

## MANCA 2018

### LAGOS - GC 32 REGATTA JULY 1, CANADA DAY

My Canadian team had just arrived! We were all so lucky to be in Lagos Portugal when 8 of the GC 32's arrived for their regatta. Even better we were able to position Manca at the upwind gate so we could get great photo position of their mark roundings. It was the final day of the 3 day event.

This short photo blog tells of the great three hours we had watching the Lagos International GC32 Regatta from a front row position on Manca. The fleet of 8 international boats had perfect conditions with a flat sea and wind speeds of 12-17 knots they can reach full speed.

The yellow floating sausage bouys created the target for these yachts as they competed to complete two legs; up wind from the starting line. There are some amazing photos as they compete for room at speeds of over 35knots. At times it looked like there would be a major demolition derby. To add to the excitement, at one mark rounding it looked like Team UK was going to make an early "Brexit" as she dove her starboard bow deep into the water: milliseconds away from a complete somersault.



Figure 1 France 007 sailed very fast and appeared to be always in superb balance and control.

Figure 2 France 002 Sailed really hot, fast and on the edge. Their aggressive skipper won them the Trophy.



Figure 3 Here France 002 has speed over 30K and total control.

Figure 4 Team USA 128 smokes by the yellow rounding mark; squeezing by with just millimeters to spare.



Figure 5 Team USA needs to keep their rudder in the water or they won't make the mark.

Figure 6 France 007 in perfect balance and control. Speed is max as she leaves the water.





Figure 7 Because of the high speeds crew are required to wear helmets.

Figure 8 SUI 22 is almost totally out of the water with just a tiny amount of rudder. Sail trim crucial to direction and balance.



Figure 9 Swiss boat SUI 22 plays catch up. Just a small part of her port foil and rudder touching the water.

Figure 10 Team UK makes a very tight rounding as she tries to edge out her competitors but...



Figure 11 Team UK is millimeters from disaster. If the starboard bow does not lift she will catapult into disaster and racing crash history. This sport is not for the timid. There have been serious injuries and a few deaths. The helmets are now compulsory.



Figure 12 Once again Team USA takes a try at lift off. Lagos beach is behind where the kite surfers play.



Figure 13 SUI and Argentina cross dangerously close as the committee boat watches for rule infractions.



After the Regatta the boats are lifted out of the water, taken apart and stuffed into steel shipping containers to be trucked to the next regatta around Europe.

What a treat to see the amazing speed of these yachts and the incredible skills of the crews. Great excitement for Canada Day July 1, 2018 in Lagos Portugal.

Terry,

Sy Manca

Portugal

July 4, 2018