

Thank you so much to the BSRA for supporting me at Nacra 15 Worlds. Morgan Plnckney Here's my article, and a photo is attached:

After successfully pairing up for the Orange Bowl, my partner, Kelly Holthus of San Diego Yacht Club, called me asking if I wanted to sail some Nacra 15's. I said, "Sure!" - not knowing what the plan was and having never sailed a catamaran. Kelly explained that he wanted to compete in the Nacra 15 Worlds, which were a month away and at Fort Lauderdale Yacht Club.

So we put together a quick master class in catamaran sailing. Kelly and I spent a weekend tuning with Jay Glaser, and then we headed out for the event a week early. That practice week we were coached by Ravi Parent, current Rolex Yachtsman of the Year, and Randy Smythe, Olympic gold medalist and the OG of catamarans. We had superb conditions! It blew 15-20 every day of the week and the coldest temperature was 80 degrees. We found out quickly that we had some wheels. We blew by everyone that we tuned against. It made sense because we were about 50 pounds larger than the second largest boat in the fleet. Everything was looking great!

Finally it was time to start racing. The first day of the event was a practice day. We had two races. The first race was with only the Americans, and the second one was with the entire fleet. It was blowing about 15, so we had our wheels. We won the race against the Americans and placed second in the other race. We were feeling pretty confident in our abilities.

Unfortunately the forecast did not cooperate. During the course of the event we did not see a single race more than 7 knots. We struggled as the biggest team. Some of the teams in the top 5 weighed 180 combined, which is almost the same as just me! For catamarans this is a big deal because the smaller teams could fly a hull and we couldn't. The smaller teams sailed away from us and we couldn't do anything. We finished the event in tenth, which was a bit of a

let down, but the experience was incredible, and I feel really fortunate. Many thanks to the Holthus family for inviting me to participate. I learned so much from Ravi, Randy, and Jay. I hope to spend more time in catamarans - they are lots of fun! Thank you to the Bahia Sail Racing Association for supporting this once-in-a-lifetime experience.



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