

B14 Nationals 2009: Alternative Form Guide

The real one is here: <http://www.yachtsandyachting.com/news/?article=146488>

Here is the top ten in detail, followed by snapshots for the “normal people”:

Nick /Toby– Team Gill

Might or might not turn up, depending on “negotiation skills” with the other half (“better half” we suspect...). If they do make it expect a close run thing for the “*loudest shout at crew*” award, though Seavolution could push them close if it’s not going well...

Doesn’t care what sails he is using, just hikes hard and goes fast. Will probably win, doesn’t like losing much.

Barnsie/Pete – Seavolution 1

The planets have aligned with the menhirs of Carnac - the perfect combination of injuries, boat tuning and excuses is nigh.

Having swapped the self-styled “*quickest B14 in the northern hemisphere*” for an apparently (by implication) slower alternative which merely uses the same hull, mast, foils, helm and crew to achieve this stellar change. They are not yet at “*full speed*”. Their lead in pursuit of the title of “*longest list of potential excuses*” is now considerably extended by Pete having severed at least one whole limb and having to be swapped for a lesser model... or is he?*

Will be running either a standard 3 year old North design or an LGM08.5367 (rev. 4b) with special adjustments to maintain class legal spreader positions. Possibly.

* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PI4yxiNZKGA>

Tim /Johnny– Anthill Mob

One of the most consistent teams, consistently found swimming in breezy conditions. Currently lying second in the 2009 TT series (probably light winds...). Great experience and a strong contender in the *grab-a-granny* stakes, a certain member of this team should have a careful eye placed on them (officer).

Whiter-than-white (when hungover and plastered with sun cream...)

Generally destroying North (UK) kites.

Fellsy/James – Dynamic Sails 2

Needing no introduction, but we’ll do it anyway... Tim is multiple World Champion B14 champion (and has never let the Aussies win...). Having tried to stay awake in the arse end of a Laser SB3 he is now returning for the Nationals to wake up.

Sailing with James Stewart, that famous “domestic sailing character”. Do they have the performance to match the CV?

Annoyingly unlikely to do much wrong (on the water at least). Boat borrowed from Beezer/Ferret, who it would have been much more fun to write about...

Sailing with whatever sails he's borrowed, though I think there is a clue in the boat name...

Binesy/Dave – Quinta Radisson

With Dave Gibbons making a last minute appearance in place of the mysterious "Dave Giddons" this team could go far, or may stay at home. "Multiple champions in other classes" (not this one then...) they have a great potential breakage list – kite halyard, wings, you name it... apparently the Heineken Cup is on telly too.

Best placed for the "I'm on the form guide but I'm not going" prize, just edging Dick and Kate into 2nd.

No sails required.

Wattsy/Georgie Porgie – Simmons&Simmons

Leading the charge on two fronts this team are most likely to drink Plymouth (all of it) and most likely to destroy the crew (but not in the bar anymore...). Mark has "broken" (missus!) George on more than one occasion in the last couple of seasons, whether by immersion in frigid waters (missus again!) or a 'dicky ticker'. Must be fancying their chances with changes in the top teams...

Clearly cheating by having a sober crew (class rule 75.1a) with George off the beer with the ticker issue, this could be the dream team. Or maybe the dreaming team...

Hyde Sails, controversial...?

Hayesy/Richie – Sketchworks/North Sails

Hayesy has "shown some great speed since returning from the Worlds" (so not while he was there then...?). Possibly will have finished putting the boat together by the first race start, though this is unlikely as he was still building each of the last 4 when he sold them...

Challenging for "Helm most likely to be found drunk and lost."

Can't remember whose sails... sorry.

Mark/Allan– Acxiom

Great at annoying anyone who doesn't think North LGM06 mainsails work by, erm, making an LGM06 mainsail work. The most "media savvy" member of the class (though this may be simply due to having more/bigger logos than anyone else). Apparently this team is "nearer the top end weight in the UK fleet" [ed: potentially libellous, refer this point to lawyer before publication].

Running those fat head Norths

Alan /Toby– Hyde Sails

Apparently this team is "One of the lighter teams" [ed: potentially libellous, refer this point to lawyer before publication] and they "produced some very good results" (fluked a couple?) at the Worlds in Hobart. Apparently can be misguided in the bar with potential to 'in-your-face' pitchers of bundy and coke, but generally only once... "Should be good at putting a series together", but aren't.

Probably Hyde Sails (I'm guessing here, OK?)

Bosnia/Phil – Dynamic Sails

“Has Dave sailed the B14 enough...?” (he’s sailed a darn sight more than me...). Rumoured to be in the running for the “wild west prize”, there is a potential SI change to impose a system of beverage fines for misdemeanours on the race course...

Probably Dynamic Sails... am I right with that one?

Normal people... you can have a conversation with this lot without being talked at about boats (mostly...)

Piers/Mark – 2 Racks of Pork

Strangely fast in drifting conditions they have also shown their undoubted potential in a breeze by ripping bits of boat off when hiking hard. Likely to amuse.

Will/Harry – Seavolution 2

“Sailing probably the quickest B14 in the northern hemisphere” - I will try not to mock openly if we sail past you lads (here’s hoping...). These two will only be handicapped by the potential to be luffed over the start line by anyone mistaking them for Barnsie (don’t worry, if you keep quiet we’ll know it’s you...)

Frank (Rowsell)/Ed – Rowsell Sails

“Should be members of the pack” – harsh! (but true?). Apparently running Rowsell Sails... fancy that. Local-ish, might at least know which way to go.

Mark/Charlie – Winged Monkey

The Rocket Man cometh. TT Winner, Rocket Scientist (it’s engineering y’know...) and all round good bloke... (he might put this up on the website now...)

Dan/Rach – Chattanooga Choo Choo

Having the most preposterously named boat (is it really called that...?) this team have apparently had “a big makeover” (new hair Rach?). Will be running a big purple one.

Dick/Kate – Hydrotherapy

Not returning after a layoff, they will not be out to prove a point and should therefore not be on the pace. One not to watch. Not running Hyde Sails. Come back soon, we miss you.

Tony/Char – Sailsport

Currently our top orange boat. Will be popular if it is windy for either spare parts (in the van, don’t go ransacking the boat...) or comedy photo sequences. Justly famous for the “chinscar/he’s not my dad” incident. Probably.

Steve/Chris - Smack my B up

West country. Beer, ciggies, boats. Need we say more? If someone nick’s their car keys again they’re a lot closer to home...

Tags/Alex – new boat, don’t know what it’s called...

Got a new boat, looks like the old boat. Probably go a bit faster?

Rod/Sharon – The Muppet Show

Got a new boat, looks nothing like the old boat –much less blue for starters. Definitely going a lot faster. Home waters, could spring a surprise (“boo!”). Odd how everyone else’s new boats go faster, eh Barnsie!

Phil/Kev – 757 “Hayesy’s old boat”

Got a new boat, less yellow than the old one. Got new sails, less North than the old ones. Got several years of Hayesy bimbles... not sure how that helps...

Will B/??? – 746 “Jono’s old boat”

Yellowest boat. No question. Definitely pushing the boundaries on colour, could take the title if Tony fails to show in the tangerine dream. Leading the “I don’t know who your crew is” stakes... (sorry!)

Simon/??? - 733

Another colourful boat, once at the front of the fleet with Jonny Ellis and Spike Daniels. Humbled a few people upwind at Stokes Bay, probably distracted a few of them by running the same sails that Jonny ran in the early 1930s... still looking better than Barnsie’s LGM07s though (allegedly). Leading the “I don’t know who your crew is, despite having met him” stakes... (sorry! again...)

Kathy/Andy – Bodge

The mighty Bodge/Dusty Bin/Frankenstein – the board fits, the racks were made in the 1980s and it floats now. Has humbled the mighty Nick Craig on occasion and looks to go one better, looking for flat water as apparently there might be a weight distribution issue during drops...

Lucy/Andrew - 709

Little is known about this pairing, Lucy raced in Hobart in a blue boat, I don’t know who Andrew is and 709 used to be owned by Phil Eltringham... that’s all I have. Buy me a beer and tell me your story! (free beer... might work, you never know)

Barry/Al - 678

Possibly the best combination of athleticism and hairstyles to be found in a B14 since Fells and Cunningham, this team pushes the boundaries of many things. They quite often throw in a good first beat just to prove that they could do it if they wanted, but can’t be arsed today.

Part Timers

Unlikely to win if you only turn up on Monday chaps... but you never know, with our weather record you might be equal 1st... and last...

Anyone else?

Are you sure you’ve entered...? post your cheque... what do you think your name is? Davis?

Anon

19th May 2009