



Montego Bay Yacht Club Newsletter

May 2015

COMMODORE'S REPORT



Nigel Knowles

The summer has flown by with many youngsters back home from schools abroad making the most of their time with family and friends and enjoying the Club and all the various activities that were on offer. We had two more sailing courses, tennis activities, water skiers and fishers heading out for the early morning waters. The sound of youngsters and their families having so much fun really makes me appreciate the wonderful family feeling and the great camaraderie of our members as we all take time to enjoy our location and facilities with our loved ones. It's quite magical. We really are very lucky to have such a great venue as MBYC where we can share these valuable moments.

You may have also noticed the recent trenching work that has begun, leading from the car park to the dock side. This work was generously undertaken by Peter Harper (not physically himself, that would be expecting too much of that young man). It will allow us to not only replace the power cable that currently runs overhead above the slipway so we can move boats more easily, but also to eventually upgrade the power supply to the dock with a more reliable and larger electrical feed, once funds become available. The design and planning of this project will result in improved infrastructure for the Club. The time and efforts of many other people were required to get this project off the ground. The Club and I thank all those involved for their dedication.

Working both with other properties throughout Freeport and with Fredrik Moe's business, MBYC has made a deposit payment towards the repaving of Freeport, and specifically the road and sidewalk that passes our club. This upgrade should take place quite soon and will make the front of our property much smarter and safer to walk or drive on. The dreadful potholes will be gone and replaced with fresh new tarmac and real sidewalks.

To supplement the paving project, we have now placed an order to have our long awaited security fencing erected across the front of our property. The chain link fencing will move our boundary to encompass the land that was purchased by the Club a couple of years ago. It will also allow us to extend our dry dock area closer to the road. Once erected, TEF should be offering planting and beautification between the fence and the new pavement which should look fab and groovy. Additionally, we have also placed an order to finalise the equally



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long awaited security cameras across the whole of the property. We are hoping to have the cameras up and running before the Marlin Tournament. All of this work will be a great aesthetic improvement to the property, in addition to protecting our members' belongings from 'light fingers'. Hopefully it will also ease the stress for security personnel of trying to keep an eye on everything that goes on and keeping our property safe.

With the new fencing to be installed shortly, our tennis court is edging closer and closer to completion. Final donations are still very much needed to help complete this project; once the top dressing and court markings have been laid, the courts will be fully usable. Please contact Floyd Logan if you are able to contribute towards this excellent addition to our facilities and help the Donors' Committee finalize this project.

A couple of months ago I mentioned that we were going to offer a survey to our members so that the Committee can better understand what you want from your club, and where you feel our priorities for investment and facilities should be focused. It has taken more work and a longer time to compile this survey than expected. But thanks to the amazing efforts of Julia Magnusson-Ford, we are now ready to ask for you to take part in the survey so your voice can be heard. I hope that we have covered all the areas where you feel we should be canvassing your opinions and that you can make the time to give us the valuable feedback we need to steer the club in the best direction for a long and prosperous future.

Just follow this link to the survey. Enjoy! <http://goo.gl/forms/U1Eyl5KoeP>

We have other items in the pipeline, although our main efforts are now focused on the forthcoming 54th Marlin Fishing Tournament which starts later this month. We hope we will see you all at the club during this exciting event and that we can continue to show our visitors and fellow members the great hospitality for which that MBYC is renowned. It will be a blast!

For those of you who like a giggle, here are some of the best voted one line jokes for the "Edinburgh Fringe" comedy event this year;

"I just deleted all the German names off my phone. It's now Hans free."

"What's the difference between a 'hippo' and a 'Zippo'? One is really heavy - the other is a little lighter."

"If you don't know what introspection is you need to take a long, hard look at yourself."

"I usually meet my girlfriend at 12:59 because I like that one-to-one time."



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MBYC YOUTH SAILING



Zoe Knowles, Youth Commodore and Sailing Instructor

The summer sailing camp began on August 3th and ran for two weeks until August 14th. This camp was a great success as we taught a total of 12 brand new youth sailors over the two-week camp! The camp was divided into two weeks- the first week was for all comers and the second week was for intermediate and advanced sailors. All the children developed new skills whilst on the water and on land. They also had fun whilst learning and sailing, which resulted in several children from the first week of camp joining the second week, and even to join the new MBYC 2015-2016 race team! I'm so proud of the Youth Sailors for their ability to pick up so much information in a short period of time, and to work so hard to practice everything they have learned. From playing pirates to serious race lessons, these kids are always smiling and having fun!





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Big ups to all the sailors on the 2015-2016 race team. I'm looking forward to a great year of teamwork, racing, travelling and fun ahead of us, boys!

Under 17	Under 12
Captain- Shiv Ramchandani	Jonah Pastureau
Vice Captain- Luke Pastureau	Santiago Fitch
Hamish Murray	Dylan Lusang
Francesc Brull Espiritu	
Roshan Bharwani	



I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved: the amazing coaches- Lily and Grace Farquharson; the wonderful MBYC staff - Heather, Zerain, Taddy, and Dock Master Dawson; and organizers - Julie Knowles and Tanique Ventura. Youth Sailing would be impossible without these people. I am already excited for our next camp!

Like us at: <https://www.facebook.com/MBYCYouthSailing>



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MBYC MANAGER'S REPORT



Taddy Tavares, Club Manager

Events/Functions/Exhibitions

Final preparations for the 54th Marlin Fishing Tournament, scheduled for September 21st to 26th, are underway and gearing up for the grand opening. Stay tuned for further details of this exciting calendar event and mark your social calendar. This tournament is one of the few scheduled events that gives the Club the opportunity to not only enhance the tourism product, especially in the 'off season' for hotel bookings, but also creates a small window to garner funds that go toward maintaining and upgrading the Club. Registered members will have the benefit of special rates for charity events, so please take this opportunity to encourage everyone to renew their Club Membership now and in the coming weeks.

The Team Jamaica training courses have been well attended and very successful. The courses have proved to be very beneficial to employees from a wide cross-section of the Tourism Industry. The instructors were very appreciative of the venue afforded them to conduct the sessions over two week-ends.

The Executors of John McConnell's Estate arrived in the Island on August 20th to finalize plans for a small memorial function attended by his close associates and beneficiaries. His ashes were sprinkled at sea off Dr. Lee Bailey's vessel, 'Half Fast', after which invited guests were treated to cocktails and a delectable buffet prepared by Seahorse Grill. Entertainment was provided by Paul Hurlock, a personal friend of John's. The evening culminated in the presentation of the John McConnell Memorial Trophy to Commodore Knowles, who thanked John Tolson, Stuart Iversen and Pierre Hughes-Fortin on behalf of the members. He assured them that the opulent trophy (with keeper plaques for the next twenty-five years) will be presented to the boat in the Tournament for 'most released' marlin.



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List of New Club Members

This month, we are pleased to welcome recently appointed members to the Club – Family: Rafael & Anely Matas, Felicia LeGault & O’Neil Patterson, James & Natalie Ransome; Thandiwe Fearon; Juniors: Richard Lue-Sang, Ryan Lue-Sang, Francesca Lluís Brull and Sasa Dizdarevic

Condolences

We wish to extend belated condolences to the family of the late George Thomas, a prominent lawyer from Montego Bay, who was a member of the Yacht Club.



Dear members!

Since this is the last issue before the 54th Annual Montego Bay International Marlin Tournament, September 21st to 26th, I felt it a good time to drop a note into the newsletter to give you some information about how things are shaping up.

Last year, we completely overhauled the format of the tournament, with a view to making it more exciting for both the anglers on the competing teams, as well as spectators, family and friends, alike. Almost everything was reviewed and changed, from the fishing days (now Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) to the rules (we received International recognition last year, by being granted the status of Official Qualifying Event for the Offshore World Championship in Costa Rica).



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Last year's first "reboot" was a tremendous success. 30 teams were registered for the event, and although 3 boats dropped out in the last week, due to health and mechanical issues, 27 teams officially competed on the day – a record for the MBYC tournament. The feedback from the teams and anglers was hugely satisfying – mostly along the lines of "Best tournament I've ever fished".

The fishing was excellent, with almost 10 Blue Marlin per day brought to the stern. In fact, we haven't made a big deal of it, but Port Antonio's tournament had the same number of teams competing in their event, and our daily Marlin average exceeded Porty's last year. Anglers in the know have always recognized that MoBay has the fish!



This year, we already have FORTY (40) teams registered for the event! A phenomenal result and another record-breaking achievement for the MBYC.

One of the key objectives in the reboot of the event last year, was to take advantage of all that Montego Bay has to offer, not only in terms of friendly hospitality, but also in terms of venues and accommodations, to create a "calendar week" event that gives many more people a reason to participate, not just the anglers. We also made a commitment to providing a significant contribution to local charities.

Last year's first foray into building this up was the "Tight Lines" closing party at the Doctors Cave Bathing Club, where the competing boats anchored and "rafted up" together for a fabulous beach party. This was well received, and has contributed to a larger contingent of out of towners committing themselves to attending the event this year.

This year, we will add a new event during the tournament week – a Charity Stand-Up Comedy Night, called "Stand-Up and Care" – hosted at the MBYC on Thursday, the 24th of September, at the close of the second day of fishing. All ticket sale proceeds will go to We Care, in aid of the Children's Wing at Cornwall Regional, as well as for remediation work at the Fishermen's Beach. This event has a line-up of International and Local comedic talent the likes of which I do not think have ever been seen in one night at any comedy event in Jamaica, let



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alone Montego Bay. Majah Hype, "Iceman", Harris Stanton, Dave Siegel, and Leighton Smith, are all confirmed so far, with another well-known comedy duo potential also joining.

Tickets for this event will go on sale at Fontana within a few days, at only \$3,000. Given the charitable nature of this event, I would ask that all members reach out and support this event. While members are always welcomed at the club, under all circumstances, it is truly important that if you choose to attend this charity night, that you also make the choice to buy the tickets, so that the event can be successful and make the contribution to the charities that we have designed it to do, and so that we can repeat the event next year.

On Friday night, the 25th of September, we will also be having the Awards night and official closing ceremony, lead by His Worship The Mayor, Councillor Glendon Harris, and followed by our new tradition of a closing fireworks display, sponsored once again by Secrets Resort. Saturday, again, will see the week closed-out with the fabulous beach party and team boat raft up at Doctor's Cave, and Biggs BBQ restaurant. Tickets for this event will also be on sale within a few days.



We are looking forward to this year's tournament with much excitement, and hope that you will be able to join us and participate in this historic MoBay Marlin tournament week!

My very best regards,

Bobby Stewart
MBYC Fishing and Tournament Committee



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SEPTEMBER QUIZ

The August quiz question asked about the 1982 Montego Bay Convention. Here's what that Convention relates to:

"The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea lays down a comprehensive regime of law and order in the world's oceans and seas establishing rules governing all uses of the oceans and their resources. It enshrines the notion that all problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be addressed as a whole.

The Convention was opened for signature on 10 December 1982 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. This marked the culmination of more than 14 years of work involving participation by more than 150 countries representing all regions of the world, all legal and political systems and the spectrum of socio/economic development. At the time of its adoption, the Convention embodied in one instrument traditional rules for the uses of the oceans and at the same time introduced new legal concepts and regimes and addressed new concerns. The Convention also provided the framework for further development of specific areas of the law of the sea." (see http://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_convention.htm)

The September quiz question is:

Who won the 'Largest Blue Marlin, by Weight – Individual Angler' award in the 2014 Fishing Tournament?

Responses to: carolesmall@shaw.ca.

SAILING QUOTE

"The fishing was good; it was the catching that was bad."

A.K. Best