



## 2001 Alter Cup Results

[Photos](#) | [Press Release](#) | [Race Committee Reports](#) | [Team Weights](#)
1st: Matt Struble/  
Mike Kletke2nd: Nigel Pitt/  
Alex Shafer3rd: Brandon Wallace/  
James Gumpel (L)4th: Randy Smyth/  
Keith Notary5th: Greg Thomas/  
Jacques Bernier

Skipper/Crew:	Represent	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	R12	R13	R14	R15	R16	R17	R18	R19	R20	Sub Total	T/O	Total
Matt Struble/ Mike Kletke	A Class (Rotating)	6	1			5		1	1	3					2	1		4	8	3	5	40	8	32
Nigel Pitt/ Alex Shafer	Area D	1	5		3			8		2			2	2	4			2	6	1	4	40	8	32
Brandon Wallace/ James Gumpel	Inter 20	3			2	3		4	2		6				2.5		1	1	2	9	6	41.5	9	32.5
Randy Smyth/ Keith Notary	Petition		6	1		2		3		1	3			1			2	9	4	10	3	45	10	35
Greg Thomas/ Jacques Bernier	Hobie 20	1			1	4	2	5	5				4				6	7	3	7	1	46	7	39
Mike Ingham/ John Farrar	Olympic	2		2	2					4	6	2					3	4	6	7	6	46	7	39
Kevin Smith/ Trevor Capps	Area D		2		4		6				7	3.67	5		1	4		8	1	2	8	51.67	8	43.67
Brian Lambert/ Jamie Livingston	Petition			4		6	1			3		5	3		3	6		3	5	5	7	51	7	44
Larry Harteck/ Glen Purcell	Petition		4	5		4		1	7		4				5			5	10	8	9	70	10	60
Joseph Hamwey/ Barry Moore	Area A	6						7	8	10		1	9	6		2		10	9	4	10	82	10	72
Kirk Newkirk/ Glen Holmes	Nacra 6.0	4	9		7	5	8							4		8		3				48	9	39
Ken Marshack/ Ian Marshack	Area H	5	7	9				4		7		4		7		5						48	9	39
Mike Hill/ Mike Beuerlein	Area K		10	8	6				2	8				1		6		9				50	10	40
Paul Hess/ Tom Korzeniowski	Hobie 16				9	7		6	5	6		7		8		7						55	9	46
Roy Shaw/ Jamie Gaines	Area F	8	8		5		9	3				9		9			5					56	9	47
Jeff Newsome/ John Williams	Petition	7		3				7		9	9		8		5		8					56	9	47
Roger Jenkins/ Dan DeLave	Area J	10			8	9			6	10			6	3			7					59	10	49
Keith Christensen/ Shala Youngerman	Defending			7	3		10	5	9					11	10	7						62	11	51
Jamie Diamond/ Judy Diamond	Area E		3			10	10			8	8	7				9	11					66	11	55
Bill Kast/ John Sherm	Area B	9		10	10	8		9			10				11	10						77	11	66

(Pensacola, Florida) **Monday, April 23:** The first day of the Alter Cup was held in light to moderate winds and in shifty conditions. There are twenty teams representing the best catamaran sailors in the country. The Alter Cup is a US Multihull National Championship. It has always been a top level event, but over the last few years it has become a super charged event. It has become a championship of multihull champions. This year appears to have the deepest talent in the event's history. Over three-quarters of this year's competitors have at least one National Championship title. There are ten US SAILING Areas and each of the areas has a qualifier. Added to this list are the current National Champions in the top catamaran classes. Also several spots are used for petition. The championship is a four-day event running through Thursday.

**Tuesday, April 24:** The second day of the Alter Cup was everything the event was billed to be. Top competition in really great winds. There were still shifts on the course but not as dramatic as the first day. The winds were much more consistent and built up during the day to about 12 knots or so in the last race of the day. It was excellent conditions for the championship being held on Inter 20 Catamarans. One race official, who had never been around small catamarans, called the speedy vessels water-borne rockets and said they were a thrill to watch.

**Wednesday, April 25:** Day three brought in a big wind shift and started out with strong wind. The sailors had to be on their toes as the wind would shift back and forth with each puff. There would be waves of winds and holes. So the racing went on in very trying conditions. This threw off some of the sailors and there were some spectacular thrills and spills. Former Inter 20 National Champion, Matt Struble from Michigan, took his third bullet thus far in the series in the first race. He talked about what a ball he was having claiming this was the fastest he had ever gone downwind. Florida's two-time silver medallist Randy Smyth is staying just ahead of Struble and matched his three first place finishes. In third place in the event after three days Californian Brandon Wallace took a first today to stay in the hunt. Wallace spoke about finding channels of wind and getting hooked up in them. The current Inter 20 National Champs, Co-Skippers Georgia's Nigel Pitt and Florida's Alex Shafer are tied with East coast skipper Mike Ingham.

**Thursday, April 26:** For the Finals of the Alter Cup, US SAILING's Multihull National Championship, it was a bright sunny Florida day and the wind was up. Only problem is the wind decided to get even stranger than the sailors had been working with all week. Thirty-degree shifts with velocity changes of from 5 to 18 knots were common place. The tricky conditions just made the competition tighter and tighter. Going into the final race the championship was still between four teams. The positions in the last race changed over and over as the fleet of Inter 20 Catamaran Sailboats fought current and changing winds. Hopes and dreams were built up and dashed over and over as there were dramatic changes at every mark. It was the young, strong, fearless Matt Struble and his crew Mike Kletke of Michigan that would finally snatch the title, but not before breaking a tie for the championship with Nigel Pitt and Alex Shafer. Both teams have been Inter 20 National Champions and their expertise was needed as a guide through varying winds. Only half a point back were Californians Brandon Wallace and his crew James Gumpel. The top five teams were all within three points of one another so it was excellent competition in trying conditions. The sailors hit the beach worn out more mentally than physically.

The Pensacola Yacht Club, Key Sailing and the local catamaran fleet did a great job hosting the event for the top competitors from all over the country. It was a great week of camaraderie, competition and fun. Good sailing, great venue, fun parties, fast cats, and excellent competition made this Alter Cup the special event that it was. This event was the first time some of the sailors from the West as well as other parts of the country had been on small cats with spinnakers. It was really a thrill to experience that sort of speed thrown into the chess game we call sailboat racing. But this new dimension of spinnaker round the buoys racing took experts and made them tourist. For the most part if you were new to spinnakers you were down the list. One thing I am sure of, no one would trade this week's experience of driving downwind at 20 knots, wild eyed with a big smile. Win or lose everyone won in that respect.

*by Roger Jenkins, Area J skipper*

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Last Updated on 09/07/2007

