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### **Captains Report - 14<sup>th</sup> Black Bass World Championship 2018**

Cuchillo Lake – China-Mexico (1-3 November 2018)

It is my honour to report as the Captain of the Namibian team which competed in the 14<sup>th</sup> Black Bass World Championships in Mexico El Cuchillo.

The Team was made up of 6 anglers/ three boat pairs:

Jürgen Geiger (Captain)  
Stefan de Wet  
Neil Engelbrecht  
Anton de Wit  
Jandre Engelbrecht  
Anton Smit

The team started their long journey on the 25 of October with some shopping and preparation in the USA before embarking on their next shorter leg to Monterrey Mexico.

On the 28 of October a high spirited team was fortunate to draw three good boats with very lively skippers whom have become friends of “Namibia” now.

On the first practice day one of our boats experienced some technical problems, which where fortunately sorted during the day so that that constellation could be back in action on day two again. Fortunately, the organizers had a backup to still take the team on the water.

We managed to stick to our targets by testing different areas of the lake to bring back the info as a team. In general, there was the consensus that it was mainly smaller craw imitations that worked the best in the trees. A few fish that where pinned showed that the potential was good and that we had areas that we could fall back on.

Day two we expanded our search for fish and came up with more areas but still on the same pattern. We were aware that a front was approaching from the north to hit us the next day and started to strategies which areas would be protected and where would the fish move to.

First day of competition was cancelled which was to the detriment of all competitors, but it was definitely the right decision as it would have been beyond unsafe to go on the water. With the front came a temperature drop of 10 degrees Celsius on the min and max readings.

First day of competition saw the Namibian Team taking strain to the changing weather conditions but pull through with a 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and a 34<sup>th</sup> position. This resulted in an overall standing of 11<sup>th</sup> out of 15 nations.

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#### ***Executive Council:***

*Richard Grant (Chairman) • Alec Williams (Vice Chairman) • Collette Carstens (Secretary) • Neels van Tonder (Treasurer)  
Hendrik Pretorius (Tournament Director) • Nic Kruger (Conservation Officer) • Johan Coetzee (Development Officer)  
• Andrew Hall (Public Relations Officer)*



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On day two and also final day, two of the Namibian teams managed a very respectable 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> place with the third team missing some chances with lost fish ending on a 40<sup>th</sup>. Individual Team final overall positions were 16<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup>. This resulted in a jump to 9<sup>th</sup> overall and gave the feeling if day three was available that there was more to come. The Namibian team was in high spirit throughout the whole event and has made a lot of new international friends and gained valuable International experience once again.

Yours in Bassing,

Jürgen Geiger

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