was the scene of a large scale, well attended “Windsurf Enduro,” the first windsurfing race at Cabrillo Beach in almost a decade. Response to the Enduro exceeded the most optimistic expectations, with 66 racers participating, including 26 racers competing in the men’s novice division, 19 racers sailing in the men’s open division, 9 men competing in the masters division, and 12 racers sailing in the women’s division. While the majority of the racers hailed from the Los Angeles Metro area, competitors also traveled from San Francisco, Santa Barbara, San Diego, and elsewhere in California.

Following a several hour set up period to get registration and broadcast tents set up, a rigging area established, and a music/PA system in place, the enthusiastic participants began signing-in around 10:00 am. (On-line and fax pre-registration had garnered some pre-registrations; of these 68 preregistered racers, 61 actually showed up, signed in, and paid their entry fees. Another 6 participants signed up on the day of the race, with a number of other potential racers on “stand-by,” hoping for the opportunity to compete.) As the morning progressed, scores of colorful sails and boards – from big finned, Formula race gear to rounded wave boards and sails -- were rigged up in a festive, music-charged atmosphere.

Given the long absence of any event of this type in Southern California, many marveled at the sight and wondered where these windsurfers came from. Stephanie LeBlond, the event organizer and volunteer for the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse Park Advisory Board (a board organized by the City of Los Angeles’ Department of Recreation and Parks), explained that the owners of the local windsurfing shops, Jeff Jones of Long Beach Windsurf Center and Kirk Robinson of Captain Kirk’s, were powerful promoters of the event, as was UCLA’s windsurfing program (led by Wayne Chin), which had many students compete in the novice and women’s races. At a regional and statewide level, word of the event was broadcast on iWindsurf’s community forums and sponsored banner advertisement. Industry support – from DaKine, Ezzy, Streamlined, and the online site WindJunkie.net – also was important in generating enthusiasm. All that said, a primary reason why the event was well attended became clear when speaking with the various competitors: Southern California windsurfers were hungry for this sort of event and embraced it with great gusto.



Enthusiasm for the event was not limited to windsurfers and the windsurfing industry, however. That same spirit was shared throughout the San Pedro community, with the Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club stepping in at the eleventh hour to provide its state of the art race committee boat, the Cabrillo Beach Boosters – whose mission is to foster and develop beach side activities – essentially underwriting the race. Further, local businesses such as Baja Fish, South Shores Meat Market, Albertsons, The Sound Company, San Pedro.com, D2RM, and local families, including Brian and Angela Burney and Ken and Debbie Letwin, all provided essential in-kind donations and assistance.

All the work that went into this event could have been easily compromised by a Catalina Eddy (a local weather phenomenon), which had the bad taste to appear mid-morning. While the Eddy's presence may have caused some concern, its grey clouds were unable to dampen the upbeat mood generated by the mere fact that everyone had gathered for the Enduro, with many new faces interacting with beach and race veterans in what also felt like a long overdue high school reunion. With dolphins at play close to shore, sailors admired their complimentary rash guards and jerseys and commented on the bargain registration fees (\$10 for early registration, \$20 same day). Many went out of their way to donate additional funds to help support the event in the future.

But whether because of the positive energy of the assembled windsurfers, wind sacrifices by the event organizers, or simple good luck, by 3 p.m. the Eddy had been shown the door and the breeze had reached the race minimum of 15 mph average. Since the skippers meeting already had occurred, shortly after 3 p.m. the first novice heat raced down the beach and into the water in a Le Mans style beach start, and then proceeded to complete several laps around 0.8 mile long figure-eight course during the next 10 minutes. Over the next three hours, a total of seven, ten minute heats (two men's novice heats and a single women's heat, all with Le Mans style starts, two men's open and master's heats with off-shore timed starts, a final novice heat and a final open/master's heat), with up to 15 racers each, went off with nary a hitch. (To get all planned seven heats completed before the wind backed off around 6 p.m., LeBlond and the race committee – headed by United States Windsurfing Association's Southwest representative, Joe Roth -- heeded the timely suggestion of racer Kay Monteleone, a Cabrillo Beach regular, to reduce the heat length from the planned 15 minute duration to 10 minutes.)

When the races were over, and the sea of gear packed away, the assembled racers and guests walked over to the nearby Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse, where



organizers staged a taco barbecue sponsored by San Pedro's Baja Fish and local rock and roll band Trick Banana performed.

As participants devoured their tacos and compared notes about the day's events, Race Organizer LeBlond thanked an extensive list of sponsors, volunteers, and others (such as the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and the Los Angeles County Lifeguards), a recitation that underscored the tremendous team work and community support that made the Enduro possible. As part of her thank-you, LeBlond recounted how the Enduro evolved over a three year period from an idea etched on a restaurant napkin (at Baja Fish, ironically) to its final form, with many detours along the way, from changing the beach permitting process to convincing City and County officials that the race was not too great a risk, to her having two children!

With the thank-you's completed, the moment that all the racers had been waiting for finally came: the announcement of the results! First place winners in each class received beautiful hand carved wooden trophies courtesy of Mauna Kai Hawaii, with they and other finalists receiving a bounty of prizes (such as masts, harnesses, mast bases, and luggage) provided by DaKine, Ezzy, and Streamlined. (See finalist list below.) Lucky participants also were able to get their hands on shirts, stickers and other swag donated by DaKine and WindJunkie.net that was tossed into the excited crowd.

As night fell, the beach emptied and many of the racers and volunteers migrated to the Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club, which had opened its wonderful bar and deck to the windsurfing community for drinks and socializing. Like good sailors, the windsurfers did not "abandon ship" until "last call" was called and the bar closed. All in all, a great day for windsurfing and, based on the conversations at the BBQ and the bar, the racers and organizers are looking forward to another great event next year!



Race Results

Men's Novice

Finals

Position	Name
1	Erik Jan de Boer
2	Philip Newmarch
3	Will Vasquez
4	Ronn Holmes
5	Jaime Rico
6	Wayne Chin
7	Andy Hajduczek
8	Michael Munn
9	Thomas Dherbecourt
10	Peter Star
11	Mete Kural
12	Anthony Walker
DNS	Randy Brown
DNS	Zehao Chang
DNS	Brian Marshall

Semi-Finals – Heat No. 1

Position	Name
1	Wayne Chin
2	Thomas Dherbecourt
3	Ronn Holmes
4	Mete Kural
5	Randy Brown
6	Zehao Chang
7	Michael Munn
8	Brian Burney
DNS	Leonard Gale
DNS	Zoran Maric
DNS	David Zachariah
DNS	David Karon

Semi-Finals – Heat No. 2

Position	Name
1	Erik Jan de Boer
2	Jaime Rico
3	Peter Star
4	Philip Newmarch
5	Will Vasquez
6	Andy Hajduczek
7	Brian Marshall
8	P. Jay Turcot
9	Stephen Bard
10	Boon Chua
11	Adrian Van Nelsen
12	Anthony Walker
DNS	Mathew Markin
DNS	Max Feldman

Bold denotes qualified for finals
 DNS signifies did not start



Women's

Finals

Position	Name
1	Shawn Freeman
* Tie for 2	Claudia Rankel
* Tie for 2	Kay Monteleone
3	Sheri Nelson
4	Vicky Tsoi
5	Stephanie LeBlond
6	Janice Hauser
7	Dafra Tobi
8	Genevieve Kayat
9	Kitty Robinson
DNS	Debbie Cottle
DNS	Dana Tobi

DNS signifies did not start

* Please note correction to previous announcements



Men's Open

Finals

Position	Name
1	Peter Bonello
2	Dave Freeman
3	Casey Hauser
4	Mauro Jorand
5	Chris Knap
6	Greg Monteleone
7	Gabor Vagi
DNS	John Oestmann

Semi-Finals – Heat No. 1

Position	Name
1	Dave Freeman
2	Casey Hauser
3	Mauro Jorand
4	Chris Knap
5	Felix Bird
6	Gregg Hedlund
7	Hur Yigit Koktenturk
8	Mark Basset
DNS	Mike Colee
DNS	Joe Roth

Semi-Finals – Heat No. 2

Position	Name
1	Gabor Vagi
2	Greg Monteleone
3	Peter Bonello
4	John Oestman
5	David Whitaker
6	Jack Alden
7	Tuan Nguyen
DNS	Longo Tafea
DNS	Jurg Schnorf

Bold denotes qualified for finals
 DNS signifies did not start



Men's Masters

Finals

Position	Name
1	Cliff Hauser
2	Jeff Jones
3	Kirk Robinson
DNS	Jeff Lindstrom

Semi-Finals – Heat No. 1

Position	Name
1	Jeff Jones
DNS	Michael Belman
DNS	Bill Kaser
DNS	Karl Kirsch

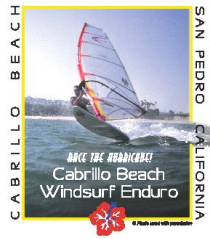
Semi-Finals – Heat No. 2

Position	Name
1	Kirk Robinson
2	Cliff Hauser
3	Jeff Lindstrom
4	Charles Aguilar
DNS	George Israel

Bold denotes qualified for finals
 DNS signifies did not start

Surveying the Scene



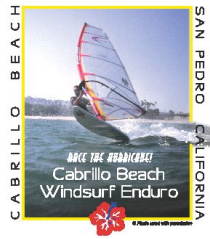


Watching the Novices Go



Novice Start





Women's Start

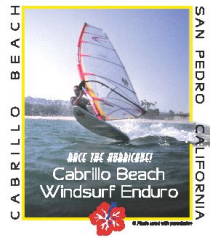




Coming at Ya



above photo by d. gallet



Racing Back





Drag Racing



above photo by d. gallet

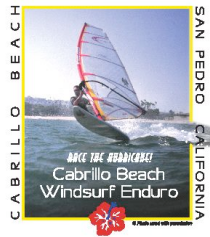


Figure Eight



BBQ





First Prize Winners: Cliff Hauser, Shawn Freeman, Peter Bonello, Erik Jan de Boer

