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FINNFARE

AUGUST 2016



- *LEFT: Giles Scott wins his fourth Finn Gold Cup*
- *Rafa Trujillo wins record breaking Finn World Masters*
- *Rio Olympic Games preview*
- *British U23 initiative*
- *Sailing World Cup and National roundups*



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Photo: Robert Deaves



President's Letter

**Dear Finn Sailors,
Dear Friends of the International
Finn Community**

We are not even half way through the year and already it has been another vintage season for Finn sailing, both on and off the water, and we still have the main event to come.

This year we celebrated our 60th Finn Gold Cup, an event with a remarkable history and prestige around the world. That was followed by the largest Finn event of all time at the Finn World Masters on Lake Garda, with 355 Finn sailors enjoying a week of great racing and friendship.

When 355 sailors from all over the world turn up for one event then who needs convincing of the popularity of Finn sailing at the moment?

And as I write this, around 40 of the world's best young sailors are preparing for our first U23 World Championship, the new designation for the Finn Silver Cup.

As the fleet prepares for the Rio Olympics it is worth noting that every major regatta this year has produced a different winner, but congratulations to Giles Scott on his fourth Finn Gold Cup title and to Rafa Trujillo on his first Finn World Masters title.

The Finn class continues to produce some really great champions and Giles has once again proved that he will be the one to beat in Rio.

Off the water the work never ceases to position the Finn as a relevant and exciting class for all ages and nationalities. This year we are excited to see several new nations competing at the Olympics, as well as three sailors who have directly benefitted from Finn class development funding through our FIDeS programme.

I am also very encouraged by our AGM this year and the many new marketing and development initiatives we have started to keep the Finn at the forefront of world sailing, and I look forward to reporting soon about the work of the various new sub-committees.

I wish you all a good summer of Finn sailing and hope you enjoy the Olympics, whether you are sailing or watching.

Dr. Balazs Hajdu



**Dr. Balazs Hajdu
HUN-1
IFA President**

Opening shot: The pin end proves popular in Gaeta. L-R: Giles Scott, Michele Paoletti, Alican Kaynar, Jonas Høgh-Christensen

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Cover photo: Oli Tweddell in Gaeta
Inset: Finn Gold Cup medalists
All photos: © Robert Deaves/Finn Class.

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Major Finn regattas 2016-2018

2016

3-9 July • Århus, Denmark

FINN SILVER CUP

(2016.finnsilvercup.org)

5-7 August • Christchurch

UK National Championship

5-21 August • Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

2016 OLYMPIC GAMES

16-21 August • Moscow, Russia

International University Sailing Cup (Students, U27)

23-28 August • Moscow, Russia

Open Russian

19-25 September • Qingdao, China

Sailing World Cup Qingdao

7-9 October • Malcesine

Finn Cup

13-16 October • Enoshima

JSF Enoshima Olympic Week

5-11 December • Melbourne, Australia

Sailing World Cup Final Melbourne

17-22 December • Palamos

Christmas race

2017

5-13 May • Marseilles, France

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

2-9 June • Barbados

FINN WORLD MASTERS

18-27 August • Balatonfüred, Hungary

FINN SILVER CUP

1-10 Sept • Balatonföldvár, Hungary

FINN GOLD CUP

2018

tbc • Århus, Denmark

Sailing World Championships

More details and regatta links can be found on
www.sailing.org or on www.finnclass.org. Please
check all details before travelling as dates can
change at short notice.

From the Masters President

It's hard to believe how quickly time flies. It struck me this morning when I realised that it was Sopot 2014 when we voted in the Finn Masters for Barbados, all be it, a jaded vote met still hanging in there after a mega rum party, where the fleet merrily consumed around 70 bottles of finest Mount Gay. Now the event is on the horizon, just around the corner.

Torbole has been a reminder to me that we have to be careful of the 'land of promises', the 2016 Championship was the largest Finn Event in history with 355 entries, together with Champagne conditions in a setting that was humbling.

However, there were various challenges – concerns I aired from the outset – and we will address those in the coming years. We have successfully operated on trust throughout the years, but as the event continues to grow, we also need, more than ever, to protect our interests and our assets.

I have asked Tim Carver to look at the masters handling the entry fees in the future, and the pitfalls we may encounter. Next year in Barbados is a slightly special case and the 20 Euro Masters fee will be paid in cash at registration. This fee is important to us and allows us to operate the organisation for the rest of the year. Those that come to the Masters meeting know the infrastructure within the organisation has expanded and is a great success, but there are many associated costs. We are therefore also

grateful to our many generous sponsors including the Fantastica Sailing Team and Pantaenius.

Aside from a few hiccups the Masters is becoming more and more popular and although next year may see a fall in numbers, it will give us a chance to breath in readiness for an anticipated large turn out at El Balis in 2018.

I would like to thank the candidates that stood for the 2018 hosting and I was sorry that one of them had to lose. I would like to think that this doesn't put them off and that we will see Marsala return for a bid.

In October I will be visiting Malta, which wishes to be considered for a future championship and whilst I was in Torbole, there was some serious discussions over Brisbane hosting in 2020, so we have to see if this is feasible.

Meanwhile, keep fit and get ready for Barbados.

Andy Denison
GBR 20



Exclusive Rob Coutts fine art prints to help the FINNTEAM

The Finn Class has partnered with Finn sailor and artist Rob Coutts to exclusively offer fine art prints of his distinctive oil paintings to help the class fund its FINNTEAM development programme.

The FINNTEAM is a group of five sailors training and learning together, with joint funding available through a Finn class initiative. Two members of the FINNTEAM, Alejandro Foglia (URU) and Facundo Olezza (ARG) have qualified for Rio.

The paintings are available as giclée fine art prints in a range of size. For more information and ordering please go to: www.finnclass.org/robcoutts



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Sailing World Cup

The 2016 Sailing World Cup started in Melbourne shortly after the 2015 Finn Gold Cup, before moving to Miami, Hyeres and Weymouth & Portland. Next up is Qingdao followed by the final in Melbourne.

3. Sailing World Cup Hyeres

1	AUS 41	Jake Lilley	2	10	1	1	13	(19)	1	14	42
2	AUS 261	Oliver Tweddell	7	3	2	(18)	4	11	12	6	45
3	FRA 112	Jonathan Lobert	3	12	18	3	10	(23)	2	4	52
4	NZL 24	Josh Junior	4	1	5	7	(ocs)	17	3	16	53
5	NOR 1	Anders Pedersen	1	(14)	12	6	2	10	4	18	53
6	DEN 2	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	9	11	4	11	(15)	1	9	10	55
7	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	16	7	(17)	8	1	5	6	12	55
8	USA 6	Caleb Paine	5	2	7	5	(30)	24	11	2	56
9	CRO 524	Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic	6	4	3	13	3	(18)	7	20	56
10	SWE 33	Max Salminen	8	15	6	15	(16)	7	5	8	64





drama in one 30 minute race with the medals changing hands several times, two huge comebacks and another comeback by Lilley at the end. It was sailed in 1 -12 knots, with heavy rain, and with a wind that died and shifted 90 degrees. In fact the only constant was Caleb Paine who led the fleet all the way. It was TV gold, but a sailing nightmare.

After a bad start, Tweddell moved into third and started the final downwind, with Lilley in last place, with one hand on the gold medal. But then the wind died and started to shift to the right.

Lilley made up one place. A long way in front of him Paine, Jonathan Lobert and Tweddell inched across the finish line. The wind shift allowed Lilley to get to the right side of two boats and he managed to cross in seventh to secure the gold, his first World Cup win.

Third place was enough for Tweddell to take the silver and second place gave Lobert the bronze.

11	GRE 77	Ioannis Mitakis	61	29	GER 595	Simon Gorgels	151
12	NZL-16	Andrew Murdoch	61	30	GER 252	Eike Tjark Martens	163
13	ITA 117	Giorgio Poggi	62	31	USA 74	Henry Sprague	170
14	ITA 66	Enrico Voltolini	67	32	SEY 1	Allan Julie	170
15	CRO 52	Nenad Bugarin	79	33	FRA 99	Marc Allain Des Beauvais	189
16	SWE 6	Björn Allansson	81				
17	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	89				
18	CRO 1	Josip Olujic	94				
19	ESP-7	Alex Muscat	104				
20	GER 259	Phillip Kasueske	104				
21	CAN 110	Martin Robitaille	106				
22	RUS 2	Aleksei Borisov	115				
23	FRA 17	Fabian Pic	118				
24	GER 25	Max Kohlhoff	119				
25	RUS 6	Arkadiy Kistanov	129				
26	ITA 147	Simone Ferrarese	139				
27	CHN 1226	Lei Gong	141				
28	CAN 2	Kyle Martin	150				

It was Australia Day all week in Hyeres this year as Jake Lilley and Oliver Tweddell got to the sharp end of their Olympics trials and both raised their game enormously. It was a battle made for clichés and though Lilley led for much of the week, they both had their ups and downs and he went into the medal race after claiming three race wins.

Rarely has there been so much



Photos: Jesús Renedo/Pedro Martínez /Sailing Energy

4. Sailing World Cup Weymouth & Portland

Giles Scott won the last major event before heading off to the Olympics. A second place in the medal race at the 2016 Sailing World Cup Weymouth & Portland was enough to maintain his lead on the final day. Jonathan Lobert won the race to take the silver, while a fourth for Max Salminen left him with the bronze.

At the start of the week the talk was of challenging racing to prepare for Rio's challenging conditions. However the only challenge was enough wind to be able to race. The first day was lost entirely. On the third and fourth days the weather only allowed one late race to take place. Just Thursday produced enough sailable breeze to allow three races to take place. Scott opened up a narrow lead in the small fleet only to lose it the following day to Ben Cornish. He regained the lead in Saturday's only race to take a one point lead into the medal race.

Sunday dawned foggy and wet, but at least there was wind. By medal race time there was 10-12 knots from the south-west as well as dense low cloud hanging over Portland. There was still everything to play for. Lobert led at every mark to secure the race win while Scott climbed to second on the first downwind after a tight top mark rounding. He starting chasing down the French sailor, but could not catch him. Tapio Nirkko rounded out the top three. Salminen recovered to fourth to maintain the bronze position, but was looking in trouble half way through.

Lobert clearly likes medal races in Weymouth. He won the 2012 Olympic medal race to take the bronze medal four years ago and today he led from start to finish to move onto the podium. "It was nice to hike a little bit after this light wind regatta. I am very



happy to be able to stay in front of Giles to win another medal race in Weymouth, so it's nice to finish the series like this."

Four years ago Salminen was collecting a gold medal in the Star class. The three medalists in Weymouth this week did not meet on the water in 2012, but all will be fighting hard against each other in Rio.

Speaking about the medal race he said, "I took a bit too long to break free from the other boats to express my own speed, and that looked a bit hairy half way through. I was outside the podium but managed to fight my way through."

Scott adds another victory to an already very long list. "This week served as a very good training regatta and that's the way everyone here was taking it. But ultimately it's another regatta and everyone wants to win it so to be able to do that is great."

On the medal race, "It was a very physical race. We were all max heart rate. But it was a great race, with flat water and free pumping. It was an incredibly hard fought week."

Speaking about the physicality of Finn sailing, "I think it is becoming ever more physical. The way the techniques have been developed, the free pumping downwind, has become increasingly physical and the margins for gains downwind, especially on a day like today, have become about as big as they have ever been so we need to be smart as well as strong and fit. It's been a general trend over the last eight years really but it's still being developed."

1	GBR 41	Giles Scott	2	(5)	1	5	1	4	13
2	FRA 112	Jonathan Lobert	4	3	5	(ret)	2	2	16
3	SWE 33	Max Salminen	3	(6)	4	1	5	8	21
4	FIN 218	Tapio Nirkko	5	7	6	2	(ret)	6	26
5	GBR 91	Ben Cornish	1	(9)	2	3	4	16	26
6	FRA 17	Fabian Pic	6	1	7	4	(9)	12	30
7	GBR 71	Henry Wetherell	(8)	4	3	7	3	18	35
8	GBR 29	Peter McCoy	(10)	8	9	8	6	10	41
9	AUS 41	Jake Lilley	9	2	(10)	10	7	14	42
10	FIN 225	Mikael Hyryläinen	7	(11)	8	6	8	20	49
11	FRA 99	Marc AD Beauvais	(11)	10	11	9	10	40	





Fourth Finn Gold Cup for Giles Scott

The Finn Gold Cup in Gaeta, Italy was a week to remember. The fantastic scenery and hospitality, and the great racing conditions produced a fantastic and fun event, in which Giles Scott won his fourth Finn Gold Cup, his second inside of six months. Coming out of his first defeat in three years, at Palma, he only made one mistake all week when the patchy winds on the first day left him with a dangerously high score. But after that he was never worse than seventh to wrap up the title with a day to spare.

Jonas Høgh-Christensen took the silver after his most promising week since returning to the class in 2014. Only twice outside the top eight, he was only one race away from giving Scott a run for his money on the last day. Everyone fell foul of the light and tricky winds on the first four days of racing. The bronze

the Italian and Canadian Olympic trials, so there was a lot going on.

Engaging with the local community was a key part of the event. Before the racing started Deniss Karpak, Pieter-Jan Postma and Luca Simeone (Chair of the organisers) visited a local school to talk about the sailing, the Finn Gold Cup, and following life's passion. The children were inspired by the visit of two Olympic sailors, and this led to a painting competition, judged by the sailors at the end of the week, and a podium ceremony, just after the medal race, held immediately after on the steps of the old town of Gaeta, which even attracted a local radio station to come along and broadcast the occasion live. It turned



third. The second race was dominated by Jonas Høgh-Christensen. It was a hot and sunny day but the wind generally remained light. After a one hour postponement, the fleet was sent out for

1	GBR 41	Giles Scott	-38	5	2	1	7	1	1	6	23
2	DEN 2	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	-30	1	19	3	3	8	4	2	40
3	NED 842	Pieter Jan Postma	4	17	10	-47	4	5	12	10	62
4	AUS 41	Jake Lilley	-47	14	21	5	6	7	6	8	67
5	ITA 117	Giorgio Poggi	6	12	-41	13	20	3	10	4	68
6	GRE 77	Ioannis Mitakis	-29	7	9	16	9	9	5	20	75
7	FRA 17	Fabian Pic	3	20	-25	6	1	13	23	16	82
8	CAN 18	Tom Ramshaw	12	24	4	17	5	11	(dnc)	12	85
9	GBR 11	Ed Wright	-40	25	22	7	15	2	3	14	88
10	GER 259	Phillip Kasueske	18	9	1	2	25	-37	20	18	93

went to Pieter-Jan Postma, some way back from the top two, but good enough to take his second major championship medal of the year.

Of course the event was also the 60th Finn Gold Cup, a fact of history not lost on most of the fleet. The championship was held from on Sunday 8 May to Friday 13 May and it would also mark the end of

into a real celebration of sailing and a great occasion for the small town.

Karpak leads after day 1

Deniss Karpak mastered the light winds on first day after winning the opening race and then following that up with a third in the second. Giorgio Poggi was second, while Peter-Jan Postma was in



a start in 6-7 knots of breeze and it never got much above 10 knots all day.

The right side proved heavily favoured in race 1 with Matteo Savio rounding ahead from the right. He led until the start of the run when Karpak, who had made big gains on the second upwind, caught him and sailed past to take the win.

11	AUS 261	Oliver Tweddell	22	26	-28	27	2	6	2	11	96
12	ITA 146	Michele Paoletti	-28	13	15	10	8	19	17	18	100
13	EST 2	Deniss Karpak	1	3	13	-31	19	23	16	28	103
14	CZE 5	Ondrej Teply	21	10	6	-38	11	26	18	19	111
15	ESP 7	Alejandro Muscat	13	15	24	8	13	-25	21	23	117
16	POL 17	Piotr Kula	25	2	3	-41	14	31	26	27	128
17	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	7	18	(bfd)	23	10	15	24	33	130
18	ESP 17	Pablo Guitian Sarria	8	35	(bfd)	4	17	20	25	22	131
19	GBR 91	Ben Cornish	-41	6	16	15	32	18	8	36	131
20	CRO 524	Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic	23	11	18	42	12	17	9	(dnc)	132
21	TUR 21	Alican Kaynar	33	34	-37	9	36	4	11	12	139
22	CRO 1	Josip Olujic	17	27	17	24	21	14	-32	32	152
23	RUS 2	Borisov Aleksei	27	-30	23	19	18	16	28	21	152
24	ITA1 23	Filippo Baldassari	-46	19	8	43	42	27	13	16	168
25	SWE 6	Björn Allansson	-54	8	30	39	16	22	40	15	170
26	CRO 69	Milan Vujasinovic	37	16	14	29	37	24	(dsq)	13	170
27	RUS 6	Arkadiy Kistanov	15	29	(bfd)	21	33	36	19	17	170
28	CRO 52	Nenad Bugarin	35	4	(bfd)	11	35	dsq	7	14	180
29	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	14	23	11	30	44	28	(dnf)	40	190
30	ITA 66	Enrico Voltolini	39	28	(bfd)	14	43	21	15	43	203
31	FRA 93	Antoine Devineau	49	-54	31	12	26	rdg	rdg	26	210
32	GER 25	Max Kohlhoff	5	41	(bfd)	40	24	41	38	24	213
33	GBR 29	Peter McCoy	-58	56	33	36	29	12	22	39	227
34	GER 252	Eike Martens	10	-59	38	32	23	46	36	45	230
35	ITA 83	Matteo Savio	2	37	-58	37	39	50	43	25	233
36	ITA 147	Simone Ferrarese	-69	46	47	20	22	33	33	34	235
37	DEN 24	André Hojen Christiansen	-60	33	12	46	41	32	41	31	236
38	POL 13	Michal Jodlowski	43	22	27	22	-51	38	39	47	238
39	GER 595	Simon Gorgels	-61	36	40	18	27	47	34	38	240
40	CAN 2	Kyle Martin	-52	21	52	35	34	49	30	20	241
41	CZE 1	Michael Maier	32	47	34	44	-48	29	29	29	244
42	FIN 225	Mikael Hyrylainen	42	44	-46	28	30	34	27	41	246
43	ITA 964	Roberto Strappati	31	-52	7	26	45	52	45	49	255
44	CAN 110	Martin Robitaille	68	50	61	25	28	10	14	(ret)	256
45	SEY 1	Allan Julie	-56	38	42	34	50	30	46	30	270
46	IRL 40	Oisín McClelland	-67	31	51	45	40	35	35	37	274
47	ITA 202	Giacomo Giovanelli	24	32	5	58	49	44	(dnf)	dnc	286
48	NZL 64	Brendan McCarty	26	49	55	-64	52	40	37	35	294
49	ITA 94	Federico Colaninno	16	48	20	55	-66	60	50	48	297
50	GER 771	Jan Kurfeld	36	43	26	48	38	45	(dnc)	dnc	310
51	ITA 175	Alessandro Vongher	-55	40	39	33	54	53	44	53	316
52	ESP 717	Victor Gorostegui Arce	51	55	53	-57	46	39	31	46	321
53	GER 772	Ulli Kurfeld	9	53	32	56	47	51	(dnc)	dnc	322
54	EST 11	Lauri Väinsalu	59	42	29	53	31	42	(dnf)	dnc	330
55	GRE 21	Anotonis Tsotras	45	51	35	-67	60	48	48	44	331
56	ITA 234	Tommaso Ronconi	19	61	36	54	56	55	(dnf)	51	332
57	ITA 5	Francesco Cinque	48	39	43	52	58	56	(dnc)	54	350
58	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	44	45	49	49	-62	59	51	55	352
59	ITA 191	Alessandro Cattaneo	34	66	56	-68	57	63	47	42	365
60	SLO 99	Jan Orel	53	64	44	-66	55	54	49	52	371
61	GRE 4	Panagiotis Kotsovos	65	-67	54	62	53	43	42	59	378
62	HUN 911	Elemer Peter Haidekker	50	62	48	60	63	58	(dnc)	50	391
63	ITA 70	Francesco Lubrano	20	63	60	61	59	(dnf)	dnc	57	394
64	USA 74	Henry Sprague	11	57	(bfd)	51	ufd	dnf	dnc	dnc	415
65	SWE 9	David Berg	64	-69	50	63	67	65	52	58	419
66	HUN 127	Peter Pal Haidekker	71	58	62	50	64	57	(dnc)	61	423
67	ITA 97	Lorenzo Podesta'	(bfd)	60	45	59	61	dnc	dnc	56	429
68	ITA 11	Paolo Cisbani	57	-71	59	69	68	64	53	60	430
69	FIN 226	Jukka Partinen	63	65	57	65	(dnf)	61	dnf	dnc	459
70	FIN 227	Ronnie Roos	62	68	64	70	65	62	(dnc)	dnc	465
71	USA 32	Charles Heimler	70	70	63	71	(dnf)	dnc	dnc	dnc	496
72	CAN 3	Ian Bostock	66	72	65	(dnc)	dnf	dnc	dnc	dnc	499
73	ITA 6	Enrico Passoni	(dnc)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	518





In race 2, the leaders started at the pin and tacked across to the right as soon as they could. Høgh-Christensen judged it perfectly to lead all the way round. The first downwind was free pumping but the wind dropped and so did Oscar flag. The Dane built a huge lead on the first downwind, but Piotr Kula clawed it back on the second upwind to round a close second. Høgh-Christensen then pulled away on the final downwind for the win.

Phillip Kasueske wins only race on day 2

Light winds continued on the second day with only one race sailed. Phillip Kasueske sailed very well to win his first major international Finn race to move up to second overall.

There were a number of high profile black flag disqualifications including long time race leader Jorge Zarif. Four out of the top 10 finishers crossed the line to find their sail number on the board.

Kasueske started at the pin end and managed to find a gap to tack and cross the fleet. Zarif rounded in front and led all the way until half way down the final run when the German kept to the right and passed.

No wind on day 3

It was always looking like being the lightest day of the day and it proved to be so with never more than 5 knots across the course area. After two hours of waiting around in the hot Italian

sunshine, PRO Peter Reggio called it a day and sent the fleet ashore.

Kasueske takes the lead on day 4

It was a long day for one race. The day started wet with lots of rain, and the sun came out as the fleet set out at 11.00 in a solid 14-18 knots, but by the time they reached the start it had dropped to 6 knots. After a two hour wait the fleet was sent ashore only to be turned around within 30 minutes as the wind returned.

Starting cleanly under a black flag, those at the pin who managed to tack and cross the fleet made the most of the right side with defending champion Giles Scott leading round for the first time. Scott extended downwind, with Høgh-Christensen coming through to second at the gate and Kasueske moving into third. Kasueske sailed the best second upwind to round just behind Scott and they finished in that order.

Though a sequence was started for a second race, the wind rapidly deteriorated and further racing was abandoned for the day.

Scott takes charge on day 5

Starting at 14-16 knots, the wind rose through the day, as did the sea state, to well over 20 knots, providing some awesome racing conditions for the strongest sailors in the world of sailing. It was a supreme test of physical prowess and sailing skill.

While Scott recorded a 7,1,1 to take an unassailable points lead into the medal race, Oliver Tweddell was the next best performer of the day with a 2,6,2. The first race was finally won by Fabian Pic after a titanic tussle with Tweddell through the race.

Finnale sailed with dramatic backdrop

Giles Scott lifted the Finn Gold Cup for the fourth time after a spectacular medal race sailed close to the shores of the impressive and historic old town of Gaeta. Townspeople and local children crowded the shoreline to get a view of the Finn class heroes as they battled hard against the beautiful backdrop of the medieval town. Though Scott had done enough to secure the title, and the race for the silver was reasonably secure, the battle for the bronze was very hot. In the end Høgh-Christensen won the medal race to take the silver and Postma was third to seal the bronze.

Giorgio Poggi led the medal race from the first mark to half way down the final run when Høgh-Christensen found a gust and sailed past. Postma stuck close to Ioannis Mitakis, but nearly lost to Jake Lilley on the opposite side as huge shifts came down the race course. In the end nothing changed in the top three.

Of the several national selection trials going on, the closest fight was the Italians. The 2008 Olympian Poggi, who was instrumental in bringing the event to Gaeta, was the best performer of the week, and later selected for Rio.

Poggi was. "I was very happy to have the event here in Gaeta but I said then that we'll have some nice wind. In the first days we didn't but at the end it came and was a really beautiful."

"It was a really tough week with many sailors going up and down. For me there was only one bad race and all the other races I was always top 15 and this was the key to having a good championship this week."

Once again, Scott looked dominant, winning with a day to spare to take the Finn Gold Cup again, to go into the





Olympics as the reigning world champion.

"Being World Champion is exactly where you want to be going into an Olympic Games. A lot of people will say that puts a target in your back but so be it."

"I keep saying it but the Gold Cup is such a special event to all of us as Finn sailors and to be in a position to say that I've won four is a very privileged one to be in. I think there is an awful lot of talent in the Finn fleet at the moment and to be able to come out on top of that is great."

He was enthused by the welcome on shore after the race *"It was really nice to get the locals involved. The Finn Gold Cup is a really big thing in our sailing world but they don't necessarily reach out to small towns and places that we go, like here in Gaeta, so to get the school kids involved and the people in Gaeta to see what is going on is a really important part of where I think our sport should be going."*

Høgh-Christensen, said, *"The Gold Cup is one of the most of the most important regattas in the Finn calendar. I really came here to try and do a good job and it came out all right. Of course I'd love to have won my third Gold Cup but Giles sailed a good regatta, and I am really happy with the silver and things are looking good for Rio."*

Postma was also pleased with himself. *"It was an exciting medal race. It was tough because the Greek and the Australian were breathing down my neck and it was close. I came here to get a shot for the gold but half way it didn't come together so we had to change the tune, and then we went for a medal and it worked out so I am proud of that."*

With four Finn Gold Cups under his belt Scott now has the second highest number of titles, only headed by Ben Ainslie who has six. When will be his next Gold Cup? *"I don't think I am able to answer that. I wouldn't be able to say I'd be able to do another one. I hope I do, but I don't know. It depends what the next few years bring. I am certainly not going to stop Finn sailing completely after the Games but I'll certainly take a step away from it."*



Sixty years of tradition and heritage

Sixty years ago the inspiration of two men set in motion the beginnings of a pinnacle sailing event, the enormous challenge of which has transcended generations and remains to this day one of the most coveted trophies to win in the sport of sailing.

The Finn Gold Cup was offered to the Finn class by Frederick G. 'Tiny' Mitchell of the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club in Burnham-on-Crouch in the UK on the suggestion of Vernon Stratton, a later President of the International Finn Association and also winner of the Finn Gold Cup in 1960. Neither man could have envisaged that this diminutive trophy would have such a high stature and still be hotly contested by the world's best young sailors six decades later.

The first event was sailed at Burnham-on-Crouch in 1956 and won by André Nelis (BEL), with the great Paul Elvstrøm (DEN) beaten into second.

Over the past sixty years the Finn Gold Cup has been a beacon for supreme accomplishment in the sport of sailing, and one of its incontrovertible assets has been its inclusiveness. It is controlled by a Deed of Gift, which states the objective is to bring the maximum feasible number of young sailors from as many countries as possible for a week of racing.

Each year, young Finn sailors race against old Finn sailors. The highly experienced Finn sailors compete against the novices. It is part of the journey and tradition of the Finn class that Olympic medallists are able to line up alongside starry-eyed youngsters and compete on an even footing.

To compete in a Finn Gold Cup is to compete against some of the best sailors in the world. It is an education and a privilege.

The Cup, which was replaced in 1975 after the original was lost in an air crash in 1973, along with the holder, Jorg Bruder of Brazil, on his way to defend his title in France, has been presented every year except one when it was withdrawn for political reasons.

Over the years the Finn Gold Cup has been held in most corners of the world, helping to develop and encourage local fleets: Rio, Moscow, Bermuda, Tallinn, Toronto, Long Beach, Auckland, Mexico have all witnessed the Finn Gold Cup, taking sailors to places that the normal regatta circuit often doesn't touch. And no conversation about the Finn Gold Cup would be complete without mentioning some of the many legends that have looked the ultimate challenge square in the eye, and taken their place in sailing heritage – Paul Elvstrøm, André Nelis, Willi Kuhweide, Jorg Bruder, Lasse Hjortnaes, Fredrik Lööf, Ben Ainslie, Giles Scott...the list will continue to grow.



the entire visible water at that end of the lake. Early on it was fairly clear who the front runners were going to be with defending champion Vladimir Krutskikh and 2004 Olympic silver medalist Rafa Trujillo, sailing at his first World Masters, winning every race in their groups over the first three days.

Behind them, six time Masters champion Michael Maier and Piet Eckert were stringing together a series of top scores that left them in touch with the two leaders. The next group of Paul McKenzie, and Christof Burger, Laurent Hay, Harles Liv, Marc Allain des Beauvais and Yuri Tokovoi could hardly be separated. With four starting groups, it was almost impossible to get any significant points advantage if you were always at the front of the fleet, as shown by the fact that come the medal race on the final day, any of the top 10 could mathematically still have won the event, with only 14 points separating them. And in spite of a completely random selection fleet allocation, some of the top sailors still hadn't sailed against each other.

Many sailors arrived early at Torbole to put in some practice

The 2016 World Masters will go down in history for being the largest Finn event of all time (so far) and for a gladiatorial battle to be champion that was only decided in the last minutes of the final race.

An astonishing 355 Finns made it Circolo Vela Torbole at the northern end of Lake Garda for a week of fantastically competitive and close racing. In fact the Finn fleet was dotted around all the clubs from Riva to Torbole. Lanfranco Cirillo, the major sponsor of the event through his Fantastica Sailing Team, spoke through the rain at the opening ceremony about the spirit of the Finn class and Finn sailors. He said The Finn was an Olympic class for all, for the strongmen of the sailing world. "The Finn is not just a boat, it is a lifestyle." Not many present disagreed with his sentiments.

Competitors in Torbole included many former Olympians and many former champions. Increasing numbers of sailors are returning to the class for the great competition that it offers and the standard is rising every year.

The scope of the racing was immense, with the fleet split into four starting groups on two course areas covering almost



Rafa Trujillo wins largest Finn event ever at 2016 Masters



1	ESP 100	Rafael Trujillo (1)	M	-1	1	1	1	1	2	7
2	RUS 73	Vladimir Krutskikh (2)	M	-1	1	1	1	1	4	9
3	CZE 1	Michael Maier (1)	GM	2	2	1	1	-3	1	13
4	SUI 86	Piet Eckert (3)	M	1	1	2	-3	2	3	17
5	AUS 22	Paul Mckenzie	M	1	2	-6	5	5	3	26
6	SUI 7	Christoph Burger	M	3	-7	3	5	3	1	27
7	FRA 75	Laurent Hay (2)	GM	2	3	5	-6	3	3	30
8	EST 7	Harles Liiv	M	4	4	1	2	4	-9	31
9	FRA 99	Marc Allain d. Beauvais (1)	GGM	-6	3	3	5	1	2	34
10	UKR 21	Yuriy Tokovoy (3)	GM	-10	6	2	1	4	6	37
11	NED 121	Martijn van Muyden	M	4	8	-33	3	5	2	24
12	GER 707	Uli Breuer	GM	2	2	6	-13	12	4	27
13	RUS 711	Dmitrii Petrov	M	5	4	2	-15	1	12	27
14	RUS 41	Felix Denikaev	GM	7	6	-13	7	5	3	30
15	SUI 5	Christoph Christen	M	2	-14	10	13	2	5	33
16	GBR 2	Allen Burrell	GM	5	2	-73	9	5	6	33
17	RUS 161	Aleksandr Kulyukin	M	7	21	2	5	2	(bfd)	38
18	AUT 7	Michael Gubi	GM	3	9	3	2	9	15	-18
19	ITA 55	Walter Riosa	M	8	15	5	9	3	2	-40
20	GER 711	André Budzien	GM	15	-18	11	3	2	11	1
21	NZL 2	Ray Hall	M	-14	12	7	7	10	8	2
22	NED 780	Jan Willem Kok	M	8	10	4	10	8	(bfd)	9
23	CHI 12	Antonio Poncell	GM	-25	3	9	16	11	8	3
24	GER 194	Axel Schroeder	GM	5	-14	11	11	8	5	11
25	HUN 88	Zsombor Majthenyi	M	-35	16	8	2	16	6	4
26	ITA 1025	Armando Battaglia	M (ufd)	5	5	10	6	22	6	54
27	GER 193	Thomas Schmid	GM	12	14	3	8	14	-15	4
28	UKR 8	Taras Havrysh	M	-32	5	13	3	10	5	20
29	GER 165	Dirk Meid	GM	-28	11	4	17	4	16	4
30	GER 8	Jurgen Eiermann	GM	-29	8	14	4	7	7	17
31	NED 29	Bas de Waal	GM	11	5	-46	4	16	7	15
32	SWE 59	Lars Edwall	GM	4	6	10	7	15	(bfd)	18
33	UKR 14	Volodymyr Stasyuk	M	8	7	16	8	13	-28	8
34	RUS 31	Igor Frolov	GM	9	16	8	11	-32	2	15
35	NED 60	Luuk Kuijper	GM	16	10	11	2	-34	23	3
36	RUS 21	Vladimir Butenko	GM	13	9	8	19	-41	16	2
37	NED 7	Cees Scheurwater	M	7	6	13	-32	27	9	5
38	ITA 6	Enrico Passoni	GM	13	11	7	9	6	22	-45
39	NZL 6	Gary Lokum	M	9	10	18	-25	8	14	10
40	ESP 17	Xavier Penas	M	11	22	4	6	-45	22	5
41	NZL 15	Greg Wilcox	GM	-37	12	23	16	7	4	9
42	RSA 1	Greg Davis	GM	11	10	30	8	9	6	-34
43	GBR 635	Simon Percival	M	-21	9	6	14	17	18	10
44	ITA 80	Martin Atzwanger	GM	6	8	20	19	11	11	-35
45	HUN 50	Akos Lukats	M	12	17	12	11	9	-52	14
46	ITA 872	Nicola Menoni	GM	22	20	15	-31	9	8	3
47	DEN 80	Michael Staal	GM	10	-25	18	13	13	13	10
48	AUS 75	Phil Chadwick	GM	5	-24	14	20	4	20	15
49	DEN 21	Otto Strandvig	GM	3	15	17	4	7	39	-47
50	ITA 89	Florian Demetz	M	10	3	20	18	22	-54	12



Photos: Berit Hainoja and Robert Deaves

and were rewarded by a week of very light winds and rain. However, by the day of the practice race the weather had returned to normal and on four of the five days of actual racing, a cold 14-20 knot Ora swept down the lake challenging the fleet with tight tactical racing into the corners.

Lake Garda has been called by some sailors as a University of Sailing. Everyone learned something about the nuances of sailing on Europe's most famous lake. The Finn is also a university for life with stories and memories told and relived each evening in the bars and restaurants of Torbole. It was a huge melting pot of experience and knowledge.

But even if some sailors didn't have



Super Legend: Pedro Jimenez-Meifren (ESP)

Legends: 1 Howard Sellars (GBR), 2 Andreii Gusenko (UKR), 3. Henry Sprague (USA)

Grand Grand Masters: 1 Marc Allain des Beauvais (FRA), 2 Rob Coutts (NZL), Umberto Grumelli (ITA)

Grand Masters: 1 Michael Maier (CZE), 2 Laurent Hay (FRA), 3 Yuri Tokovoi (UKR)

Masters: 1 Rafael Trujillo (ESP), 2 Vladimir Krutskikh (RUS), 3 Piet Eckert (SUI)



the day on the water they wanted, the scenery around them was simply breathtaking. The geography of the area that creates its world famous winds dominated the racing, with the huge mountainsides towering above the small boats putting everything into perspective. But it is the boat, the fantastic Finn, which is the true equaliser.

After nearly fifty years of competition, the Finn World Masters remains one of the most important events in the Finn year. A quarter of a century ago the event name was changed from the Veteran Gold Cup to the Finn World Masters to reflect this. The Masters has been often copied but never matched. It has survived because of the camaraderie and support of large numbers of Finn sailors worldwide who enjoy racing a great boat

with friends made through a lifetime of involvement in the class. Many of those who raced in the early Veteran worlds were present in Torbole, attracted by the spirit of the class and the intense competition. No one gives away an inch in a Finn race and that is as true today as it was half a century ago, at all levels.

On the Thursday all racing was abandoned ashore as rain and unstable winds from the wrong direction meant any fair racing was going to be difficult. So the positions from Wednesday determined who would sail the medal race and for the first time ever, all ten sailors entering the medal race at the Finn World Masters in Torbole had a chance of walking away with the title.

Whatever the outcome of the final races, everyone was a winner with a spectacular day of sailing. The medal race itself was as dramatic as it was scenic. Sailed up against Garda's steep walls, the lead changed three times before the finish. Maier took an early lead and sailed away for what looked like a certain seventh title. But Trujillo wasn't quite finished and worked his way towards the front after a mediocre first upwind. He was right behind Maier and Krutskikh at the final top mark and split gybes on the run to the finish. The gamble paid and he found enough pressure to sail through for another race win and the title. Krutskikh passed Maier for second. It was a thrilling end to a thrilling week.

All week Grand Masters, Grand Grand Masters and Legends have been trading places with the younger Masters. The Masters and Grand Masters medals were all contained

51	GBR 68	John Mackie	M	86	96	BRA 21	Ricardo Carvalho	GM	147	141	AUT 273	Markus Schneeberger	M	198
52	HUN 7	Antal Szekel	GM	87	97	GER 19	Andreas Bollongino	GM	148	142	GER 43	Ingo Spory	GM	198
53	HUN 5	Guza Huszar	M	91	98	ITA 5	Francesco Cinque	GGM	149	143	SWE 91	Per Friberg	GM	200
54	SUI 83	Beat Steffen	M	94	99	GER 59	Detlef Stock	GM	150	144	FRA 84	Jean-Pierre Lostis	GM	201
55	AUS 261	John Condie	GM	95	100	POL 2	Andre Skarka	GM	151	147	SUI 1	Hans Fatzer	GGM	201
56	NOR 64	Petter Fjeld	M	98	101	GBR 1	Sander Kooij	GM	151	146	SUI 32	Urs Huber	GM	202
57	POL 99	Wlod. Radwaniecki	GM	101	102	GER 188	Kluegel Michael	GM	152	147	NED 999	Hein Bloemers	GM	204
58	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	GM	103	103	GBR 90	Richard Sharp	M	152	148	GER 17	Kai Schader	GM	207
59	ITA 4	Francesco Faggiani	M	104	104	HUN 4	Gabor Antal	GGM	154	149	AUS 274	Nicholas Kennedy	GGM	207
60	GBR 720	Julian Smith	GM	105	105	ITA 73	Luca Taruschio	M	155	150	GER 122	Holger Krasmann	GM	208
61	FIN 201	Kristian Sjoberg	GM	105	106	GBR 77	Howard Sellers (1)	L	155	151	NED 54	Joos Bos	GGM	209
62	GER 157	Frank Dinnebie	GM	105	107	GER 713	Torsten Haverland	GM	155	152	AUT 400	Bernhard Klingler	GM	209
63	RUS 17	Vasiliy Kravchenko	M	106	108	NED 11	Henk de Jager	GGM	156	153	UKR 2	Pavlo Krainiev	M	211
64	FRA 38	Michel Audoin	GM	109	109	GBR 5	John Greenwood	GM	160	154	SUI 12	Franz Buergi	GM	211
65	RUS 34	Aleksandr Kasatov	GM	109	110	AUS 51	Rod Tanks	M	161	155	GBR 80	Ray New	GGM	211
66	ITA 67	Gino Bucciarelli	M	110	111	GBR 61	John Heyes	GM	162	156	NED 977	Thomas v.d Berg	GM	213
67	AUS 231	James Mayjor	GM	111	112	CZE 33	Ivan Rames	GM	162	157	RUS 16	Oleg Khudyakov	M	215
68	GER 909	Udo Murek	GM	112	113	ITA 75	Emilio Garcia Canales	M	163	158	NED 922	Roel van Olst	GM	215
69	BEL 1	Wim Henderieckx	M	115	114	GRE 71	Panagiotis Davourlis	GM	163	159	RUS 205	Sergey Stepanov	M	216
70	FRA 66	Philippe Lobert	GM	115	115	FRA 28	Sebastian Grall	M	165	160	HUN 18	Mihaly Demeczky	GM	218
71	POR 5	Jorge P.de Melo	GM	117	116	NZL 43	Nick Winters	M	172	161	FRA 23	Maxime Le Goff	M	219
72	FIN 22	Ville Valtonen	GM	117	117	NED 902	Pieter Risseeuw	GM	173	162	SWE 100	Hp Hylander	GGM	219
73	AUT 333	Gerhard Weinreich	M	118	118	RUS 1117	Andrew Bill	GM	173.4	163	ITA 16	Harald Stuffer	M	222
74	GER 293	Rob Coultts (2)	GGM	120	119	RUS 171	Alexander Kravchenko	M	174	164	CZE 313	Petr Kramar	GM	222
75	ITA 23	Grumelli Umberto (3)	GGM	120	120	GBR 65	David Potter	GM	174	165	SUI 63	Thomas Gautschi	GM	222
76	NED 27	Paul Kamphorst	GM	121	121	GER 111	Rainer Haacks	GM	175	166	GER 145	Kai-Uwe Goldenitz	GM	232
77	POL 100	Marek Jarocki	M	121	122	SUI 25	Till Klammer	M	177	167	BEL 15	Denis Alain	GM	234
78	GBR 21	Michael De Courcy	GM	121	123	AUS 262	Craig Ginnivan	GM	178	168	GBR 78	Robert Temple	M	236
79	SWE 14	Stefan Nordstrom	GM	124	124	UKR 5	Valerii Gusenko (2)	L	178	169	CZE 222	Petr Vinkl	GM	239
80	DEN 246	Jens K Andersen	GM	126	125	RSA 51	Philip Baum	GGM	179	170	GBR 52	Will Patten	GM	240
81	CZE 70	Vaclav Cintl	M	127	126	HUN 972	Gyula Monus	M	179	171	SUI 13	Peter Kilchenmann	GGM	242
82	NED 55	Eddy Huisman	GM	128	127	NZL 18	Gerard Lelieveld	M	181	172	SWE 2	Svante Collvin	GM	243
83	AUS 3	Jake Gunter	GM	128	128	ITA 131	Stimpfl Gregor	GM	182	173	AUT 511	Gerhard Schwendt	GM	243
84	GBR 10	Robert Deaves	M	128	129	ITA 1000	Marcello Micheli	M	183	174	USA 74	Henry Sprague (3)	L	244
85	RUS 212	Lanfranco Cirillo	GM	129	130	FIN 112	Seppo Ajanko	GGM	184	175	GER 997	Jochen Dauber	M	244
86	NED 111	Chris Frijdal	GGM	129	131	RUS 100	Dmtriy Akhramenko	M	185	176	GER 226	Uwe Fernholz	GM	245
87	CZE 43	Ladislav Hyrs	M	129	132	AUS 33	Stuart Skeggs	M	189	177	FIN 226	Jukka Partinen	GM	245
88	GBR 20	Andy Denison	GM	136	133	ITA 33	Giangiaco Alborghetti	M	193	178	CZE 25	Jirka Silhavy	M	248
89	NED 2	Wouter Molenaar	GGM	137	134	ITA 114	Roberto Benedetti	M	193	179	CZE 17	Tomas Kramar	M	248
90	ITA 24	Stuffer Peter	M	139	135	NED 987	Lenard Kaptein	GM	195	180	ITA 85	Klaus Heufler	GM	250
91	NED 965	Robert Thole	M	139	136	RUS 51	Mikhail Petruga	GM	196	181	RUS 142	Yury Polovinkin	GGM	251
92	CZE 67	Josef Jochovic	GM	141	137	GER 206	Klaus Reffelmann	GM	197	182	ESP 196	Pablo Lopez-Baldan	M	252
93	GER 60	Thilo Durach	M	144	138	POL 26	Boguslaw Nowakowski	GM	197	183	GBR 617	Jean-Louis Simons	GM	252
94	GBR 9	Tim Tavinor	GM	146	139	UKR 10	Valentyn Klymentyev	GM	197	184	BRA 3	Ricardo Valerio	GM	252
95	AUS 41	Darren Gilbert	GM	146	140	GBR 37	Steve Hayles	M	198	185	NED 746	Marald Van Reijssen	M	253

within the top 10 with Trujillo also winning the Masters title, Maier took the Grand Masters while Marc Allain des Beauvais won the Grand Grand Masters title by a sizeable margin. In the coveted Legend category, Howard Sellars won the title for a record equalling third time.

For the first time ever the class introduced a prize for Super Legends (over 80). Pedro Jiménez-Meifren may have been the only one, but he got the biggest cheer of anyone at the prizegiving, simply because he epitomised everything that the other 354 sailors hoped to emulate when they reached that age – the ability to still sail the Finn. Pedro also completed most races when sailors half his age were staying on shore.

Victory for Trujillo is a milestone for the class – the first time an Olympic medalist has won the title. He said he would be back. “The group of sailors in the Finn masters are very nice and I really enjoyed my time here. I enjoy coaching the Finn but I still enjoy sailing it as well.”

Everyone returned home sad that the event was over for another year but buoyed by the knowledge that in one year's time, the Finn World Masters fleet will meet again, in Barbados.



186 FIN 227	Ronnie Roos	M	254	243 CAN 3	Ian Bostock	GM	330	300 GER 911	Patrick Frind	M	410
187 ITA 920	Alberto Romano	M	255	244 GER 222	Ulf-Peter Pestel	GM	331	301 GER 92	Detlev Guminski	GGM	410
188 GER 811	Michael Knoll	M	255	245 POL 27	Piotr Rosinski	GM	332	302 NED 4	Ruurd Baerends	GGM	411
189 GER 101	Marco Poloni	GM	257	246 AUS 168	Robert Ugarte	M	334	303 NOR 3	Ola M. Johannessen	L	413
190 GER 202	Rolf Elsaesser	GGM	258	247 GER 171	Volker Tetzlaff	GM	335	304 ESP 7	Denes Peter	M	413
191 POL 23	Piotr Pajor	GM	258	248 SUI 51	Ulrich Appenzeller	GGM	336	305 POL 127	Jan Kominek	GGM	415
192 FRA 117	Francois Richard	L	261	249 AUT 19	Gerald Raschke	GM	338	306 GBR 42	Richard Phillips	GGM	419
193 SUI 72	Patrick Ducommun	GM	261	250 GER 45	Dirk Sundermann	GM	339	307 NED 900	Dick Hooijer	GM	429
194 GER 710	Walter Kuhlmann	M	261	251 NED 100	Arend van der Sluis	GGM	341	308 FRA 108	Giovanni Bocelli	M	429
195 FRA 897	Bruno Regout	GM	262	252 SUI 3	Carlo Lazzari	GM	341	309 FRA 800	Yves Zoccola	L	432
196 UKR 1	Volodymyr Bogomolkin	M	263	253 NZL 213	Maurice Duncan	L	341	310 GER 26	Willi Meister	L	432
197 AUS 7	Greg Clark	GGM	264	254 NZL 3	Ben Winters	L	343	311 SUI 4	Jiri Huracek	GGM	433
198 POL 38	Juliusz Reichelt	GGM	265	255 FRA 74	Duret Jean Louis	L	344	312 ARG 1	Ricardo R. Anderson	GGM	438
199 NED 31	Hans Zuurendonk	GM	266	256 GER 467	Stefan Prell	M	346	313 SWE 7	Hans Wiberg	GGM	441
200 GER 835	Michael Ziller	GM	267	257 FRA 72	Philippe Le Frapper	GM	347	314 ITA 881	Fabio Panaro	GM	445
201 GER 75	Christian Rupp	M	267	258 GER 5	Herbert Straub	GM	349	315 GER 119	Peter Bronke	L	445
202 ITA 14	Igor Petukhov	GM	268	259 NED 13	Harold Lensing	GGM	349	316 NED 32	Peter Verhoef	GGM	446
203 UKR 89	Sergii Vovchuk	M	269	260 USA 101	Peter Frissell	GM	351	317 ESP 400	Juan L. Biechy Baldan	GM	447
204 GER 84	Michael Huellenkremer	GGM	270	261 GER 696	Jens Fischbach	M	351	318 NED 885	Bert Veerkamp	GGM	447
205 RUS 71	Leonid Kleimann	GM	270	262 ITA 10	Diego Maltese	GM	353	319 AUS 98	James Ley	L	450
206 GER 247	Ronny Knoll	M	271	263 RUS 18	Evgeny Dzhura	M	355	320 ESP 21	Mauricio Luque Diaz	M	451
207 BRA 103	Luis Mosquera	M	271	264 GER 71	Bernd Blass	GM	356	321 SWE 21	Mats R Karlsson	GM	452
208 LTU 27	Rytis Bagdziunas	M	271	265 GBR 739	Paul Ward	GM	358	322 GER 89	Gunter Kellermann	L	454
209 GER 103	Ralf-Udo Lemke	GGM	272	266 FRA 53	Corcaud Gilles	GM	359	323 GBR 727	Paul Smith	GM	455
210 BEL 5	Yves Verhofstede	GGM	272	267 ESP 6	Roger Jordana Quer	M	359	324 GBR 55	Mike Till	L	459
211 NED 58	Maxim Berrens	M	273	268 HUN 69	Csaba Stadler	M	359	325 GRE 5	Ioannis Giaramanis	M	463
212 NED 88	Chiel Barends	GM	275	269 USA 32	Charles Heimler	GGM	360	326 SWE 4	Jan-Erik Floren	L	464
213 GER 175	Michael Mockel	GGM	275	270 ITA 7	Antonio Pitini	GGM	363	327 ESP 35	Pedro Jimenez-Meifren	SL	466
214 HUN 51	Istvan Rutai	M	279	271 NED 38	Olaf Van Heusden	GGM	363	328 HUN 9	Tamas Beliczay	GGM	472
215 RUS 189	Lukin Sergey	GGM	280	272 SWE 9	Veine Jutmar	L	364	329 SUI 2	Helmut Klammer	L	474
216 NED 52	Henk Meijer	GGM	281	273 GER 112	Egbert Vincke	L	366	330 SUI 441	Martin Nydegger	GM	479
217 HUN 27	Andrik Szabolcs	M	282	274 BRA 42	Paulo Picchetti	GM	366	331 ESP 318	Antonio Furest	GGM	488
218 SUI 69	Jean Pierre Weber	GGM	283	275 HUN 81	Imre Solymosi	GM	367	332 GER 40	Heinz Stammnitz	GGM	492
219 GBR 24	Rory Barnes	GM	289	276 AUS 68	Jay Harrison	GGM	368	333 POL 31	Maciej Rozkrut	GM	495
220 SWE 66	Ulf Bjureus	GM	290	277 NED 8	Rodrick Casander	L	380	334 GER 949	Harbeck Franz	GGM	497
221 GBR 22	Andrew Wylam	GGM	291	278 ESP 320	Miguel Angel Mateo	GM	382	335 GER 62	Uwe Barthel	GGM	498
222 NED 95	Wobbe De Schiffart	GGM	297	279 ITA 111	Bruno Catalan	GGM	385	336 SUI 29	Althaus Han	L	506
223 ESP 39	Jose M Pujadas	GGM	299	280 AUT 21	Scherzer Erich	GGM	386	337 GER 46	Peter Truhm	L	508
224 FRA 27	Pierre Lallemand	M	301	281 GBR 82	Simon Green	GM	386	338 GER 545	Martin Cordes	GGM	511
225 NED 860	Louis Kruijer	L	305	282 GER 249	Georg Feurer	GM	386	339 GER 456	Willi Mayr	GM	522
226 ITA 900	Massimo Paccosi	GM	306	283 GER 460	Dirk Vahlpahl	GM	388	340 GER 123	Udo Bengsch	GM	524
227 CZE 75	Vladimir Skalicky	GM	309	284 GER 200	Dahlhoff Ulrich	GM	389	341 ITA 926	Roberto Castellano	M	526
230 GER 115	Matthias Vorgerd	GM	311	285 DEN 77	Flemming Bender Jensen	L	390	342 GER 38	Reinhard Fabry	L	531
229 FRA 118	Thomas Scherer	GM	312	286 ITA 46	Luca Marastoni	GM	393	343 AUT 339	Walter Prager	L	540
230 GER 58	Thomas Schulz	GM	313	287 NED 93	Gelmus Peeters	L	394	343 BEL 14	Michiel Missiaen	GM	540
231 HUN 2	Peter Sipos	GGM	313	288 NED 9	Jobs Isselmann	L	394	343 BRA 35	Colin Reed	L	540
232 GER 161	Ralf Kratz	GM	316	289 GER 118	Oliver Bronke	M	396	343 CZE 80	Martin Jozif	M	540
233 SUI 88	Daniel Muller	GM	316	290 POL 3	Jan Okuicz-Kozaryn	L	396	343 GBR 4	Russell Ward	GM	540
234 GBR 58	Paul Brown	GGM	320	291 GBR 587	Douglas Sturat	GGM	398	343 GBR 19	Simon Hoult	M	540
235 POL 21	Jacek Binkowski	GM	321	292 HUN 64	Balazs Szucs	GM	400	343 GER 1	Werner Beuck	L	540
236 GER 876	Wolfgang Genesius	GM	323	293 GBR 545	Dick Pratt	GGM	400	343 GER 34	Dieter Borges	GGM	540
237 NED 82	Roel Lubberts	GM	323	294 CHI 10	Marco Aur. Montalbetti	GGM	404	343 GER 186	Detlef Blaschkowski	GGM	540
238 SUI 91	Patrik Muster	M	323	295 ITA 76	Franco Voltolini	GGM	405	343 NED 754	Karel Van Arkel	GGM	540
239 GER 678	Wolff Hiss	GM	326	296 ITA 93	Nikolaus Mair	GGM	406	343 NED 786	Johan De Schiffart	GGM	540
240 ITA 50	Norberto Felici	GGM	328	297 ITA 29	Hans Peter Zischg	L	406	343 NED 848	Pax Ven De Griend	L	540
241 ITA 17	Martin Kusstatscher	GM	328	298 GER 400	Stephan Bauer	M	406	343 RUS 2	Tommaso Piccioli	M	540
242 SUI 65	Thomas Bangerter	GGM	329	299 AUT 10	Engelbert Prutsch	M	409				



Finn form: The long and winding road to Rio

A look ahead to the Rio Olympics

The road to Rio is almost at an end. For most of the 23 Finn sailors who will race for the ultimate prize in August, it has been a long and winding road, with many pitfalls, dead ends and road works.

There is not much doubt that Rio's waters will provide perhaps the biggest challenge of the sailor's careers. The unseen currents, the changeable winds, and the hidden dangers beneath the surface will all conspire to create a fascinating Games that even the favourite, four times World Champion Giles Scott, will not take for granted.

Sailors have spent longer training at the venue than at any previous Olympics, many starting three years ago to familiarise themselves with the conditions. Many have based themselves there for protracted periods to get to grips with Rio's idiosyncrasies. Most are fully aware it won't take much for everything to go horribly wrong for them.

That Scott has won almost everything in sight since his failure to beat Ben Ainslie for the British place at the London 2012 Olympics means very little. Rio 2016 is just one more regatta he wants to win; perhaps more than all the rest put together, but he knows it will not be easy. The others know he is the favourite, but they also know he can be beaten, and that is the challenge facing them.

Scott has lost two Finn regattas since the 2011 British trials. That's a record of some 19 wins in 21 regattas starting with the

2011 European title. But the unexpected can happen, as it did in Palma in April of this year, when an unforeseen rudder pintle breakage probably cost him another regatta win.

The man to take advantage of that was Josh Junior, who goes into the Games as the only man in Rio with bragging rights over Scott in more than five years. It may not be much, but it is something to grasp with both hands.

Mid-cycle Scott was about as unbeatable as it was possible to imagine, winning regattas with two races to spare and sometimes by as much as 50 points. He was clearly a cut above the rest and his smooth, almost casual style spoke volumes of an innate skill in the boat that transcended his previous training partner and mentor, Ainslie. He was bigger, stronger and fitter. He was making it look too easy.

Wake up call

That success was also a wake up call to the rest of the fleet. They realised that unless they started to catch up, and quickly, the gold medal in Rio was as good as gone.

Over the following two years Scott continued to win every regatta, but just occasionally the winning margins became less. Several times he had to fight himself back into a regatta. Nevertheless, in this cycle he has won three world titles from 2014 to 2016, the European title in 2014 and perhaps more significantly, both Olympic test events in Rio. At last year's test event he struggled all week only to get break in the medal race and snatch the gold at the last possible moment.

Qualification

Qualification for Rio started at the 2014 ISAF Sailing World Championships in Santander. Apart from BRA as host nation, 12 nations qualified there: GBR, CRO, FRA, NZL, USA, NOR, SWE, DEN, SLO, AUS, HUN, FIN. Next CHN won the Asian place at the Sailing World Cup Qingdao, NED, GRE, EST, URU and ITA qualified from the 2015 Finn Gold Cup in Takapuna, CAN and ARG won the North and South American places at the 2016 Sailing World Cup Miami, and finally at the 2016 Princesa Sofia Regatta, TUR won the final European place, with SEY winning the African place. It was the most complicated and long drawn out qualification system ever used for sailing.

For a change, all those who qualified met their

Giles Scott slaps his deck in delight as he comes back from behind all week long to win the 2015 Rio Test Event.



National criteria and were given their tickets to Rio. Of the 23, just seven are sailing their first Olympics, seven are sailing their second, five are sailing their third, two are sailing their fourth and two are sailing their fifth: Vasilij Zbogar and Allan Julie. Zbogar is the oldest sailor this year at 40, though the average age has dropped from 30 in 2012 to 29 in 2016.

Looking at it quantitatively, based on recent performance, about 10-12 sailors have the capacity to medal, and around 18-20 have performed well enough to make the medal race on August 16.

Junior is uppermost in most people's mind as a possible topper of the great Scott. He only moved into the Finn in 2013 after a failed attempt to win the 2012 Laser campaign from Andrew Murdoch, who also moved into the Finn after 2012. Junior's biggest problem used to be consistency, but having won the NZL trials against Murdoch, one of the most conservative sailors in the game, perhaps he has now got that under control.

Junior has spent much of the past year training with Pieter-Jan Postma, perhaps the most flamboyant, risk taking sailor in the fleet. The partnership has clearly worked though as both sailors have benefitted from each other. Postma has lurked near the top for years, but always failed to convert potential



to gold. That changed in 2014 with his first major victory at the Hyeres World Cup, but it took another two years before he would win his first title, the 2016 European Championship.

While NZL qualified in the first round at the 2014 ISAF Worlds in Santander, Postma had to wait until the Finn Gold Cup in Takapuna to win his place.

Of the 23 sailors in Rio, only 11 sailed the Finn at London 2012, including two of the medallists, Jonas Høgh-Christensen and Jonathan Lobert.

After winning silver in London, and narrowly missing the gold, Høgh-Christensen stepped away from Finn sailing for two years. He returned in the summer of 2014 to qualify Denmark in Santander, though was still unsure whether he wanted to do another Olympic campaign. However, he didn't take much persuading and by Palma in 2015 he had a full programme running, culminating in a second place at this year's Gold Cup.

In contrast, Lobert never stopped. However it took him



another three years to win his first major championship medal, silver in Takapuna in 2015. Lobert is part of the group that has probably spent more time in Rio than any other foreign sailor. Together with Max Salminen and Tapio Nirkko the group should know the conditions well enough, but have sacrificed that knowledge against regatta experience.

If local knowledge proves key, then the fleet also includes Brazil's 2013 World Champion and winner in Miami this year, Jorge Zarif, who should be pushing the front.

Other experienced sailors include three time European champion Ivan Kijlakovic Gapsic, third time Olympian, Deniss Karpak, and for the second time Giorgio Poggi.

Rising stars

Of the new young group sailing their first Olympics, Jake Lilley is perhaps one of the brightest stars. He towers over most of the fleet and has been steadily rising through the ranks over the past three years and could pose a threat at the front. Caleb Paine and Anders Pedersen are equally promising and are all capable of a result. In contrast, Tom Ramshaw has spent less than a year in the boat, but has achieved some phenomenal results in that short time. If these sailors continue progressing at the same rate, they are going to be the front runners in Tokyo.

One of the success stories of the last cycle has been the establishment of the Dinghy Academy in Valencia. That success is reflected in the number of sailors based there that qualified for Rio, or have used it as a training venue on their road to Rio. Nine of the 23 sailors have benefitted from Luca Devoti's experience and training methods including Zsombor Berecz, who won silver at this year's Europeans and double Olympic Laser medallist Vasilij Zbogar. In addition, two of those sailors – Facundo Olezza and Alejandro Foglia – have also been directly funded through the Finn class development programme to train in Valencia.

Form book

However, what all the sailors are saying, whatever their past results would otherwise indicate, is that this will be an Olympics where past form means very little. They all agree that these Games will be very tough to manage, and very difficult to predict, and to win you have to be the best all round sailor - and perhaps a little lucky.



Facundo Olezza (ARG)



Age: 21
World Ranking (highest): 64 (61)
Previous Olympics: None
Recent results: SWC Miami 2016 (10), Europeans 2016 (69), Palma (58), Silver Cup 2015 (8)

Facundo Olezza is the youngest of the Finn sailors competing in Rio. He started sailing the Finn in February 2015, when he grew too big to sail the Laser, also after some 49er sailing in Argentina.

When he switched to the Finn he joined the Dinghy Academy in Valencia and has not looked back. He has only competed in six major events in his Finn career, but his coach, Luca Devoti, sees enormous potential in the young sailor. Having spent most of the year recovering from injury, he sailed the Sailing World Cup Miami with a partially healed broken hand to qualify Argentina for the South American place in Rio, practicing and learning new techniques over the New Year to be able to race.

Jake Lilley (AUS)



Age: 23
World Ranking (highest): 5 (2)
Previous Olympics: None
Recent results: Finn Gold Cup 2016 (4), Hyeres 2016 (1), Europeans 2016 (37), Palma 2016 (4), Miami 2016 (4)

Jake Lilley stands head and shoulders over most of the fleet and is beginning to show a lot of potential on the race course with several top results

in the past year. He qualified Australia for Rio in 2014 but then had an extended trials against Oliver Tweddell that only ended after the Gold Cup this year, after both sailors raised their game enough for a 1, 2 finish in Hyeres. An intensely physical sailor Lilley started sailing Finns in 2012, when at 2 metres tall and 96 kg he had outgrown the Laser. He soon found his way in the Finn and early on set himself some very high goals, and with his then coach, John Bertrand, won the 2014 Junior European title.

Jorge Zarif (BRA)



Age: 23
World Ranking (highest): 7 (6)
Previous Olympics: 2012 (20)
Best Results: Finn Gold Cup 2013 (1)
Recent Results: Finn Gold Cup (17), Hyeres (7) Palma (9), Europeans (7), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (7)

Jorge Zarif was the youngest sailor in the Finn fleet at 2012 Olympics, just 19, but one year later went on to win the world title in Tallinn, Estonia. He has been

mainly coached by Rafa Trujillo during this cycle, and has had moderate success at some regattas, notably winning the Miami World Cup in 2016 against a top class field. Zarif has been competing in the Finn since 2008 when he was just 15. Though he sails from the late Clube do Rio de Janeiro, his hometown is São Paulo, where he won his seventh Brazilian national title in February. He is now just two short of the record set by his father, the late Jorge Zarif Zeto, who competed in the Finn in the 1984 and 1988 Olympics.

Tom Ramshaw (CAN)



Age: 24
World Ranking (highest): 27 (27)
Previous Olympics: None
Recent results: Finn Gold Cup 2016 (8)
Europeans 2016 (10), Miami 2016 (13)
Palma 2016 (31)

Tom Ramshaw only took up Finn sailing at the end of 2015 after taking a break from the Laser, when it was suggested he try the boat. He immediately

knew it was the boat for him, qualified Canada for Rio at the SWC Miami in January 2016 and then produced an outstanding 10th place at his first overseas Finn event at the Europeans in Barcelona. He followed that with six weeks training at the Dinghy Academy in Valencia before placing eighth at the Finn Gold Cup in Gaeta, to be selected shortly after. His progress after just nine months in the boat has been nothing short of astonishing.

Lei Gong (CHN)



Age: 33
World Ranking (highest): 56 (56)
Previous Olympics: 2012 (24)
Recent results: Hyeres (27), Miami (7), Finn Gold Cup 2015 (52), SWC Qingdao 2015 (1), Rio Test Event 2015 (17)

Lei Gong is sailing his third Olympic campaign and Rio will be his second Olympics. His best result of this cycle was a seventh at this year's

Miami World Cup, including a string of top seven places. While China does have a strong fleet of Finn sailors, they rarely appear at international events. Gong is no exception having sailed only eight ranking events since 2012. He goes into the Olympics as one of the lowest ranked sailors, but three places higher than in 2012. His first international event was the Europeans in 2004 where he picked up the bronze medal in the Junior European championship.

Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic (CRO)



Age: 32
World Ranking (highest): 12 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (8), 2012 (5)
Best results: European Champion 2009, 2010, 2015; 2009 Finn Gold Cup (3)
Recent results: 2016 Europeans (8), 2016 Finn Gold Cup (20), Hyeres (9), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (20)

Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic is one of the most experienced sailors in the fleet with an excellent record of regatta

wins and top finishes. However since claiming his third European title last year he has failed to live up to expectations, as seen in his drop from world No 1 in October 2015 to his current 12th. This is perhaps largely due to a tense and often heated Olympic trials against Milan Vujanovic, which was only settled at the Finn Gold Cup this year. However Gaspic is a formidable sailor in all conditions and generally one of the most consistent sailors on the circuit.

Jonas Høgh-Christensen (DEN)



Age: 35
World Ranking (highest): 6 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2004 (9), 2008 (6), 2012 (2)
Best results: World Champion 2006, 2009
Recent results: 2016 Finn Gold Cup (2), Hyeres (6), Palma (16), 2016 Europeans (12), Miami (2)

Jonas Høgh-Christensen has the knack of peaking at just the right time, and is one of the smartest sailors on the circuit. After a disappointing

2008 Olympics where he was one of the favourites he took several years off. He won his second Finn Gold Cup in 2009 after a year out of the boat, before coming back a year later with a superb campaign for London 2012. After that he went back to the music industry in Denmark before coming out of retirement for a second time in 2014. His results over the last year show a familiar upward trend as he heads into his fourth Olympics in the Finn.

Deniss Karpak (EST)



Age: 30
World Ranking (highest): 19 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2008 Laser (24), 2012 (11)
Best results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (8)
Recent results: 2016 Finn Gold Cup (13), Europeans (40), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (11), Kiel 2015 (1), Kiel 2016 (4)

Deniss Karpak moved into the Finn after the 2008 Olympics after he got too big for the Laser and

has been a regular in the top 20, occasionally top 10 ever since, including winning races at all levels. He led the 2016 Finn Gold Cup early on before suffering on the windier days at the end. Even though he is one of the tallest and biggest sailors in the fleet he seems to produce his best in the lighter trickier winds, which could bode well for Rio. Karpak has won the Sailor of the Year in Estonia on numerous occasions and was the Best Young Athlete of the Year in Estonia in 2007.

Tapio Nirkko (FIN)



Age: 31
World Ranking (highest): 13 (7)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (18), 2012 (10)
Best results: 2015 Test Event (2), 2009 Europeans (2)
Recent results: Palma (3), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (10), Hyeres (34), Weymouth (4)

Tapio Nirkko is a very tall and strong sailor, as well as a very hard to predict sailor. He is clearly capable of beating everyone on his day but has

often struggled with consistency when it counts. For many years he has been the only competitive Finn sailor in Finland. On the occasions when he has put it all together he is a force to be reckoned with, and picking up the silver medal at the 2015 Test Event in Rio was not only the best regatta he has ever sailed, but also a sign of his true potential. He is one of a few sailors who have spent huge amounts of time training in Rio, so should have a good handle on the conditions to remain consistent.

Jonathan Lobert (FRA)



Age: 31
World Ranking (highest): 2 (2)
Previous Olympics: 2012 (2)
Best results: 2015 Finn Gold Cup (3)
Recent results: 2015 Test Event (4), Palma (8), Hyeres (3), Weymouth (2)

Jonathan's Lobert's bronze medal at the 2012 Olympics was until late in 2015 his only major medal in the Finn class. For many years he failed

to convert his potential into a medal, except at Weymouth and he has a very athletic style in the boat, especially downwind. Now that he has overcome his medal shortage with a silver at the 2015 Finn Gold Cup, his confidence has blossomed and he is one of the top favourites in Rio. His selection for Rio was almost assured after long time training partner Thomas Le Breton dropped out of the race, allowing Lobert to focus on training in Rio, and he has done a lot of that.

Giles Scott (GBR)



Age: 29
World Ranking (highest): 1 (1)
Previous Olympics: None
Best results: Finn Gold Cup 2016 (1), 2015 (1), 2014 (1), 2011 (1), Europeans 2014 (1), 2011 (1)
Recent results: 2015 Test Event (1), Weymouth (1), Palma (2)

Giles Scott goes into the Olympics as the absolute favourite after only being beaten

twice in the last five years. Apart from gear failure in Palma this year, he is unbeaten since April 2013. He has spent considerable time in Rio training and has only competed in four major regattas since last year's test event. Many thought he would have won gold at London 2012 given the chance, but he lost out to Ben Ainslie for selection. Now he finally has his chance and following his recent win at the Weymouth World Cup he will go into the Games as reigning world champion and World No. 1.

Ioannis Mitakis (GRE)



Age: 26
World Ranking (highest): 10 (6)
Previous Olympics: 2012 (14)
Best results: Europeans (1)
Recent results: 2016 Finn Gold Cup (6), Hyeres (11), Palma (6), 2016 Europeans (9), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (9), 2015 Test Event (16)

Ioannis Mitakis first appeared in a Finn in 2009 and took the Junior European title twice before moving

on to taking the 2012 senior European title in very light and shifty winds. A clearly talented sailor, he has upped his game since London 2012 and is regularly in the top ten at major events, including winning many races but has yet to take a medal at a major event since the 2012 win. Though historically better in lighter winds, he has also improved in a breeze to become a great all round sailor and should be challenging the front in Rio.

Zsombor Berecz (HUN)



Age: 30
World Ranking (highest): 38 (14)
Previous Olympics: 2008 Laser (29), 2012 Laser (21)
Best results: 2016 Europeans (2)
Recent results: 2015 Finn Gold Cup (23) Palma (7), 2015 Test Event (11)

Zsombor Berecz moved into the Finn after two Olympics in the Laser and immediately started

producing results. Coming from Lake Balaton, he made the decision early on to join the Dinghy Academy in Valencia and has clearly benefitted from training there ever since. Going into the Games he perhaps lacks regatta practice, preferring to train in his Valencia group, having only competed in three events since last year's test event, but picked up silver at the Europeans this year, the highest placed Hungarian ever at an International Finn championship.

Giorgio Poggi (ITA)



Age: 34
World Ranking (highest): 16 (6)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (11)
Best results: 2016 Finn Gold Cup (5)
Recent results: Hyeres (13), Palma (27), 2016 Europeans (33), Miami 11, 2015 Finn Gold Cup (24)

Giorgio Poggi won perhaps the most intense of all the Olympic trials to earn his space in Rio, fighting all the way to the Finn Gold Cup this year when a

fifth place earned him his ticket. After sailing in 2008 and narrowly missing the medal race, he lost a close 2012 trials. This time around he has been coached by Emiliios Papathanasiou, and is sailing as well as he has ever done. He has certainly raised his game for the selections, producing his best ever result at the Finn Gold Cup, the question is whether he can continue this form through to the Games. Between 2002 to 2008 Poggi won six gold medals in different classes at the Italian national championships.

Medals by nation

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Great Britain*	4	1	-	5
Denmark*	3	1	1	5
USSR	1	2	2	5
USA*	-	4	1	5
Spain	2	1	-	3
France*	1	-	2	3
New Zealand*	1	-	2	3
Belgium	-	2	1	3
Germany/DDR	2	-	-	2
Poland	1	-	1	2
Austria	-	2	-	2
Italy*	-	1	1	2
Sweden*	-	-	2	2
Finland*	1	-	-	1
Greece*	-	1	-	1
US Virgin Islands	-	1	-	1
Australia*	-	-	1	1
Canada*	-	-	1	1
Netherlands*	-	-	1	1

*Nations competing in 2016

Provisional schedule

Friday 5 August	Opening Ceremony	
Tuesday 9 August	Races 1 & 2	Pão de Acucar
Wednesday 10 August	Race 3 & 4	Niterói
Thursday 11 August	Races 5 & 6	Escola Naval
Friday 12 August	Reserve Day	
Saturday 13 August	Races 7 & 8	Copacabana
Sunday 14 August	Races 9 & 10	Niterói
Monday 15 August	Reserve Day	
Tuesday 16 August	Medal Race and Medal Ceremony	Pão de Acucar

Race areas



Pieter-Jan Postma (NED)



Age: 34

World Ranking (highest): 3 (2)

Previous Olympics: 2008 (14), 2012 (4)

Best results: 2016 Europeans (1), 2011 Finn Gold Cup (2), 2016 Finn Gold Cup (3)

Recent results: 2015 Test Event (3), Palma (5), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (6)

Pieter-Jan Postma is undoubtedly the most popular sailor on the circuit with a very positive

and introspective outlook, but this has been as much hindrance as a help, as he has been prone to taking unnecessary risks. He was heading for a medal in London 2012, but for a last minute rash move. Since then has refocussed and is more calm than ever before. His European title win this year comes amid a string of podium potential performances over the last 12 months, including leading the 2015 Test Event every day, only losing gold the punishing medal race, something that he intends to rectify this year.



Anders Pedersen (NOR)



Age: 24

World Ranking (highest): 11 (10)

Previous Olympics: None

Best Results: 2014 Finn Silver Cup (1), 2014 Finn Gold Cup (8)

Recent results: Hyeres (5), Palma (14), 2016 Europeans (14), Miami (8), 2015 Test Event (1)

Anders Pedersen is one of the rising stars of the Finn fleet. After a seminal 2014 season in which

he won the Junior Worlds and qualified Norway for the Olympics at the ISAF Worlds in Santander, he has improved to the point where he is regularly at the top of big fleets and challenging the big names. Coached by Peer Moberg, since 2015 he has also trained alongside Jonas Høgh-Christensen and hopes learn more from the Dane's experience. Pedersen started in the Optimist aged six and found he could overcome a fear of sailing by himself by practicing, so has been practicing for this ever since.



Josh Junior (NZL)



Age: 26

World Ranking (highest): 3 (1)

Previous Olympics: None

Best results: Palma 2016 (1), 2015 Europeans (2)

Recent results: Hyeres (4), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (14), 2015 Test Event (5), 2016 Europeans (4)

Josh Junior is from Wellington and has been sailing since he was five years old. He won selection for Rio against Andrew Murdoch, to whom he lost

selection to in the Laser class in 2012. Junior is one of the brightest talents in the fleet and the only sailor in Rio to have bragging rights that he has beaten Giles Scott since 2012. His win in Palma this year was a career highlight and his first major win in the class. A former New Zealand match racing champion, he goes into Rio as a firm favourite for a medal as long as he can keep consistency, which has often been his downfall in the past. Junior is coached by John Cutler, who took bronze in the Finn at Seoul 1988.



Allan Julie (SEY)



Age: 39
World Ranking (highest): 89 (89)
Previous Olympics: Laser: 1996 (37), 2000 (28), 2004 (20), 2008 (32)
Recent results: 2016 Finn Gold Cup (45), Palma (56), Hyeres (32), 2016 Europeans (62)

Allan Julie sailed four Olympics in the Laser and is a national sporting hero in his native Seychelles. He was tempted back to the Olympics

by the opportunity of winning the African nation place and duly qualified in Palma this year. A product of the SailCoach programme he has been helped by his good friend Vasilij Zbogor, from the days training together in Lasers. Julie won gold in the Laser at the 2011 All-Africa Games in Maputo, Mozambique. At the 2004 Olympics, as the most experienced member of the Seychelles team, Julie was the flag bearer for Seychelles at the opening ceremony. He has also been Seychelles Sportsman of the Year five times.

Vasilij Zbogor (SLO)



Age: 40
World Ranking (highest): 35 (4)
Previous Olympics: Laser: 2000 (19), 2004 (3), 2008 (2); Finn: 2012 (6)
Best results: 2013 Europeans (1), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (3), 2015 Europeans (3)
Recent results: 2016 Europeans (6), Test Event (13)

Vasilij Zbogor is a four time Olympian already and has the dubious honour of being the oldest Finn

sailor in Rio. After a tough trials for 2012, he was selected early for 2016 and like many has focussed on training in Valencia rather than travelling, having competed in only three events in the past year. He lost much of the 2015 season after a cycling accident, but recovered to take his first world championship medal at the 2015 Finn Gold Cup. He is one of the most famous sportsmen in Slovenia and his first medal in 2004 also won him Slovenian Sportsman of the Year.

Max Salminen (SWE)



Age: 27
World Ranking (highest): 4 (4)
Previous Olympics: 2012 Star (1)
Best results: 2015 Finn Gold Cup (5), 2013 Europeans (7)
Recent results: Weymouth (3), Hyeres (10), Palma (10), La Rochelle 2015 (1), 2015 Test Event (6)

Max Salminen moved into the Finn class after winning the gold in the Star class at the

London 2012 Olympics, along with his helm Freddy Lööf. For Rio he won a fairly tense and close trials against Björn Allansson and has improved year on year to the point where he is now regularly qualifying for medal races. He has spent more time training in Rio than most of the fleet – he says 150 days – and less time at regattas. Coached by Dayne Sharp, he is a quick and tactically astute sailor and stands a good chance at claiming a medal to add to his London gold.



Olympic Medalists - Finn Class 1952- 2012

Year	Venue	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
1952	Helsinki, Finland	Paul Elvstrøm, Denmark	Charles Currey, Great Britain	Rickard Sarby, Sweden
1956	Melbourne, Australia	Paul Elvstrøm, Denmark	André Nelis, Belgium	John Marvin, USA
1960	Naples, Italy	Paul Elvstrøm, Denmark	Aleksander Chuchelov, USSR	André Nelis, Belgium
1964	Enoshima, Japan	Willy Kuhweide, Germany	Peter Barrett, USA	Henning Wind, Denmark
1968	Acapulco, Mexico	Valentin Mankin, USSR	Hubert Raudaschl, Austria	Fabio Albarelli, Italy
1972	Kiel, West Germany	Serge Maury, France	Elias Hatzipavlis, Greece	Victor Potapov, USSR
1976	Kingston, Canada	Jochen Schumann, DDR	Andrei Balashov, USSR	John Bertrand, Australia
1980	Tallinn, USSR	Esko Rechardt, Finland	Wolfgang Mayrhofer, Austria	Andrei Balashov, USSR
1984	Long Beach, USA	Russell Coutts, New Zealand	John Bertrand, USA	Terry Neilson, Canada
1988	Pusan, Korea	Jose Luis Doreste, Spain	Peter Holmberg, US Virgin Islands	John Cutler, New Zealand
1992	Barcelona, Spain	José Maria v.d Ploeg, Spain	Brian Ledbetter, USA	Craig Monk, New Zealand
1996	Savannah, USA	Mateusz Kusnierewicz, Poland	Sebastien Godefroid, Belgium	Roy Heiner, Netherlands
2000	Sydney, Australia	Iain Percy, Great Britain	Luca Devoti, Italy	Fredrik Lööf, Sweden
2004	Athens, Greece	Ben Ainslie, Great Britain	Rafael Trujillo, Spain	Mateusz Kusznierewicz, Poland
2008	Qingdao, China	Ben Ainslie, Great Britain	Zach Railey, USA	Guillaume Florent, France
2012	Weymouth & Portland, UK	Ben Ainslie, Great Britain	Jonas Høgh-Christensen, Denmark	Jonathan Lobert, France

Alican Kaynar (TUR)



Age: 27
 World Ranking (highest): 20 (17)
 Previous Olympics: 2012 (18)
 Best results: 2013 Europeans (10)
 Recent results: 2016 Finn Gold Cup (21), Palma (18), 2016 Europeans (27), Miami (17), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (34)

Alican Kaynar has been the only internationally competitive Finn sailor in Turkey this cycle and

has largely been based at the Dinghy Academy since 2012, but more recently has been training alongside Giorgio Poggi. He qualified Turkey for the Olympics at the last possible chance, in Palma this year. He has always shown far more promise than he has delivered, winning races at major events, but rarely finishing inside the top 10 at the end. However he is a skilled and intelligent sailor who is more than capable of being in the medal race come 16 August.

Alejandro Foglia (URU)



Age: 32
 World Ranking (highest): 45 (36)
 Previous Olympics: Laser: 2004 (34), 2008 (17), 2012 (8)
 Best results: 2016 Europeans (12)
 Recent results: Palma (22), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (17), 2015 Europeans (13)

Alejandro Foglia is the first Uruguay Finn sailor to compete at the Olympics since 1968 and only the

second athlete in the history of Uruguay to qualify for four Olympic Games. At the 2008 Olympics he was the flagbearer for the Uruguay team. He qualified for the final open spot at the Olympics during the 2015 Finn Gold Cup in Takapuna. Since he joined the Finn class in 2013 he has been supported by the Finn class development programme, FIDeS, and moved to Valencia to train at the Dinghy Academy. In spite of a series of injuries setting back his campaign he remains one of the fittest Finn sailors in the fleet.

Caleb Paine (USA)



Age: 25
 World Ranking (highest): 9 (1)
 Previous Olympics: None
 Best results: 2012 Delta Lloyd Regatta (1), 2015 Finn Gold Cup (12)
 Recent results: Hyeres (8), Palma (13), 2016 Europeans (24), Miami (6), 2015 Test Event (15)

Caleb Paine is described as the most hard working sailor on the circuit. He says it's because he

need to train to make up for lack of talent. That hard work paid off earlier this year in Barcelona when he overcame double Olympian Zach Railey to earn his chance to represent the USA in Rio. That regatta of course including the now famous mark trap incident from Railey that so nearly cost Paine his Olympic dream. Paine was introduced to the Finn in 2008 and has been moving in one direction ever since. Following a brief period in 2012, when he won the World Cups in Medemblik and Miami, he became the World No. 1.



British U23 initiative

A new youth initiative from the British Finn class has been established to enable aspiring young sailors make the transition from local fleets to international competition by providing a range of training and funding opportunities.

The U23 squad consists of six sailors between the ages of 16 and 19 and is coached by former British Sailing Team member James Hadden. The inspiration for the project came from the British Finn Association (BFA) trying to provide a structured pathway for young sailors who outgrow classes such as the Laser (more than 90kg) to continue into the Finn class at a high level.

The BFA squad provides the U23 squad with training and various funding to compete at a limited number of events, with the key objective being to achieve high-level results at the Under 23 World Championship. For the successful sailors it also represents a possible route into the national team.

The 2016 squad has been formed with six sailors: Jack Arnell (18), Markus Bettum (19), Callum Dixon (16), Matt Stevens (19), Joe Stocker (18) and

Cameron Tweedle (17).

The sailors come from a diverse range of sailing backgrounds, range from 92 to 110 kg in weight, and are around 190-200 cm in height. All are too big to sail anything else at this level and are committed to the programme that the BFA has established. All of them have at least four more years at U23 level – the youngest has eight years – so there is plenty of scope to develop and create the champions of the future.

Recently the squad had a great week of training and sailing, at the Weymouth & Portland Sailing Academy, in a mix of conditions, and were joined by some of the National Team. It proved great preparation for July's Finn Silver Cup (the U23 World Championship) in Denmark at which all six will compete alongside two British Sailing Team sailors, Henry Wetherell and Hector Simpson, in a fleet of around 40 of the world's best young Finn sailors.

James Hadden said of the week, *"The training camp was all about preparing for the Under 23 Worlds. We spent the week working on improving speed, and continuing their fitness*

development. We were lucky to have the British Sailing Team Podium Potential squad members join in for the week as well so the lads got a chance to line up against some experienced fast sailors, like Pete McCoy. It was encouraging to see the lads were pushing the PP sailors hard all week in a variety of conditions. The team are already very close and work really well with each other."

Bettum says he learned a lot from the training camp and that he expects to benefit enormously from being included in the squad. *"I thought the training camp was extremely beneficial for me. I got to work on all my weak points and got to train in a fantastic and friendly environment, which definitely sped up the learning process. The coaching was very high quality and I got plenty of attention, which helped me to improve."*

"I think the programme as a whole is fantastic and it offers a great path for young sailors who are too heavy for other classes. I think I will keep on improving with the help of this programme and I'm sure other young British sailors will as well."

The squad also recently underwent a physical assessment from Ben Ainslie's Land Rover BAR strength and conditioning team. The squad were joined by their coach James Hadden and Coordinator Ray New at the impressive BAR headquarters in Portsmouth, UK.

The young sailors were each put through five separate tests for nearly two hours, each designed to test their Finn specific fitness. The sailors received a detailed assessment of their physical condition with pointers on areas to concentrate on. The fitness team also works closely with Giles Scott, so know exactly the strengths and techniques required by top Finn sailors and passed on invaluable training tips to the U23 squad.

"The visit to BAR was fantastic both in terms of learning and improving physically but also as an inspiration; it is a great privilege to be invited to train at the gym for the day and also to meet some



Photos by James Hadden and Ray New

of the team," commented Tweedle.

Arnell said, "It was such a nice day to go down to team BAR, and it was great to see the guys again. I thought the training was tough but really enjoyed the effort. I learned that it is such an explosive sport and I have taken lots from the fitness test – overall I really enjoyed myself."

Hadden added, "The fitness testing at BAR certainly helped as a team building exercise as well."

BFA Chairman John Heyes said youth development is a key aim of the Finn class. "It was my stated ambition when elected that we should develop our young Finn sailors. Whilst some youngsters are lucky enough to be fast-tracked into the RYA development squads directly from their youth classes, others are not so fortunate and find it hard to gain the necessary international competition to break through to the next level. We discussed our plans with the RYA Finn coaches who were very



supportive and promised to keep an eye on any rising stars for inclusion in the National Team."

"So I am really pleased that we have top coaching support from James Hadden, while GAC Pindar have generously supported the team with technical clothing from Zhik, who also kindly provided additional sponsorship."

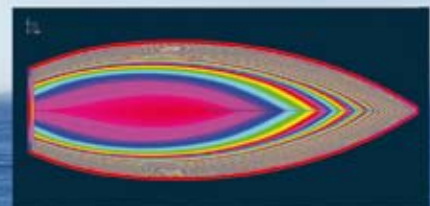
"Hopefully the scheme will grow and will encourage and support more young athletes sailing the Finn."

In addition, the BFA provides a grant of £500 each for the top two U23 sailors in the British Travellers Trophy Series, which is largely funded by selling Personal Sail Numbers to the British fleet. An application has also been made for a Sport England grant to obtain a one-time grant to fund the 2017 programme, which will begin as soon as the 2016 U23 World Championship is complete.

The programme is being coordinated by Ray New of the British Finn Association. To find out more please contact training@finnuk.org.uk.



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IFA AGM 2016

INTERNATIONAL FINN ASSOCIATION 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Gaeta, Italy

MINUTES

7th of May 2016

1 National Class Associations

15 countries representing a total of 21 votes and 5 voting members of the Executive Committee were present.

2 Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes from the 2015 IFA AGM (previously circulated on IFA website, secretaries) were approved.

3. Accounts

- The 2015 accounts are approved.
- The 2016/2017 budget is approved with the amendment of the event media fee for Aarhus 2018.

4. Executive Committee Reports (see finnclass.org for full texts)

- the President
- the Vice-President Sailing
- the Vice-President Development
- the Vice-President Masters
- the Treasurer
- the Chairman of the Technical Committee
- Media. Following the report, a meeting was convened later in the week to set a strategy for Marketing and media (see Note A)

5. Elections of Members to IFA Committees

- The members of the Executive Committee were re-elected. It was discussed to include a representative of the U23 sailors for a two years term.
- The members of the Technical Committee were re-appointed with a note to check participation.
- The members of the Marketing Committee were elected following the special meeting organised later in the week. Oliver Tweddell was elected as Vice Chairman.

6. IFA Championships (report)

- Update on 2017 venues and dates. 2017 FGC, Balatonfoldvar, Hungary 1 – 10 September. Finn Silver Cup Balatonfured, Hungary 18 - 27 August, Open Finn European (combined with RS:X) Marseille, France, 5 – 13 May.
- Report on future events strategy. Looking for windy venues.
- Championship manual update. The AGM gives the right to the Executive to amend the document accordingly.
- European Champion title. Future European championships will award the title of European champion to the first European, with medals

presented to the top 3 Europeans and Junior Europeans. The winner of the event will be awarded the trophy as overall winner.

e. FGC and Europeans last day (survey result and recommendation). It is recommended to pursue the test one more year before deciding. Further format testing leading to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games could incur further changes.

7. Development

- Update on activities
- Future development initiatives: pursue with clinics and helping sailors through recognised centres.

8. Technical Committee

- Technical Committee report approved
- Technical matters arising from the TC Chairman report
 - Adoption of the simplification of the boat certification process.
 - Agreement to pursue investigations towards hulls provided at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.
 - Agreement to investigate sail limitations: cloth thickness (longevity), number of sails per year and/or event. Consultation and decisions to be taken before November for a test in 2017.

Any other business.

NOTE A - Marketing Committee Meeting

Members areas of responsibilities:

Chairman: Robert Deaves, (liaison and general communication)
Vice-Chairman : Oli Tweddell, (social media, contents, connectivity, new technologies)
Members: Jonas Høgh-Christensen and Ian Bostock (Commercial and MKG opportunities), Charles Heimler and Miguel Mateo (sailors data research), Ken Dool, Pablo Guitian and Oisin McClelland (Format), Brendan McCarty (technical: boat and sail look, weight...)

Class Rules: Look at amendments to enhance the sailing of the boat, branding, data collection equipment such as heart rate monitors, sails and cloth weight... *with Rory Barnes and Brendan McCarty*

Format And Sport Presentation /

Content: more exciting formats suitable for Finns, different format for light winds, new technologies, drones, showcase assets of Finn sailors physiques, life stories and lifestyle... *with Ken Dool, Pablo Guitian and Oisin McClelland*

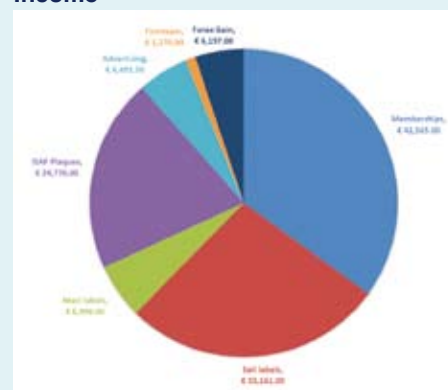
Internal Marketing / Social Media: data research on sailors and world population,

social media boost and targets, engaging sailors fan bases, ... *with Oli Tweddell & Robert Deaves/data research with Charles Heimler and Miguel Mateo*

External Partners: commercial opportunities, product development, branding, increasing profile of sailors and events... *With Jonas Høgh-Christensen and Ian Bostock*

Financial overview

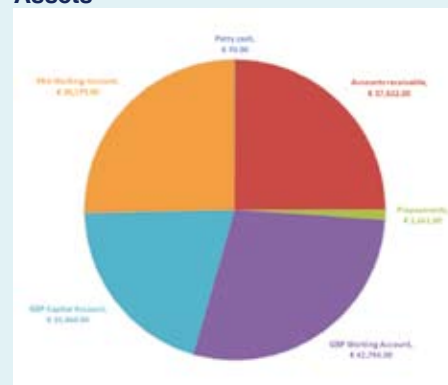
Income



Expenditure



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ITALY

Italian Master Championship

Marco Buglielli writes: The 2016 Italian Master Championship took place in Acquafresca di Brenzone, Lake Garda, a couple of weeks before the Finn World Masters in Torbole.

33 Finns were present, including sailors from Ukraine, Austria and Finland in preparation for the Torbole event. Seven races were sailed in light to medium conditions, with the Ora less regular and stronger than usual due to unstable weather.

Since the first race it was immediately clear that the fight for the leadership was between Walter Riosa and Nicola Menoni, the only ones who managed



to have consistent results in the variable conditions.

After two days and six races Nicola was first but Walter had a better discard and everything was to be decided on the last day. After heavy rain during the night (and snow on the mountains around Garda) in the morning the Northerly Peler was blowing strong and the Race committee decided to postpone ashore. When the wind decreased at around 20 knots the fleet was sent out and a couple of general recalls due to a very biased starting line caused another delay, with the Peler continuing to decrease. The race was shortened at the second upwind with Marco Buglielli who managed to finish with the last gusts of Peler and only five boats managed to arrive within the time limit.

Boat Walter and Nicola were DNF and Walter won the Championship due to his best discard and Nicola had to settle for second place. Marco Buglielli was third.

Walter was assigned the Sergio

Masserotti perpetual Trophy and the Grand Master title, while the Master title went to Gino Bucciarelli, the Grand Grand Master to Bruno Catalan and the Legend to Umberto Giugni.

Next year the Italian Masters will take place on Bracciano Lake in a date to be confirmed between June and July.

1	ITA 55	Walter Riosa	25
2	ITA 872	Nicola Menoni	30
3	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	46
4	ITA 67	Gino Bucciarelli	47
5	AUT 7	Michael Gubi	50
6	UKR 14	Volodymyr Stasyuk	60
7	ITA 140	Ennio Cozzolotto	63
8	UKR 2	Pavlo Krainiev	67
9	ITA 900	Massimo Paccosi	68
10	ITA 89	Florian Demetz	69

Coppa Italia 2016

At the end of June four events of 2016 Coppa Italia, Italian major Finn Trophy, were completed.

After Anzio and Castiglione della Pescaia, at the end of April the classical Dr. Schaer Trophy took place on Caldaro Lake, with 52 Finns coming also from Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Finland.

The first day there was rain and no wind but on Sunday three races were sailed in a strong but variable northerly.

Roberto Strappati in his first year on a Finn showed how fast he improved with a string of impressive results (1-1-2). Second place went to Marko Kolic and third to the local Peter Stuffer, winner of the third race.

The fourth event of Coppa Italia was held in Viareggio (Tuscany) on June 18-19 with 35 Finns. Four races were sailed in a light to medium westerly with shifts and pressure changes, which made the races tactically very difficult.

Giacomo Giovanelli won the event on even points with the Italian team member Enrico Voltolini, currently sparring Giorgio Poggi in preparation for the Olympics in



Rio. Third place went to Marco Buglielli, followed by Roberto Strappati and Nicola Menoni. The Grand Grand Master prize went to Andrea Poli and the Legends to Franco Dazzi.

Coppa Italia is supported by a pool of sponsors which offer their products for the final prizegiving: KevLove Bags, Grappa Bertagnoli, Quantum Sail Design Group, 3FL Saildesign, HitechSailing.com, Gill-Tomasoni Fittings, Bertacca Sail Equipment, Essemarine, Residence Ca' del Lago, Azienda agricola Valpanera, Hotel Piccolo Malcesine.

Coppa Italia provisional standings

1	ITA 964	Roberto Strappati	414
2	ITA 202	Giacomo Giovanelli	411
3	ITA 40	Marko Kolic	376
4	ITA 191	Alessandro Cattaneo	370
5	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	360
6	ITA 4	Francesco Faggiani	324
7	ITA 234	Tommaso Ronconi	320
8	ITA 97	Lorenzo Podestì	316
9	ITA 77	Alberto Bellelli	306
10	ITA 872	Nicola Menoni	295



Finn races around the world



SWEDEN



GKSS OCR 2016

Stefan Fagerlund writes: The 2016 Swedish Finn season started off at the Olympic Class Regatta in Gothenburg in early May. Due to different reasons there were only six Finns in the regatta but nevertheless some good sailing was had by the participants. In the first two races Olympic Finn sailor Max Salminen showed his skills but due to other obligations Max didn't compete in the rest of the regatta. We all thank Max for joining the national fleet at this regatta despite his fully booked calendar. The overall winner of the regatta this year was Martin Pluto with Erik Åberg in second, both from Karlstad and Gösta Eriksson from Gothenburg in third. The regatta was as always a very nice event at the Royal Gothenburg Yacht Club.

1	SWE 60	Martin Pluto	13
2	SWE 69	Erik Åberg	13
3	SWE 20	Gösta Eriksson	23
4	SWE 3	Christian Finnsgård	24
5	SWE 91	Pär Friberg	29
6	SWE 33	Max Salminen	43

USS Regatta

Uppsala, 18-19 June

This year the USS Regatta was sailed in various conditions. On Saturday the first four races were sailed in a 4-9 m/s north-westerly and a pouring rain. The three races sailed on Sunday were a bit more joyful with bright sunshine and a fresh 4-8 m/s westerly wind.

This time 19 Finns competed on the lake of Mälaren, south of Uppsala, and it was very gratifying to see some international competition on the starting line: Tore Glen Berg/NOR 12, Mathias Tallberg/FIN 145, Harri Kokko/FIN 228, Bob Nowakowski/POL 26 and Jan Okulicz/POL 3.

The winner this year was Johannes Pettersson/SWE 11. Second place went to Daniel Miles/SWE 77 with last year's Swedish champion Fredrik Tegnhed in third.

Beside the overall regatta result the prizes for the Swedish Master Championship were awarded.

The victory went to Daniel Miles/SWE 77



L-R: Daniel Miles, Johannes Pettersson, Fredrik Tegnhed

with Fredrik Tegnhed/SWE 5 in second and Svante Collvin/SWE 2 in third.

Grand Master: Daniel Miles/SWE 77

Grand Grand Master: Mikael Brandt/SWE 721

Legend: Torsten Jarnstam/SWE 111

1	SWE 11	Johannes Pettersson	13
2	SWE 77	Daniel Miles	22
3	SWE 5	Fredrik Tegnhed	24
4	SWE 69	Erik Åberg	28
5	SWE 2	Svante Collvin	29
6	SWE 60	Martin Pluto	32
7	SWE 14	Stefan Nordström	33
8	SWE 721	Mikael Brandt	43
9	POL 26	Bob Nowakowski	47
10	FIN 228	Harri Kokko	50

Swedish Championship 2016

The next Swedish Finn regatta is the Swedish Championship in Varberg 12-14 August. We all hope for entries from international participants who want to take the opportunity to experience Varberg and sail a Finn regatta with nice winds and waves in the west of Sweden.



Johannes Pettersson



Have you considered leaving something to FIDeS?



The Finn International Development Support

programme (**FIDeS**) works tirelessly to promote and facilitate Finn sailing across the world, by helping sailors and National Finn Associations. Initiatives so far include:

- FINNTEAM – a multi-national sailing team to develop skills and train together
- Funding for sailors to qualify for the 2008 Olympics resulting in Cyprus, Venezuela and India competing in Qingdao
- Joint venture with the Dinghy Academy in Valencia to provide support to Argentina, Uruguay, Tunisia and South Africa, with Argentina and Uruguay qualifying for the 2016 Olympics
- Providing a route to discounted equipment for sailors from 'developing' nations
- Transport of moulds to Brazil and South Africa so local builders can build reasonably priced boats to help develop the class
- Assisted African countries to develop and compete for 2016 Olympic places
- Helped Iran participate in Asian qualifier for 2016 Olympics
- Media and promotion of the class

No matter how large or small, leaving a legacy to FIDeS will make a very real difference to the opportunities and support that the class can give to Finn sailors around the world. What better way to give back to the sport that has given you so much during your lifetime?



If you would like more information about leaving a legacy to the IFA then please email legacies@finnclub.org for more information.

SWITZERLAND



Jollenregatta Mammern, April 23-25

Beat Steffen writes: 18 Swiss, German and French Finns were on the line this year despite a very nasty weather forecast – a new record for the traditional season opening race in Mammern. Those who made the effort were rewarded with four races in light to medium winds and the usual cold and shifty conditions at the Untersee.

1	SUI 3	Carlo Lazzari	6
2	SUI 63	Thomas Gautschi	6
3	FRA 40	Joseph Rochet	8
4	SUI 65	Thomas Bangerter	12
5	GER 19	Andreas Bollogino	12
6	SUI 13	Peter Kilchenmann	14
7	SUI 95	Michael Good	15
8	SUI 42	Thomas Scheidegger	25
9	SUI 69	Jean Pierre Weber	25
10	GER 84	Michael Hüllenremer	28

Swiss baker Thomas Gautschi dominated the first day with a first and a second, yet it was Carlo Lazzari who won the regatta with two bullets on the second day. Joseph Rochet, in his new boat, placed third with a consistent performance. Michael Good, usually racing a Melges 24 and new



to the Finn, showed his class with two second places. Beer and a tasty dinner were sponsored by the sailing club Mammern.



Christoph Christen voted 'Athlete of the Year'

After winning his fifth Swiss Championship last summer in Biel, Christoph Christen was voted 'Athlete of the Year' by the local newspaper and received CHF 2,000 prize money. As one of the backbones of the Swiss Finn Fleet, always willing to help with advice and coaching, we congratulate Christoph for this well-deserved recognition.



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Photo: Robert Deaves

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