

Anyone with information on this stamp from 1983, please contact the editor.



AMERICA'S CUP XXX AND XXXI, by Bob Tessier

Having captured the America's Cup in a dramatic and impressive fashion in 1995, Team New Zealand syndicate and the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron found themselves in the enviable position of defending the Cup in 2000 and again in 2003. Here are their amazing stories:

America's Cup XXX, February 19-March 2, 2000

As the defender, the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron had the privilege of establishing the race protocol for the event. In concert with the New York Yacht Club, the challenger of record, it was agreed that each team would be limited to building or acquiring two new boats, and would not be able to share designers. In addition, eligible yacht clubs must have been in existence for five years and have a regular membership of at least 200 members. Residency requirements for foreign nationals involved with designing or crewing the yachts were extended to three years.

As in recent years, the challenging yacht club was determined through a series of races for the Louis Vuitton Cup. The protocol for this year's event saw a series of three round robins, quarterfinals, semifinals, and the final. A total of 11 yacht clubs entered the competition, representing seven countries. At the end of the Oct. 18, 1999 to Feb. 6, 2000, competition, the Prada Challenge 2000 syndicate yacht **LUNA ROSSA (ITA-45)**, representing the Yacht Club Punta Ala of Italy, was victorious. This was the first time in Cup history that an American yacht was not in the America's Cup final. For Italy, this was her second final, having challenged and lost in 1992.

Site: Auckland, New Zealand

Course Length: 18.55 nautical miles

Challenging Yacht Club: Yacht Club Punta Ala

Challenger: **LUNA ROSSA (ITA-45)**

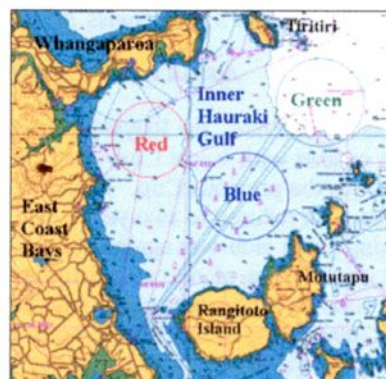
Skipper: Francesco de Angelis

Defender: **NEW ZEALAND (NZL-60)**

Skipper: Russell Coutts/Dean Barker (5th race only)

Terms: Best of nine races

Winner: **NEW ZEALAND, 5-0**



NEW ZEALAND retained the Cup in a 5-0 rout of the Italian challenger. By winning, the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron became the first yacht club to successfully defend the Cup outside of the United States.

Commemorating this successful defense, New Zealand Post issued three stamps on Oct. 2, depicting the fifth and final race between **LUNA ROSSA** and **NEW ZEALAND** on March 2, 2000, won by **NEW ZEALAND** (skipper Dean Barker) by 48 seconds.

LUNA ROSSA (International America's Cup Class yacht)

c1999 - Prada Challenge 2000 syndicate, representing the Yacht Club Punta Ala. Designed by Doug Peterson and German Frers. L. May 5, 1999. White hull. Sail number ITA-45. Skipper: Francesco de Angelis.

NEW ZEALAND, aka BLACK MAGIC (International America's Cup Class yacht)

1999 - Team New Zealand syndicate, representing the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron. Cookson Boats, Auckland, New Zealand. Designed by Clay Oliver.

(AMERICA'S CUP, continued on page 72)

(AMERICA'S CUP, continued from page 71)

L. Sept. 9, 1999 by Lady Pippa Blake, wife of the team's syndicate head, and christened with a magnum of Steinlager beer. 80' long. Black hull. Sail number NZL-60. Skipper: Russell Coutts.



On Jan. 8, 2003, New Zealand issued a set of three stamps for America's Cup XXXI. The stamps, however, depict the two Team New Zealand yachts built for America's Cup XXX, i.e., NEW ZEALAND (NZL-57) and NEW ZEALAND (NZL-60). Team New Zealand supplied the photographs on which the designs are based, and depict crew training in late 2001 or early 2002 prior to the completion of the new yachts for the 2003 competition.



NZL-57 or NZL-60



NZL-57 on left;
NZL-60 on right



NZL-57 & NZL-60

NEW ZEALAND, aka BLACK MAGIC (International America's Cup Class yacht)

1999 – Team New Zealand syndicate, representing the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron. Cookson Boats, Auckland, New Zealand. Designed by Clay Oliver. 80' long. Black hull. Sail number NZL-57.

Shortly after the conclusion of this America's Cup series, the syndicates forming for the next Cup series raided the available experienced designer and crew pools and signed many of them to contracts. Significant among these defections were a majority of the experienced Team New Zealand crew, including the skipper, Russell Coutts, and the tactician, Brad Butterworth, who were signed by the Swiss Alinghi Challenge syndicate.

America's Cup XXXI, February 15-March 1, 2003

Once again, as the defender, the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron had the privilege of establishing the race protocol for the event. In concert with Yacht Club Punta Ala, the challenger of record, it was agreed to generally retain the protocol that was followed for the previous Cup. However, residency requirements for foreign nationals involved with designing or crewing the yachts were reduced to two years.

The challenging yacht club was again determined through a series of races for the Louis Vuitton Cup. The protocol for this year's event saw a series of two round robins, quarterfinals, quarterfinal repechages, semifinals, semifinal repechages, and the final. A total of nine yacht clubs entered the competition, representing six countries. At the end of the Oct. 1, 2002 to Jan. 19, 2003, competition, the Alinghi Challenge syndicate yacht, ALINGHI (SUI-64), representing the Société Nautique de Genève, Switzerland, was victorious.

Site: Auckland, New Zealand

Course Length: 18.5 nautical miles

Challenging Yacht Club: Societe Nautique de Geneve, Switzerland

Challenger: ALINGHI (SUI-64)

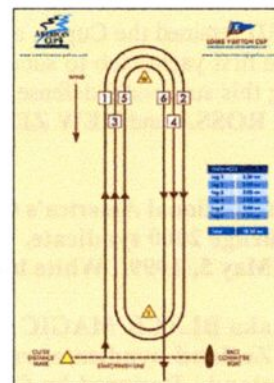
Skipper: Russell Coutts

Defender: NEW ZEALAND (NZL-82)

Skipper: Dean Barker

Terms: Best of nine races

Winner: ALINGHI, 5-0

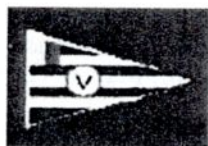


(AMERICA'S CUP, continued on page 76)

(*AMERICA'S CUP, continued from page 72*)

ALINGHI won the Cup in a 5-0 rout of the New Zealand defender. **TEAM NEW ZEALAND** was forced to retire from two races (race 1 and 4) in the series due to mechanical breakdowns, a first for the defender in the history of the Cup. Also, for the first time, onboard-umpires were used. The **ALINGHI** skipper, Russell Coutts, set a new record for the most consecutive race wins in the America's Cup at 14, breaking Charlie Barr's record of nine straight wins between 1899 and 1903, and also eclipsing Dennis Conner's record of 13 total wins. By winning his third consecutive America's Cup, Coutts also equaled the records of Barr and Harold Vanderbilt. Switzerland became the first European country to win the Cup. It was also the first time that a first-time challenger had won the Cup.

The America's Cup will be put on display at the private Société Nautique de Genève, Switzerland, where arrangements will be made for public viewing hours. Syndicate head Ernesto Bertarelli said he wanted to take the Cup to the top of the Matterhorn.



Societe Nautique de Geneve,
Switzerland



Royal New Zealand
Yacht Squadron

ALINGHI (International America's Cup Class yacht)

2002 - Alinghi Challenge, representing Société Nautique de Genève, Switzerland. Designed by Grant Simmer and Rolf Vrolijk. Skipper: Russell Coutts. Sail number SUI-64.

She won the Louis Vuitton Cup (26-4) and the America's Cup (5-0). Of her 16-man crew, only three were Swiss. Seven of the crew were New Zealanders who helped Team New Zealand to victory in 1995 and 2000.

TEAM NEW ZEALAND (International America's Cup Class yacht)

2002 - Team New Zealand, representing the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron. Designed by Clay Oliver, Mike Drummond, and Tom Schnackenberg. L. Oct.-Nov. 2002. Skipper: Dean Barker. Sail number NZL-82.

She had a double hull around the stern, known as a "hula," or hull appendage. It was positioned about a meter behind the keel, and ran back behind the rudder, effectively adding length and volume to the aft section of the yacht.

Swiss Post issued a 90 c stamp on March 7, 2003 honoring the victory of Switzerland's **ALINGHI** sailing team in the America's Cup. Roland Hirter designed the stamp based on a photo by Keystone photographer Laurent Gilliéron. The stamp clearly shows **ALINGHI** in the foreground. **TEAM NEW ZEALAND** is in the background, although there is little identifying detail. As indicated by Swiss Post, this is the first stamp for Switzerland that is dedicated to sailing.

Sources: *The (Annapolis) Capital*; Alan Hollows, Design & Products Manager, Stamps Business, New Zealand Post, www.cnn.com; www.projo.com; www.espn.com; www.cupviews.com; www.nzherald.co.nz; www.americascup.yahoo.com; www.aucklandlive.co.nz; www.nzpost.co.nz; www.post.ch; <http://http://americascup.nzoom.com>.

America's Cup Yachts Omnibus issue - Feb 1987 (Inter-Governmental Phil. Corp.)

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

- 30c - CANADA I - Can 1980~~89~~ a
- n 60c - GRETTEL II - Aust 1970 - a
- \$1. - SCEPTRE - Brit 1958 - a
- \$3. - VIGILANT - U.S. 1893 - a
- SS\$5. - AUSTRALIA II - Aust 1983 - a

DOMINICA

- 45c - RELIANCE - U.S. 1903 - a
- 60c - FREEDOM - U.S. 1980 - a
- \$1. - MISCHIEF - U.S. 1881 - a
- \$3. - AUSTRALIA - Aust 1977 - a
- SS\$5. - COURAGEOUS - U.S. 1977 - a

GAMBIA

- 75b - AMERICA - U.S. 1851 - a
- 2d - COURAGEOUS - U.S. 1974 - a
- 5d - VOLUNTEER - U.S. 1887 - a
- 10d - INTREPID - U.S. 1967 - a
- SS12d - AUSTRALIA II - Aust 1983 - a

GRENADA

- 10c - COLUMBIA - U.S. 1958 - a
- 60c - RESOLUTE - U.S. 1920 - a
- \$1.10 - ENDEAVOUR - Brit 1934 - a
- \$4.00 - RAINBOW - U.S. 1934 - a
- SS\$5. - WEATHERLY - U.S. 1962 - a

Other Sources: Linn's Stamp News,
Scott Monthly Journal, Minkus Stamp Journal
Stamp Collector, Australia P.O.

GRENADA GRENADINES

- 25c - DEFENDER - U.S. 1895 - a
- 45c - CALETEA (sic) - Brit 1886 - a
- 70c - AZZURRA - Ital 1983 - a
- \$4. - AUSTRALIA II - Aust 1983 - a
- SS\$5. - COLUMBIA - U.S. 1899 - a

MALDIVES

- 151 - INTREPID - U.S. 1870 - a
- 1r - FRANCE II - Fr. 1974 - a
- 2r - GRETTEL - Aust 1962 - a
- 12r - VOLUNTEER - U.S. 1887 - a
- SS15r - DEFENDER - U.S. 1895 - a

SIERRA LEONE

- 1L - U.S.A. - U.S. 1987 - a
- 1.50L - NEW ZEALAND - N.Z. 1987 - a
- 2.50L - FRENCH KISS - Fr 1987 - a
- 10L - STARS & STRIPES (sic) U.S. 1987-a
- 15L - AUSTRALIA II - Aust 1983 - a
- 25L - FREEDOM - U.S. 1980 - a
- 30L - KOOKABURRA III - Aust 1987 - a
- 50L - CONSTELLATION - U.S. 1964 - a

Classification Code - ship is:

- a - Main design of stamp, large
- b - Secondary in design, medium size
- c - In background, small in size

S/E = stamped envelope

CHALLENGE FRANCE - N. Col.
FRENCH KISS
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