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Photo: Mark Lloyd

Martin Robitaille takes flying lessons at the Finn Gold Cup in Falmouth



President's Letter

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

Now that the ISAF Olympic qualification events are over and most national sailing federations have already named their Finn entry for the 2012 London Olympics, all eyes turn to the last phase of the four years leading up to the Games.

For those of you sailing at the Olympics the IFA Executive wish the very best, have a memorable Olympic experience both on and off the water and return to home with joy on your face.

The road to the Games is never easy and it was evidenced also in this Olympic cycle. However, the 2012 Finn Gold Cup in Falmouth proved to be a worthy venue for the battle for the last remaining Olympic quota and in many cases the national trials completed in Falmouth.

At the same time our Masters Fleet sailed their World Championship in Wales where unusually warm weather and warm hospitality paved the way of yet another

successful event. Congratulations to not only the winners of the different age categories but to all participating masters Finn sailors.

2012 marks also the end of my second Olympic cycle as IFA president. Looking back I feel proud to having the opportunity to lead this traditional, fraternal but at the same time revolutionary and modern Olympic sailboat class. I shall thank my colleagues on the IFA Executive and also you sailors for the continuous support over the past years in realising general aims and specific projects of our class.

I seriously believe that our momentum is going to continue in the next four years and wish you fair winds.

Best regards

Dr. Balazs Hajdu
HUN-1
IFA President



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All advertisement enquiries should also be addressed to the Editor. A media pack is available on www.finnclass.org

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Cover photo: Zach Railey in Palma. Photo: Jesús Renado

Insets: Jonathan Lobert and Ben Ainslie in Kiel (Photos: Mark Lloyd), Masters in Pwllheli (Photo: Claire ADB), Björn Allansson celebrates in Medemblik (Photo: Thom Touw)

Next issue: October 2012

Back issues: Back issues are available through the Finnshop on the IFA website from GBP 2 each including postage.

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Finn news

Finn Class invests in ten stern cameras

After the successful trialling of stern cameras in 2007, the Finn Class invested in ten sets of racks and cameras to record this year's Finn Gold Cup medal race. Unfortunately the wind didn't play the game and apart from some footage of Finn sailors snacking and chatting, there wasn't a lot of useful material.



So we took two of them to the Finn World Masters and put them on two boats each day. At the end of the week we had ten sailors on film and 132 Gb of material to go through. A compilation of this footage was put together and can be seen on www.youtube.com/thefinnchannel.

The new racks are very similar to the 2007 model, weigh less than 500g all up and are remarkably stable. Those who used them at the Masters commented that once they were racing it was easy to forget the camera was there at all. Sometimes too easy. You know who you are! The biggest difference is that the racks now have GoPro cameras instead of pencil type cameras with a lead into a video recorder box in the cockpit. It is much lighter, easier to use and much easier to assemble.

Finn Euro Masters on Balaton



Preparations for the second edition of the Master Euro Cup are well underway. It is being held at Tihany, Lake Balaton from 5-9 September. All the information can be found at: <http://www.thesail.hu/english/marina/> or <http://www.thesail.hu/deutsche/yachthafen/>

Please direct questions to Istvan Rutai (HUN 51) at istvan.rutai@gmail.com



Attention all USA Finn sailors

The officers are in the process of trying to establish a 2013 Winter Series Circuit that would start with Miami OCR and continue throughout the winter months with stops in Fort Lauderdale, Mobile, New Orleans and Houston. The plan is to have a regatta every other weekend so plans could be made to attend one or all of the regattas.

The plan is also to be able to transport your boat with a private contractor if you wish. The contractor will keep moving the boats from the east coast heading west leaving them at the next venue. Any input to this Winter 2013 USA Finn Cup Series would be welcome. The class goal is to have a series of seven regattas over the winter with an overall winner. This would be similar to the COPPA Italia.

We would like to welcome all Finn sailors from around the world to join us if possible. If you are at all interested contact. Stephen Fuccillo USA Finn Class Sec, at sgfuccillo@gmail.com

Invitation to Open Russian 2012

The Organising Committee is pleased to invite you to the international regatta Open Russian 2012, which also includes the Open Russian Finn Association Championship 2012 and Open Russian Finn Masters Championship, National Russian Junior Championship and Championship of Russian Students Sport Union.

Venue: The event will be held on Klyazma and Pirogovo Lakes in Moscow on August 28 – September 02, 2012, where the 49er World Championship, the Finn Gold Cup in 2005 and Junior Finn World Championship (Silver Cup) 2007 and 2011.

Programme:

August, 28 – Registration, Charter boats distribution, Opening Ceremony
 August, 29-31 – Fleet Races
 September, 01 – Fleet Races, Russian Finn Association dinner
 September, 02 – Final race, Medal Race, Closing Ceremony

Entry fee: EUR 80 Euro for senior sailors, free of charge for Juniors.

Charter boats: Charter boats can be provided for participants. One fully equipped Finn boat (Devoti 2004, build for Gold Cup 2005) and one mast (Hit Mast, bend numbers are available) can be provided. Charter fee is 40 Euro per day with damage deposit of 300 Euro. Just bring sails and personal equipment. **Special offer for Juniors:** charter boat free of charge with a damage deposit only.

Accommodation: Sailors and accompanying persons can stay at Moscow Sailing School hotel close to the boatpark. The price is 30 Euro per night for one person (3 meals per day meal included in the price). The number of rooms at Moscow Sailing School hotel is limited, so you will need to reserve your room in advance.

Temperature and wind conditions: Please see online data from the automatic meteorostation in the race area.

Entry date: Please send the room reservations and Entry Forms to Regatta Office on or before August, 11 2012. Further details from: Tel: +7 499 641-0055, +7-925-864-3620; Email: finn@moscow-finnclass.ru, www.finnclass.ru

ISAF World Rankings

Fleet racing - Open - Finn - Wednesday 27 June 2012

Pos	Helm	Nation	Prev	Best	Points
1	Rafa Trujillo Villar	ESP	2	1	5033
2	Deniss Karpak	EST	1	1	5007
3	Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic	CRO	4	1	4991
4	Pieter-Jan Postma	NED	5	2	4976
5	Edward Wright	GBR	3	1	4827
6	Andrew Mills	GBR	8	6	4708
7	Brendan Casey	AUS	10	7	4693
8	Zach Railey	USA	6	1	4626
9	Daniel Birgmark	SWE	12	4	4567
10	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	DEN	9	1	4531
11	Björn Allansson	SWE	11	11	4521
12	Jonathan Lobert	FRA	7	6	4475
13	Vasilij Zbogor	SLO	15	4	4361
14	Eduard Skornyakov	RUS	13	7	4328
15	Dan Slater	NZL	14	2	4313
16	Caleb Paine	USA	17	16	4294
17	Tapio Nirrko	FIN	20	7	4241
18	Ben Ainslie	GBR	19	1	4240
19	Michael Maier	CZE	18	2	4228
20	Giles Scott	GBR	22	2	4160

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ISAF Sailing World Cup 2011-12



The fourth edition of the ISAF Sailing World Cup featured events in Melbourne, Miami, Palma, Hyeres, Medemblik, Weymouth and Kiel. Numbers were generally down on previous years, with some new names at the top. After two podium finishes, including a win in Medemblik, Caleb Paine of the USA won the series from Brendan Casey of Australia while Zach Railey, also of the USA, was third.

3. Trofeo SAR Princesa Sofia MAPFRE, Palma

Princesa Sofia - Final Results

1	GBR 3	Ben Ainslie	8	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	dnc	3	ocs	43
2	USA 4	Zach Railey	4	14	3	7	1	9	7	2	14	9	4	60
3	CAN 41	Chris Cook	17	9	10	4	3	19	14	9	3	1	6	76
4	GBR 85	Andrew Mills	6	1	8	25	18	11	2	12	7	10	2	77
5	NZL 1	Dan Slater	bfd	10	7	1	13	10	16	6	9	7	10	89
6	SWE 11	Daniel Birgmark	3	3	6	5	28	2	11	5	ocs	11	ocs	96
7	SLO 573	Vasilij Zbogor	23	4	12	3	7	31	3	4	8	15	ocs	101
8	DEN 2	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	1	5	11	6	4	22	23	3	10	20	ocs	104
9	POL 7	Rafal Szukiel	11	24	18	8	9	7	13	21	16	rdg	8	125
10	GER 151	Matthias Miller	26	12	14	18	5	14	5	7	17	32	ocs	140
11	POL 17	Piotr Kula	125	35	CAN 902	Brendan Wilton	289							
12	USA 11	Caleb Paine	132	36	ESP 500	Alejandro Aranzueque	299							
13	ITA 123	Filippo Baldassari	133	37	GBR 41	Peter McCoy	323							
14	FIN 218	Tapio Nirkko	146	38	CZE 11	Patrik Deutscher	324							
15	NED 842	Pieter-Jan Postma	147	39	NOR 1	Anders Pedersen	330							
16	CZE 85	Tomas Vika	161	40	POL 8	Lukasz Lesinski	330							
17	ESP 669	Pablo Guitian Sarria	168	41	ESP 161	Miguel Fernández Vasco	342							
18	CAN 5	Greg Douglas	170	42	UKR 9	Anton Sadchykov	343							
19	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	173	43	ESP 981	Jano Toro	347							
20	CZE 1	Michael Maier	173	44	GBR 18	James Hadden	348							
21	ESP 100	Rafael Trujillo	175	45	HUN 8	Márton Beliczay	349							
22	RUS 9	Eduard Skorniyakov	176	46	IND 11	Nachatar Johal	352							
23	FRA 112	Jonathan Lobert	184	47	FRA 61	Mikael Minos	367							
24	UKR 1	Olexiy Borysov	197	48	IRL 4	Ross Hamilton	368							
25	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	202	49	GBR 7	George Cooper	372							
26	GBR 88	Mark Andrews	204	50	FRA 99	Marc Allain des Beauvais	402							
27	RUS 1	Aleksey Selivanov	204	51	ESP 313	Antonio Parra	408							
28	POL 1	Milosz Wojewski	222	52	RUS 34	Alexandr Kasatov	429							
29	SLO 5	Gasper Vincec	227	53	DEN 210	Henrik Elmer Nielsen	431							
30	NED 83	Timo Hagoort	242	54	BRA 111	Arthur Lopes	443							
31	NZL 8	Matt Coutts	249	55	RUS 69	Denis Kharitonov	445							
32	AUT 3	Florian Raudaschl	259	56	SVK 15	Slavomir Sopuch	450							
33	CAN 110	Martin Robitaille	261	57	RUS 142	Yury Polovinkin	460							
34	HUN 6	Gaszton Pal	286											

Ben Ainslie retained his Trofeo SAR Princesa Sofia MAPFRE title in dominant fashion. Despite an OCS in the medal race he had already done plenty enough to win.

The end of the week was pure drama. On Friday, just needing to complete one race to ensure overall victory, Ainslie took some damage after a bizarre start line collision. He came ashore and swapped his rig onto a spare hull, just made the second race of the day and a third place finish was enough to go into the medal race with a 35 point lead.

The regatta ended with a blast, solid winds, sunshine and great sailing. With huge seas and 20 knots winds, it was a great end to what had generally been a light wind regatta. Zach Railey initially led while Vasilij Zbogor took the lead downwind only to lose it to Andrew Mills on the second beat. Mills held onto the lead on the final epic downwind to the finish and as the finishing order stood, Railey had the silver and Mills the bronze.

However, at the start five boats had been OCS. Ainslie was out, so was Zbogor and so was fourth placed Jonas Høgh Christensen. This left Chris Cook, who crossed sixth, in third to take the bronze medal. The points gap that Mills thought he had produced vanished into Finn air.



Photos: Jesus Renado

4. Semaine Olympique Français, Hyeres

Brendan Casey picked up his first ever ISAF Sailing World Cup win in the best possible way, by dominating and winning the medal race in the rough and windy waters off Hyeres to snatch the title at the last moment. Former leader Rafa Trujillo could only finish seventh to drop to second overall, while a late charge from Vasilij Zbogor gave him the bronze.

It was a hard week in Hyeres and the venue threw its toughest conditions at the relatively

small fleet. Starting with strong winds, with day three abandoned when it got too extreme, day four was a complete contrast with light, shifty and tricky winds. The week ended with very strong winds again with only one race possible on Thursday, before Friday's epic medal race. Several classes were abandoned on shore.

Deniss Karpak opened the week with three race wins and a second place in strong winds, to build a commanding lead.

Semaine Olympique Français – Final Results

1	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	3	8	9	3	rdg	rdg	1	1	28.60
2	ESP 100	Rafael Trujillo	5	2	3	4	1	2	3	7	29
3	SLO 573	Vasilij Zbogor	6	4	6	7	6	1	5	3	34
4	EST 2	Deniss Karpak	1	1	2	1	10	12	2	10	37
5	NZL 1	Dan Slater	4	7	1	6	rdg	13	dnf	5	47.20
6	RUS 9	Eduard Skorniyakov	2	12	7	9	25	18	10	2	62
7	SLO 5	Gasper Vincec	22	3	4	ocs	2	9	4	9	62
8	CZE 1	Michael Maier	11	10	15	11	4	15	14	4	73
9	NZL 8	Matt Coutts	dnf	9	14	10	9	7	12	8	77
10	RUS 1	Alexey Selivanov	15	5	22	ocs	5	3	16	6	78
11	SWE 6	Bjorn Allansson	67	27	RUS 6	Arkadiy Kistanov	163				
12	POL 17	Piotr Kula	68.60	28	RUS 91	Viacheslav Sivenkov	164				
13	USA 11	Caleb Paine	75	29	UKR 9	Anton Sadchykov	167				
14	CZE 85	Tomas Vika	77	30	POL 13	Michal Jodlowski	170				
15	POL 7	Rafal Szukiel	79	31	POL 8	Lukasz Lesinski	173				
16	UKR 1	Oleksiy Borysov	80	32	TUR 35	Efe Kuyumcu	176				
17	AUT 3	Florian Raudaschl	82	33	FRA 89	Benjamin Montagut	180				
18	NOR 1	Anders Pedersen	83	34	RUS 111	Andrei Yanickiy	185				
19	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	86	35	TUR 7	Akif Muslubas	186				
20	NED 83	Timo Hagoort	94	36	FRA 75	Laurent Hay	188				
21	TUR 21	Alican Kaynar	104	37	FRA 99	Marc Allain D Beauvais	188				
22	POL 1	Milosz Wojewski	104	38	LTU 7	Taurus Rymonis	190				
23	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	143	39	SUI 63	Thomas Gautschi	191				
24	DEN 46	Kaspar Andresen	152	40	BUL 855	Dimitar Vangelov	212				
25	UKR 5	Andrii Gusenko	155	41	ITA 11	Paolo Cisbani	225				
26	GBR 7	George Cooper	155								

However this started to fall apart in the light wind races on Wednesday, when a first and a second let Trujillo into the lead. Trujillo held onto the lead on Thursday's single very windy race, which was won by Casey, while a second for Karpak kept in him the silver medal position.

Going into the medal race Trujillo had a scant two point lead over Karpak with Casey and Vasilij Zbogor still in with a chance at the gold. The conditions were verging on the extreme, with winds touching 30 knots. Casey started well, headed to the left and after passing Gasper Vincec on the first downwind was never really threatened. He extended for a comfortable win, with Eduard Skorniyakov crossing in second and Zbogor third.

Sitting no higher than third place all week, Casey stole the regatta by winning the last two races in the strongest winds of the week. His win also means he had met the Australian qualification criteria for the Olympics. He said, "I have been trying to be selected for the Olympic Games for many years and I have had many disappointments. I can't say how excited I am!"

Zbogor has also won his Olympic selection trials over Gasper Vincec, who capsized and finally finished ninth.

Trujillo had almost done enough to win, but Alexey Selivanov screamed across the finish line just metres ahead of the Olympic silver medalist to deny Trujillo the title by just 0.4 points.

The low numbers sailing here is evidence of the busy early season, with many sailors training elsewhere or in Weymouth.



Photos: Thom Touw and Jean Marie Liot

5. Delta Lloyd Regatta, Medemblik

Caleb Paine won the Delta Lloyd Regatta after putting together a great series including a win in the medal race. With a large number of sailors skipping the event because it fell between the Finn Gold Cup and Skandia Sail for Gold, the event was sailed over just three days.

Paine outsailed Björn Allansson and Selivanov to take his first ever major event win. The favourite, Pieter-Jan Postma, lost the lead on

Friday because of two disqualifications, and ended up ended fourth.

Paine, already busy with his 2016 Olympic campaign, said, "I had a great event. I won the first race and after that I had some troubles with the light weather conditions. The last two days were splendid. The format at Medemblik with three days of racing was perfect. It's a pity that not everybody was here, but I enjoyed my win. It was a good competition."



Delta Lloyd Regatta - Final Results

1	USA 11	Caleb Paine	1	(12)	9	2	5	1	2	1	6	2	29	11	RUS 6	Arkadiy Kistanov	79
2	SWE 6	Björn Allansson	9	(16)	5	4	3	3	3	2	2	8	39	12	USA	Gordon Lamphere	81
3	RUS 1	Aleksey Selivanov	5	(11)	1	5	4	4	1	4	8	10	42	13	GBR 18	James Hadden	82
4	NED 842	Pieter-Jan Postma	2	6	2	3	1	2	(ocs)	dnf	1	6	44	14	DEN	Kaspar Andreasen	96
5	NZL 8	Matt Coutts	3	7	3	1	6	-10	4	5	4	12	45	15	EST	Martti Kinkar	109
6	SLO 5	Gasper Vincec	4	8	dne	8	7	5	(11)	3	3	4	63	16	CAN	Rob Hemming	113
7	NED 841	Hein van Egmond	6	(14)	6	13	11	7	8	9	5	16	81	17	NED	Michel Miltenburg	114
8	RUS 111	Andrej Yanitskiy	10	1	7	6	(ocs)	11	13	12	13	14	87	18	GER	Fabian Lemmel	120
9	CAN 110	Martin Robitaille	13	17	13	(bfd)	2	6	9	6	7	18	91	19	NED	Peter Hubregtsen	122
10	RUS 5	Viktor Filippov	11	4	8	7	12	(16)	7	13	12	20	94	20	NED	Bas Weijman	148



Photos: Thom Touw


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6. Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta, Weymouth & Portland

The weather was the main topic of conversation at the 2012 Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta. Starting with very light winds and a race lost, the second day brought wet and windy conditions and three tough races. On Wednesday the wind picked up again, and was stronger still on Thursday when storms moved in, causing racing on Friday to be abandoned. In contrast the medal races were held in near perfect conditions, hopefully a precursor to what will come this summer.

All through this arduous week, one man dominated. Apart from a slip up in the very patchy opening race, which was won by a long way by Caleb Paine, Giles Scott won six of the next seven races and finished

second in the other to Ben Ainslie. Scott wrapped up his most dominant week ever with a medal race win to take the week by 30 points. Ainslie had been in silver position for most of the week and almost threw it away with a capsize rounding the gate in the medal race. Zach Railey also sailed an excellent week, but missed out on bronze by just three points after a poor finish in the medal race.

Pieter-Jan Postma had been lurking in the top ten all week and a fifth in the medal race moved him up to the top three for the first time. His bronze could easily have been silver, but for the efforts of Andrew Mills and Mark Andrews who crossed just ahead of him at the finish and saved the silver for Ainslie.

It was a tough wet week that showcased the many possibilities of the British weather and though Ainslie was below form, he still was the best of the rest, while Scott has clearly set the marker down for 2016.

Scott summed up his week, "I seem to have had good speed all week, which really helped me win all the races I did, as well as that I generally went the right way too. It was quite an interesting medal race and it's nice to be able to pull through in the end and win. I've had consistent firsts and seconds all week so I couldn't really hope for much more. Obviously being able to end the week winning the medal race is a nice feeling."

Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta - Final Results

1	GBR 41	Giles Scott	(21)	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	9
2	GBR 3	Ben Ainslie	5	5	2	3	3	1	(8)	20	39
3	NED 842	Pieter-Jan Postma	rdg	3	8	7	2	(14)	4	10	40.3
4	USA 4	Zach Railey	4	6	5	5	(8)	4	rdg	14	43.3
5	GBR 88	Mark Andrews	3	11	(26)	11	5	6	2	8	46
6	GBR 85	Andrew Mills	8	10	4	4	12	(15)	5	6	49
7	FRA 112	Jonathan Lobert	(32)	2	7	8	6	7	7	18	55
8	SWE 11	Daniel Birgmark	12	14	3	12	(15)	10	3	4	58
9	CRO 524	Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic	7	8	12	2	10	3	(20)	16	58
10	ESP 100	Rafael Trujillo	6	(16)	9	6	14	11	13	12	71



Photos: onEdition

11	CAN 5	Greg Douglas	68	23	GER 151	Matthias Miller	120	35	GBR 29	Peter McCoy	189
11	DEN 2	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	68	24	CZE 1	Michael Maier	122	36	SWE 89	Andreas Axelsson	200
13	GBR 11	Ed Wright	73	25	AUT 3	Florian Raudaschl	126	37	GBR 7	George Cooper	204
14	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	85	26	GRE 77	Ioannis Mitakis	128	38	NZL 9	Rob Coutts	209
15	EST 2	Deniss Karpak	94	27	RUS 9	Eduard Skornjakov	130	38	GBR 18	James Hadden	209
15	FIN 218	Tapio Nirkko	94	28	TUR 21	Alican Kaynar	137	40	USA 53	Ben Leibowitz	220
17	POL 17	Piotr Kula	95	29	NZL 8	Matt Coutts	153	41	USA 21	Gordon Lamphere	221
18	USA 11	Caleb Paine	101	30	CRO 11	Josip Olujic	158	42	USA 81	Joshua Revkin	248.7
18	NZL 24	Josh Junior	101	31	CAN 110	Martin Robitaille	173	43	GBR 595	Edward Thorburn	249
20	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	108	31	CRO 671	Tudor Bilic	173	44	TUR 7	Akif Muslubas	252
21	ITA 123	Filippo Baldassari	112	33	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	175				
22	RUS 1	Aleksey Selivanov	118	34	UKR 1	Oleksiy Borysov	178				

7. Kiel Week

Kiel Week got off to a perfect start in good wind conditions, a bit of sunshine and some heavy showers during the day. Deniss Karpak was the early leader and never really looked back notching up four race wins and never finishing below third place the whole week.

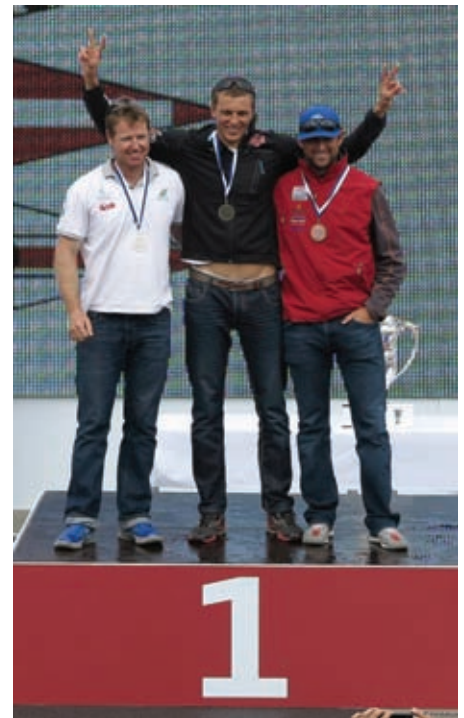
In the shortened series and never finishing below third in the 37 boat fleet. Brendan Casey kept it tight though and took three race wins to take the silver while the Delta Lloyd winner Caleb Paine just beat Bjorn Allansson to the bronze medal after

the medal race clincher. The fourth race was won by the host nation's Olympic hopeful Matthias Miller, though even this performance proved insufficient to convince the German Federation that he should go to Weymouth.

On the third day the organisers had to stop the racing at noon because of a small thunder cell with strong winds that was approaching the Kiel Fjord faster than predicted. After a break of four hours, the races continued in stormy gusts. The following day a touch of summer with

Kiel Woche 2012 – Final Results

1	EST 2	Deniss Karpak	1	(3)	1	1	2	2	2	2	11
2	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	4	1	2	(7)	3	1	1	6	18
3	USA 11	Caleb Paine	(9)	2	6	3	5	3	4	8	31
4	SWE 6	Björn Allansson	3	4	5	5	4	4	(7)	10	35
5	RUS 1	Alex Selivanov	2	(13)	4	9	9	6	5	4	39
6	GER 151	Matthias Miller	(15)	6	8	2	1	5	9	14	45
7	NOR 1	Anders Pedersen	8	9	(13)	4	6	7	3	12	49
8	UKR 5	Andriy Gusenko	5	8	9	10	7	(10)	8	16	63
9	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	10	5	3	8	25	8	(dnc)	20	79
10	USA 21	Lamphere Gordon	11	11	11	6	12	12	(12)	18	81
11	DEN 46	Kaspar Andresen	67	25	GER 183	Kai Falkenthal	133				
12	GER 193	Thomas Schmid	72	26	GER 27	Matthias Wolff	135				
13	EST 11	Lauri Väinsalu	74	27	USA 81	Joshua Revkin	137				
14	GBR 7	George Cooper	82	28	GER 800	Wolfgang Höfener	150				
15	RUS 5	Viktor Filippov	87	29	GER 713	Lars Haverland	166				
16	EST 12	Martti Kinkar	105	30	GER 64	Lennart Luttkus	171				
17	RUS 6	Arkadiy Kistanov	107	31	POL 22	Jeremi Zimny	173				
18	GER 165	Dirk Meid	111	32	NED 100	Arend van der Sluis	178				
19	RUS 111	Andrej Yanitskiy	117	33	GER 82	Alfons Huber jr.	180				
20	GER 81	Jan-Dietmar Dellas	124	34	RUS 1117	Bill Andrew	198				
21	RUS 91	Viacheslaw Sivenk	125.5	35	GER 184	Claus Nehrig	221				
22	GER 595	Simon Gorgels	128.5	36	GER 606	Johannes F. Noculak	223				
23	GER 501	Fabian Lemmel	130	37	SUI 24	Egon Schönberg	225				
24	GER 203	Hartmut Duisberg	131								



a thermal sea breeze was supposed to dominate the sailing conditions, but there was no wind on the outside courses at all. In all three races were lost from the series. The breeze returned for the medal race which Karpak won from Alexiy Selivanov and Casey. After the disappointment of losing Hyeres week, Karpak finally has his first Sailing World Cup win under his belt, which should give him a great confidence boost as the sailors make their final preparation for the summer's Olympic regatta.

Casey won his second medal of the year after winning Hyeres, while Paine is clearly improving regatta by regatta and has had a great season with some impressive results.



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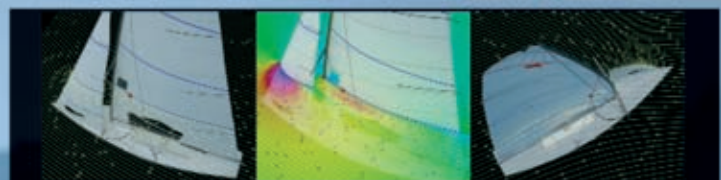
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J.P. Morgan Asset Management Finn Gold Cup, Falmouth, UK

The JP Morgan Asset Management Falmouth Finn Festival combined the UK National Championship and the Finn Gold Cup. The Gold Cup was sailed in the second week and attracted 94 entries from 30 nations. For many it was the last chance to qualify for the 2012 Olympic Games with six more places available, as well as being used as national trials for many countries.

On the water the event was dominated by Ben Ainslie to take his sixth Finn world title. Ed Wright also sailed an impressive series to take the silver, while Jonas Høgh-Christensen won the fight for the bronze. The event was officially opened amid the wonderful exhibition of British Olympic heritage in the stunningly modern and stylish National Maritime Museum Cornwall. The regatta was hosted by the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club, though the event was based out of the Falmouth Watersports Centre.

the line to place second in the race behind Ainslie, while Rafal Szukiel climbed from fifth at the first mark to end up third.

The second race was started promptly with Wright, along with Jorge Zarif and Timo Haggort, starting on port tack from the pin end while Jonathan Lobert started at the committee boat. At the top mark Wright just held the lead from Lobert with Oleksiy Borysov and Høgh-Christensen close behind. On the first downwind Wright and Lobert had a great battle, made more exciting with the Oscar flag up for free pumping. Wright rounded the gate ahead of Lobert and these two extended on the second beat to build a nice lead. On the final downwind Wright extended even further for a comfortable win with Ainslie moving into third and putting some pressure on Lobert in the closing stages. Zarif had a great race crossing in sixth.

the lead at the gate from Ainslie and Wright. On the second upwind, Ainslie and Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic favoured the right side and rounded the top mark in the lead. Mills moved from third into second on the final downwind with Ainslie extending for the win.



All photos © Mark Lloyd

Race four started quickly with the left side again popular. Mark Andrews led Ainslie round the top mark, but they went the wrong way on the downwind, while Pieter-Jan Postma found more pressure on the right to round the gate ahead of Lobert and Chris Cook. The second upwind sealed the fate of

J.P. Morgan Asset Management Finn Gold Cup - Final Results

1	GBR 3	Ben Ainslie	1	(3)	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	10
2	GBR 11	Edward Wright	2	1	5	7	5	4	2	(14)	4	30
3	DEN 2	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	14	9	4	6	2	8	4	(18)	17	64
4	CRO 524	Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic	(26)	16	3	12	3	20	13	3	2	72
5	FIN 218	Tapio NirKKo	6	(22)	9	8	16	2	5	17	9	72
6	POL 17	Piotr Kula	9	10	8	15	12	5	9	12	(18)	80
7	GBR 88	Mark Andrews	(33)	23	12	10	7	6	7	5	11	81
8	GBR 85	Andrew Mills	4	8	2	11	19	3	(30)	20	15	82
9	NED 842	Pieter-Jan Postma	22	14	11	4	(dsq)	14	6	6	8	85
10	USA 4	Zach Railey	15	15	10	(32)	8	13	18	11	3	93

Day 1

The fleet was initially held ashore but there was a further delay on the water as the wind clocked round to the west before a line was set. The first race finally got going under black flag at around 14.00 with one boat disqualified; Egor Terpigorev led at each and every mark but unfortunately for him he crossed the finish line in silence as the winner's gun went to Ainslie. Terpigorev led Dimitar Vanelov, Ainslie and Wright round the top mark and though Ainslie moved through to second on the first downwind he couldn't pass the Russian. Wright moved up to third across

Day 2

With dark clouds, moderate to strong winds and intermittent rain all day, race officer Peter Reggio was delighted that the fleet got away cleanly on both starts at the first attempt, perhaps an indication that they didn't want to hang around any longer than necessary in the inclement conditions.

In race three the left side was favoured on the first beat with Wright leading round the top mark from Andrew Mills and Anders Pedersen. Lobert then found more pressure on the right on the first downwind to take

many with a big right hand shift as the clouds cleared. Cook was just under the leading bunch and lifted up to the mark to lead down the final run. Lobert went high and Postma went low, but Ainslie found a way through. At the finish, they were separated by no more than 20 boat lengths, with Cook taking a well deserved win from Lobert and Ainslie.

Day 3
If any proof is needed that Ben Ainslie is at the top of his game, then day three was proof indeed. He dominated and won both races in the brutal environment of the cold



11	EST 2	Deniss Karpak	5	5	20	26	4	7	(ocs)	15	13	95
12	SWE 11	Daniel Birgmark	(24)	17	17	14	10	19	3	10	10	100
13	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	13	25	7	9	17	18	8	4	(dnc)	101
14	CAN 5	Greg Douglas	(34)	7	15	13	22	26	15	2	7	107
15	FRA 112	Jonathan Lobert	25	2	6	2	15	(27)	25	25	12	112
16	NZL 1	Dan Slater	12	24	13	27	9	(32)	10	7	14	116
17	RUS 9	Eduard Skornyakov	20	(42)	24	19	11	10	17	13	5	119
18	ESP 100	Rafael Trujillo	31	(390)	14	5	6	15	12	24	30	137
19	POL 7	Rafal Szukiel	3	20	22	16	27	22	(41)	28	22	160
20	GER 151	Matthias Miller	23	13	30	(54)	20	11	23	27	16	163
21	UKR 1	Oleksiy Borysov	30	4	26	18	18	29	(32)	21	19	165
22	NZL 8	Matt Coutts	(45)	35	36	22	32	25	11	9	6	176
23	AUT 3	Florian Raudaschl	29	11	21	(35)	33	28	16	16	28	182
24	CZE 1	Michael Maier	10	(37)	31	30	21	24	19	30	27	192
25	CAN 41	Christopher Cook	8	12	16	1	13	12	40	(dns)	dnc	197
26	SWE 6	Björn Allansson	(64)	26	19	42	28	31	21	8	26	201
27	USA 619	Caleb Paine	37	27	27	20	(dsq)	16	20	36	20	203
28	NED 83	Timo Hagoort	35	21	28	25	31	(40)	14	22	35	211
29	TUR 21	Alican Kaynar	32	30	25	(64)	40	9	26	32	29	223
30	CHN 1226	Lei Gong	21	31	33	38	26	17	28	(48)	33	227
31	CZE 85	Tomas Vika	17	19	39	(44)	25	35	34	38	21	228
32	NED 841	Hein Van Egmond	11	41	(42)	17	34	33	29	40	32	237
33	UKR 5	Andrii Gusenko	43	18	40	21	30	36	(47)	26	24	238
34	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif (J)	50	6	35	31	35	23	(ocs)	34	25	239
35	CRO 11	Josip Olujic	36	(55)	34	23	39	21	36	19	36	244
36	CAN 110	Martin Robitaille (J)	18	33	29	45	24	(dsq)	31	23	44	247
37	NOR 1	Anders Pedersen (J)	44	46	18	(55)	rdg	rdg	24	33	34	253.3
38	CRO 671	Tudor Bilic	(48)	47	38	36	14	37	27	35	rdg	269.3
39	RUS 1	Alexey Selivanov	7	34	52	48	(dsq)	30	22	53	39	285
40	CYP 19	Haris Papadopoulos	47	44	48	33	(50)	38	39	37	23	309
41	POL 8	Lukasz Lesinski	61	52	(70)	40	29	45	33	31	38	329
42	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	(bfd)	60	32	28	48	44	53	39	31	335
43	IND 11	Nachhatar Johal	38	38	(62)	52	43	rdg	48	45	43	336
44	HUN 6	Gaszton Pal	39	29	43	46	47	34	49	51	(dnc)	338
45	GBR 18	James Hadden (J)	(70)	36	47	41	49	60	37	42	37	349
46	GBR 29	Peter McCoy (J)	42	59	37	47	42	47	43	43	(dnf)	360
47	SWE 89	Andreas Axelsson	41	63	60	37	41	41	42	47	(dnc)	372
48	IRL 4	Ross Hamilton	(73)	40	45	58	38	46	50	56	46	379
49	HUN 8	Marton Beliczay	54	51	(64)	29	57	43	45	61	41	381
50	CAN 902	Brendan Wilton	46	32	55	39	(bfd)	48	38	29	dnf	382
51	DEN 46	Kaspar Andresen	(66)	66	41	62	51	51	35	46	42	394
52	GBR 23	Harry Briddon (J)	49	53	57	56	36	(dnc)	57	50	47	405
53	AUS 261	Oliver Tweddell	16	43	23	24	61	61	(dnc)	dnc	dnc	418
54	TUR 35	Efe Kuyumcu	53	78	50	59	37	42	56	44	(dsq)	419
55	CHN 43	Li Zhen	40	45	44	71	62	53	58	52	(dnc)	425
56	POL 13	Michal Jodlowski (J)	67	65	54	(84)	55	54	44	41	48	428
57	NED 58	Thomas Mohren	(84)	67	63	34	45	56	60	55	50	430
58	FRA 89	Benjamin Montagut	59	54	61	51	59	(62)	59	49	40	432
59	NZL 9	Rob Coutts	57	58	(72)	60	52	50	52	59	45	433
60	CAN 7	Adam Nicholson	60	48	58	50	54	57	76	57	(dnc)	460
61	SUI 84	Silvan Hofer	55	74	56	75	44	52	54	(dnf)	53	463
62	USA 21	Gordon Lamphere	69	56	67	68	53	58	51	(dnf)	54	476
63	FRA 99	Marc Allain D. Beauvais	75	69	69	(82)	58	55	63	54	51	494
64	GBR 2	Allen Burrell	51	50	49	80	63	49	64	(dnc)	dnc	501
65	CAN 9	Rob Hemming	58	62	53	67	64	(dnc)	46	67	dnc	512
66	BUL 77	Valentin Nedyalkov	56	75	74	(79)	72	71	66	64	55	533
67	LTU 7	Taurus Rymonis	85	77	71	43	46	59	62	(dns)	dnc	538
68	USA 53	Ben Leibowitz	72	72	80	(87)	67	70	67	60	52	540
69	FRA 61	Mikael Minos	65	68	83	77	65	66	55	65	(dnc)	544
70	BUL 855	Dimitar Vangelov (J)	19	64	65	73	66	(dnc)	68	dnc	dnc	545
71	AUS 8	Dirk Seret	76	61	(86)	85	75	69	70	62	49	547
72	CZE 11	Patrik Deutscher (J)	63	57	85	(dnf)	68	68	72	58	dnc	566
73	GBR 7	George Cooper	86	82	66	49	56	64	69	(dnc)	dnc	567
74	TUR 7	Akif Muslubas	27	28	51	83	(dnf)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	569
75	SUI 63	Thomas Gautschi	62	71	68	70	73	63	79	(dnc)	dnc	581
76	GBR 665	Julian Smith	79	85	73	61	60	65	65	(dnc)	dnc	583
77	GBR 635	Simon Percival	71	79	78	63	71	67	71	(dnc)	dnc	595
78	AUS 2	Rob McMillan	28	49	46	(dnf)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	598
79	DEN 210	Henrik Elmer Nielsen	77	92	79	69	74	(dnc)	61	63	dnc	610
80	GBR 567	Martin Hughes	52	70	59	57	(dnc)	dnc	dnf	dnc	dnc	618
81	GBR 711	Simon Pettit	78	90	77	72	69	(dnf)	73	66	dnc	620
82	GBR 20	Andy Denison	81	83	75	65	70	(dnc)	74	dns	dnc	638
83	FRA 57	Damien Boulan	68	76	(dnf)	53	dnf	dnc	75	dns	dnc	652
84	FRA 66	Philippe Lobert	74	81	82	66	(dnf)	dnc	78	dnc	dnc	666
85	GBR 68	John Mackie	80	73	76	78	(dnf)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	687
86	FRA 869	Regis Baumgarten	89	84	89	81	77	(dnc)	77	dnc	dnc	687
87	FRA 86	Christophe Jean	87	91	81	86	76	(dnf)	dnf	dnc	dnc	706
88	GBR 631	Richard Hart	93	86	87	74	(dnc)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	720
89	FRA 72	Philippe Le Frapper	92	88	84	76	(dnf)	dnc	dnf	dnc	dnc	720
90	GBR 644	Jack Arnell (J)	83	80	(dnf)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnf	dnc	dnc	733
91	GBR 611	Tony Lock	82	87	(dnc)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	739
92	FRA 880	Cedric Hollier	88	89	(dns)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnf	dnc	dnc	747
93	GBR 24	Rory Barnes	91	94	88	(dnf)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	748
94	GBR 617	Mark Harper	90	93	(dnf)	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	753



and windy Falmouth Bay. Tuesday was always going to be the big wind day in Falmouth and it didn't disappoint though it wasn't the epic day many were forecasting. That was still to come. However, with temperatures plummeting in the northerly winds, the 16-20 knot wind felt like a lot more.

Most of the fleet favoured the left side on the first beat of race five, with the leaders crossing tacks several times before they rounded. Rafael Trujillo rounded first from Høgh-Christensen and Wright. Ainslie rounded in fifth but had moved up to second behind Høgh-Christensen at the gate. The two traded tacks on the second beat, before Ainslie sailed further to the right and found a way through. Ainslie rounded the top mark clear ahead while Piotr Kula had sailed a great second beat to move up to third. The race ended with two fast and thrilling reaches down to the finish. Ainslie and Høgh-Christensen extended on the fleet by several hundred metres, while Kula capsized and lost ground. Kljakovic Gaspic took advantage of that and crossed in third.



The race committee was keen to get things moving fast as by now everyone was extremely cold. Høgh-Christensen was again in good form, rounding the top mark ahead of Andrews and Ainslie. Ainslie was impressively fast down the run sailing past his rivals to round the gate with a 50 metre advantage. From there he played the shifts on the left on the second upwind to lead down the reaches for a substantial win. Høgh-

Christensen had dropped back on the second upwind as it became a battle of perseverance in the tough conditions. Finally Tapio Nirrko emerged into second with Mills in third.

Day 4

There was no racing on day four after the wind spent most of the day spinning circles around the race committee. After a long wait the fleet was sent out in a building breeze, but then it started to drop and shift around before racing was abandoned for the day.

Day 5

Awesome is an overused word, but it doesn't really come close to adequately describe the performance of Ben Ainslie on day five. In the toughest, roughest conditions that much of the fleet have sailed in for many years he took three more race wins to move within a whisker of a sixth Finn World title. The morning forecast was somewhat daunting as the fleet set out for three races under the threat of 30 knots winds and big seas by the afternoon.

Postma obviously liked the conditions and had his best day yet, rounding the first mark in race seven in the lead from Greg Douglas and Andrews. Nirrko rounded in fifth and moved up on the downwind to round level with Postma, but at the opposite gate. Postma still led at the second upwind mark, while Ainslie had moved up to second. Then on the final run to the finish, there were lots of position changes. Ainslie stormed through to the lead to win the race from Wright and Daniel Birgmark.

The conditions worsened for the next race with big rolling waves coming down the course. Matt Coutts was the clear leader at the top mark from Douglas and Andrews. Wright had moved to third at the gate and then took the lead up the beat to lead down the first reach. Ainslie had recovered from a poor first beat to third place, but was handed his second victory of the day on a plate when Wright capsized on the gybe and Douglas went wide. Ainslie slipped through the gap and screamed off to the finish. Douglas crossed in second with Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic in third. Wright righted his boat and crossed in 14th.



The final race of the day was an epic of big winds, big waves and downhill sleigh rides that needed nerves of steel. Ainslie now had the measure of the day and rounded the first mark with a nice lead which he extended on every leg to win by 200 metres at the finish. Wright was again in second for much of the race but slipped on the final reaches to fourth. Kljakovic Gaspic crossed in second with Zach Railey sailing his best race of the regatta into third.

Day 6

It had been a week of extremes and the final day was no different. Though a medal race was attempted, it was soon abandoned and an hour later racing was completely abandoned for the day as the wind disappeared. This left Ben Ainslie as Finn World Champion for the sixth time. Ed Wright took the silver while Jonas Høgh-Christensen took the bronze.

Ainslie was presented with the Finn Gold Cup after previously winning the Finn crown in 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2008. "Winning this year is the most special [of all six titles] for me personally because it's where I grew up and learnt to sail and I have so much history here. And with the Olympics just around the corner it's a great time to go out and win a world championship."

Is it his last Finn Gold Cup? "That's a good question. There's a chance it could be. I have had 10 fantastic years in the Finn and I'm not sure how much longer I can keep going at this level, but I haven't made any decisions yet on any future Finn racing. I will see how things go this summer and what else happens and make a decision then. But I would miss the Finn if I gave it up. It's a fantastic boat. It's a great fleet, great sailors, and great camaraderie. And I think it's a real true test of sailing, ability and fitness."





Masters News

At the moment of writing this we have finished the Finn World Masters Championship 2012 in Pwllheli, North Wales, UK, a couple of weeks ago. The review of this event has been published on www.finnworldmaster.com. Everyone can read it there so I will not repeat too much here.

Here I want to write about some issues:

First: The discussion about a medal race. It was decided in the Annual Masters Meeting (AMM) 2011, in Punta Ala, that a medal race for the top ten (in the overall ranking at the end of the Thursday evening) was added on the Friday, right after the last fleet race(s) for the rest of the competitors. In the AMM 2012, in Pwllheli, it was decided that no medal race will be sailed when we race in one fleet. This change was not effective for 2012, but for future events. Due to a lack of stable winds on the Friday, in Pwllheli, the medal race and last fleet race 2012 were not sailed. So there was no medal race at all, in the end.

But it was decided that we would think about how to organise a medal race when we do sail in more than one group, including the four age groups and the ladies.

In my opinion there is no problem having only one medal race, based on the top ten overall, because Rule 20.8 of Addendum C of the RRS says that boats assigned to compete in a medal race will be ranked highest in the regatta except for a boat disqualified from the medal race under rule 5 or 69.

This means that a competitor, as an example, ranked 6th in the overall scoring and 1st in the GGM category, will always be 1st in the GGM category, whatever his scoring in the medal race will be.

There are Masters who say this is not honest for the rest of the GGM category and eventually other categories, as they can never catch up with the No. 1 in that category any more. And so is the case for any category of which a competitor is sailing in the medal race. But, in my opinion, this is how the rules work. When you wish to be ranked better than the competitors who scored better than you did in your category

and who thus sail in the medal race, you should have sailed faster in the opening series.

But I am open for a better opinion than mine, so when you feel the need to react on this and have a good solution for a medal race, regarding all categories, please send me your proposal by mail through fonsvangent@finnworldmaster.com. Then I will discuss this within the Masters Committee.

Please send your reaction at the latest on September 15th of this year. I am looking forward to your proposals.

But: keep in mind what the goal is when we try to create a final of our Masters Championship different from sailing in fleets including the final race. This goal is to have potential winners in the overall ranking in the same fleet in this final race and not in different fleets. So they will be able to compete against each other directly.

Second: We've been discussing venues on other continents for the Finn World Masters. In the past we had different ideas about this, like: Every five or 10 years on another continent and also: never on another continent. The question will always be: will the amount of Finn Masters on that continent compensate more or less the amount of Masters from Europe who will decide not to travel there? Australian Masters I spoke say that this will, for sure, not be the case in Australia. So will it be a good plan to sail the Masters in Australia?

For 2014 we had the candidacy of Los Angeles, but it was not voted for. The discussions were about cost for transportation and missing your boat for, at least, two months during the European sailing season. Then the proposal came to organise a Finn World Masters in Los Angeles in November instead of the normal May/June period. We were informed that the winds in LA are not stable in November, so it has to be mid September at the latest. But that is still in the European sailing season. Now an idea is to have a look at Miami in January/February, right after the OCR.

The first good occasion, in my opinion, will be 2016, as, for 2015 we probably

have Bracciano as a candidate. The club's president wrote to me that this will be confirmed next November. Bracciano is a very popular venue for many Finn Masters and because of that Miami might have less chance in the voting. The Miami idea is being worked out now by the Masters Committee and people in Miami. So to be continued.

Third: For 2014 we voted for Sopot in Poland. I visited Sopot with my wife in September 2011 and we were happily surprised at what we saw there. Sopot is a beautiful town, close to Gdansk, with hospitable people and it offers a lot of places to visit, good restaurants and shops. The race course will be not far from the shore and it might even be possible to lay one of the marks of the course close to the pier in the city. But don't worry! This shall not happen when it influences the quality of our races.

We told everyone, when we were back home, that our vision on Poland had to be adjusted in a very positive way. We found that our previous opinion was very outdated. Many people in Western Europe have a very wrong idea about the country. It is modernising itself on high speed. We do not have to be afraid of gangs stealing our boats, cars and other stuff we are bringing, like many people are thinking. Roads are being modernised, so I expect them to be in good shape in 2014. I can assure you that you will be positively surprised about Poland, like we were.

The Sopot city management is focusing on sailing and is very cooperative in hosting our Masters Championship in 2014. The presence of a representative of the Sopot Community during the presentation in Pwllheli is proving this. You can take a look on the presentation they gave us in Pwllheli, prior to the voting on www.finnworldmaster.com, under the tab "Masters 2014".

I wish all of you a good time in the next couple of months with good sailing in good winds and nice holidays.

Fons van Gent
NED 748
(Vice) President Masters Fleet

2012 Olympic Sailing Competition preview

The 24 Finn sailors who will take part in the London 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition have been named.

It is a deep field of talent with four Olympic medalists, six former World or European champions, and another seven championship medalists. In fact any of 14 sailors could arguably potentially win a medal of any colour. There is a healthy mix of youth and experience in the fleet with ages ranging from 18 to 48, while the average is 30.

Apart from GBR as host nation, the first 18 nations qualified for a place in Weymouth at the Perth 2011 ISAF Sailing World Championships. These were AUS, BRA, CAN, CRO, DEN, ESP, EST, FIN, FRA, GRE, ITA, NED, NZL, RUS, SLO, SWE, UKR and USA.

Six more places were up for grabs at the J.P. Morgan Asset Management Finn Gold Cup in Falmouth this year and five of these spaces finally went to: AUT, CHN, CZE, POL and TUR. Though Germany qualified, the German Federation decided not to make an entry into the Finn class, and despite the best efforts of the IFA to get the place offered to another Finn sailor it was lost. So the fleet will have 24 entries in 2012, rather than the 25 spots in the original quota.

Eleven sailors are sailing their first Olympics, six are sailing their second, two are sailing their third and fourth and two are sailing their fifth. Only one is sailing his fifth in the Finn and that's Masters World Champion Michael Maier, who has probably sailed more miles in a Finn than anyone else in history.

While Maier is the oldest by nine years, the youngest is 18 year old Jorge Zarif from Brazil. Three years ago he won the Junior

World Championship – the Jorg Bruder Silver Cup – and is hoping that the experience this year will stand him in good stead for the 2016 Olympics in his home town.

Without doubt the favourite once again has to be Ben Ainslie. Though he has shown everyone the occasional chink in his armour over the past year he is still the man everyone needs to beat, and beating him will not be easy. If he wins in Weymouth he will go down in history as the most successful sailor ever at the Olympic Games, taking that accolade from another Finn great, Paul Elvstrøm.

But with such a talented pool of sailors victory is not a given and he will have to work incredible hard for it. More than half the fleet are quite capable of denying Ainslie a dream result and they want to be there just as much as he does.

The Finn programme begins on Sunday 29 July and ends with the medal race on Sunday 5 August. Reserve days are scheduled for Wednesday 1, Saturday 4 and Monday 6 August.

For daily reports and the latest news subscribe to the Finn Class press releases using the link on the home page of www.finnclass.org.



Who will take gold in 2012?

Photo and above: François Richard

Brendan Casey

AUS

Age: 35
World Ranking (highest): 7 (7)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2010 Finn Gold Cup (10)
2012 Results: Europeans (34), Finn Gold Cup (13), Palma (19), Hyeres (1), Weymouth (14), Kiel (2)



Casey is a very experienced sailor who has tried and failed several times to qualify for the Olympics and has finally made it. He won the Laser Radial World Championships in 1995 and 1996 before switching to the Laser. After failing to qualify in 2000 and 2004 he switched to the Finn in 2006 and won the Australian Championship, but again missed out on a spot on the 2008 Olympic team. He

took a few years out and returned in 2010 to place 10th at the Finn Gold Cup in San Francisco. Results came but he still had to prove himself to the selectors. His chance came in Hyeres, winning the last two races, including the very windy medal race to win the regatta and his place in London. He just couldn't believe he had finally done it, 17 years after that first title.



Florian Raudaschl

AUT

Age: 34
World Ranking (highest): 25 (19)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2006 Finn Gold Cup (16), 2009 Finn Gold Cup (18)
2012 Results: Europeans (14), Finn Gold Cup (23), Palma (32), Hyeres (17), Weymouth (25)



After trying for many years, Raudaschl has finally made it to the Olympics to follow in the footsteps of his father's illustrious career. (Hubert Raudaschl has competed in more Olympics than any other athlete, so far). Working in the family sailmaking business he has probably had less time in the boat than most of his competitors in recent years, but this year put some hard work in early

in the year and the results started coming. Has been campaigning a Finn since 1999 and while he has performed well in the minor regattas, his two 10th places at Kiel Week in 2011 and 2010 are his only top 10 at Grade 1 regattas since 2008.



Jorge Zarif

BRA

Age: 18
World Ranking (highest): 39 (35)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2009 Junior World Champion
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (34), Hyeres (19), Weymouth (20)



The youngest sailor in the Finn fleet at just 18 Zarif is the son of the late Jorge Zarif Zeto who competed in the Finn in both the 1984 and 1988 Olympics, where he finished 8th and 19th. Sure to be a contender in his home Olympics in four years time, he is looking to gain experience and insight into the Olympics this year. However he is a clever and hungry young sailor who has put in a

few good results and has set his goal for 2012 as getting into the medal race, with the podium in his sights for 2016 in Rio. Zarif has been competing in the Finn internationally since 2009 and in Brazil since 2008 when he was just 15 years old.



Greg Douglas **CAN**

Age: 22
World Ranking (highest): 27 (27)
Previous Olympics: 2008 Laser - 43
Best Results: 2012 Miami (3),
2011 Medemblik (8)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup
(14), Palma (18), Weymouth (11)



Sailed the 2008 Olympics in the Laser for Barbados and finished last. Then switched allegiance to Canada where he was trained by 2008 Olympian Chris Cook and started to bring in some encouraging results. Cook, who placed fifth in China, then returned to the Finn in 2011 and went up against his trainee in the Canadian Olympic trials. Douglas thought he had lost the trials in Falmouth

after Cook surged ahead, but then in a twist of fate, Cook got sick, retired from the 2012 ticket. Proved he can handle big conditions in Falmouth and improving all the time so could be another surprise package. Big, strong and very focused.



Lei Gong **CHN**

Age: 29
World Ranking (highest): 59 (59)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (35), Olympic Test Event (27), 2011 Medemblik (27)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (30)



Only sailed a handful of regattas in this cycle after failing to qualify as China's representative in 2008. Finished one off the bottom at the 2011 Olympic Test Event but has clearly improved since then with a 30th at this year's Finn Gold Cup in Falmouth where he qualified China for the Olympics. While China does have a core of Finn sailors, they rarely appear at International events. Gong is no exception

having only sailed eight ranking events since 2004 and goes into the Olympics as the lowest ranked sailor. His first international event was the Europeans in 2004 where he picked up the bronze medal in the Junior European championship, behind Oleksiy Borysov from Ukraine and Tapio Nirkko from Finland, both also competing in Weymouth.



Ivan Kljaković Gašpić **CRO**

Age: 28
World Ranking (highest): 3 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (8)
Best Results: European Champion 2009, 2010;
2009 Finn Gold Cup (3)
2012 Results: Europeans (3), Finn Gold Cup (4), Weymouth (9)



A well rounded sailor with a good chance at a medal, Kljakovic Gaspic is one of the most consistent sailors on the circuit, and is regularly at the front of international fleets. In China he finished in 8th place despite showing promise by nearly winning the 2007 test event. Since then he has matured as a sailor and put numerous regatta wins under his belt including the European Championship

in 2009 and 2010. Over the last year he has strengthened his armoury by improving his strong wind speed, as shown in his fourth place at the 2012 Finn Gold Cup in Falmouth. Earlier in the year he picked up the bronze at the light wind Europeans, though like most of the fleet this year he has only done a few regattas in what has been a very busy start of the season.



Michael Maier **CZE**

Age: 48
World Ranking (highest): 19 (2)
Previous Olympics: 1996 (14), 2000 (19), 2004 (15), 2008 (25)
Best Results: 2000 Finn Gold Cup (5), 2009 Finn Gold Cup (15)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (24), Hyeres (8), Weymouth (24)



The grand master of the Finn fleet, having just won his fourth Finn World Masters title. Maier will be the oldest sailor in the Finn fleet at 48 and also the most experienced. This will be his fifth Olympics, all of them in the Finn. Maier has been campaigning Finns since the early 1980s and before many of the current fleet were even born. His debut event was the 1982 European Championship

at the age of just 16. Thirty-two years later he is still going and just can't seem to let it go. He is still very competitive upwind but struggles downwind in the free pumping conditions.



Jonas Høgh-Christensen **DEN**

Age: 31
World Ranking (highest): 10 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2004 (9), 2008 (6)
Best Results: World Champion 2006, 2009
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (3), Palma (8), Weymouth (12)



After winning the 2006 Finn Gold Cup and picking up the bronze at the 2008 Finn Gold Cup he went into the 2008 Olympics as one of the medal favourites. However things never really went his way. He did stage a late recovery to finish sixth, but that was a long way from where he wanted to be. He almost gave up, took a year off and came back, unprepared, but fresh, to win the 2009

Finn Gold Cup on home waters. An on-off campaign ended in November 2011 when he started full time again and the results gradually came. He is now right back at the top and will be a serious contender for a medal again. This will be his third Olympics in the Finn.



Rafael Trujillo **ESP**

Age: 36
World Ranking (highest): 1 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2000 Star (8), 2004 (2), 2008 (9)
Best Result: World Champion 2007
2012 Results: Europeans (10), Finn Gold Cup (18), Palma (21), Hyeres (2), Weymouth (10)



One of the most experienced sailors in the fleet, this will be his fourth Olympics and the third in the Finn. He picked up a silver medal in Athens in 2004, and then just made the medal race in China in 2008. He won the 2007 Finn Gold Cup after twice finishing losing the title on the final day and claimed another runner up place in 2010. Since then he has struggled with form, though finished

fifth at the 2011 Finn Gold Cup. This year he placed 10th at the Europeans and 18th at the Finn Gold Cup. Big, strong sailor who prefers breezy conditions. He is certainly good enough to win another medal. Goes into the Olympics as the new world number one ranked sailor.



Deniss Karpak **EST**

Age: 26
World Ranking (highest): 2 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2008 Laser (24)
Best Results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (8)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (11), Europeans (6), Hyeres (4), Weymouth (15)



After sailing the 2008 Olympics in the Laser he moved straight into the Finn and has made steady progress ever since. He qualified for the 2012 Olympics after a great performance in Perth, and most recently won Kiel Week. A consistent year attending most of the major events also meant he briefly rose to the number one spot in the world rankings in June. A tall, athletic figure he struggled this year in the

really windy conditions, losing Hyeres and finishing out of the medals after the medal race was sailed in 30 knots. Generally he is improving all the time and would definitely be considered as top 10 material and a possible for a surprise medal. Karpak won the Sailor of the Year in Estonia from 2005-11 and the Best Young Athlete of the Year in Estonia in 2007.



Tapio Nirkko

FIN

Age: 27

World Ranking (highest): 17 (7)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (18)
Best Results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (12), 2009 Europeans (2)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (5), Palma (14), Weymouth (16)



The only internationally competitive Finnish Finn sailor, this will be Nirkko's second Olympics after a disappointing regatta in China, where he placed 18th. Since then he has had a few moments of brilliance, picking up the silver medal at the 2009 Europeans and winning races here and there, generally in windy conditions. A tall and strong sailor, he is finally starting to add some consistency,

and some promise, to his regattas, something that has been lacking in recent years.



He sailed his best Finn Gold Cup ever this year to place fifth, so if he keeps it together he should be well inside the top 10 come medal race day.

Jonathan Lobert

FRA

Age: 26

World Ranking (highest): 12 (6)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: Olympic Test Event (2), 2011 Finn Gold Cup (6)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (15), Palma (23), Weymouth (7)



A silver medal at the Olympic Test Event in 2011 was the culmination of steady progress over the previous few years. Lobert won his selection for the Olympics after the 2011 Finn Gold Cup against training partner Thomas Le Breton. He has a very athletic style in the boat, especially downwind and should do well at the Olympics. Hasn't quite repeated his test event form since last August

but is always pushing the leaders. He first moved into the Finn in early 2007 after outgrowing the Laser. Should almost certainly be a favourite for a medal at the Olympics based on past performance, and he seems to produce his best in Weymouth.



Ben Ainslie

GBR

Age: 35

World Ranking (highest): 18 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (1), 2004 (1), Laser: 2000 (1), 1996 (2)
Best Results: World Champion 2002-5, 2008, 2012
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (1), Palma (1), Weymouth (2)



After winning gold in 2008 there was much speculation whether Ainslie would return, but the demise of Team Origin made the decision easy and he returned to full time Finn sailing in 2010. After being unbeaten since 2004, his greatest threat came from Giles Scott and in the UK trials, the 2011 Skandia Sail for Gold was the decisive regatta for them both. Ainslie won and went on to dominate the Olympic Test

Event to win selection. The controversial 2011 Finn Gold Cup was followed by a back operation, but he bounced back to dominate Palma and the 2012 Finn Gold Cup. Ainslie is going for a record fourth Gold Medal, which together with a silver from 1996, would make him the most successful Olympic sailor of all time. He is the absolute favourite to win gold.



Ioannis Mitakis

GRE

Age: 23

World Ranking (highest): 13 (11)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (20), 2010 Europeans (12)
2012 Results: Europeans (1), Athens (1), Weymouth (26)



Mitakis won the 2012 European Championship out of nowhere in very light and shifty winds. He first appeared in a Finn in 2009 and took the Junior European title in Bulgaria with ease. The following year he won it again in Croatia, this time also finishing 12th overall in the senior fleet. Then in 2010 he finished as runner up in the Silver Cup in San Francisco. A clearly talented sailor,

many thought he would be a serious challenger in 2016, but he didn't want to wait that long. Probably still one of the lightest sailors in the fleet and struggles when it is windy, but produces his best when it is light. His biggest enemy may be lack of regatta practice this year.



Filippo Baldassari

ITA

Age: 24

World Ranking (highest): 40 (27)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (24), 2011 Hyeres (10)
2012 Results: Europeans (4), Palma (13), Weymouth (21)



The first sailor to qualify for the Olympics, Baldassari won the Italian national trials back in April 2011. He has made steady progress since and has gradually moved up the ranks, including an impressive fourth overall at the light wind 2011 Europeans in Italy. One of a few sailors who skipped the Finn Gold Cup this year to take a break from the hectic early season. His 10th place last year

in Hyeres was Baldassari's only top 10 placing at a Sailing World Cup or Grade 1 event since he switched to the Finn from the Laser in 2009.



Pieter-Jan Postma

NED

Age: 30

World Ranking (highest): 4 (2)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (14)
Best Results: 2007 Finn Gold Cup (2), 2011 Finn Gold Cup (2)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (9), Europeans (7), Palma (15), Medemblik (3), Weymouth (3)



Postma picked up the silver medal at the Finn Gold Cup and the Pre-Olympics in 2007 and then had a disastrous Olympics in 2008, failing to even make the medal race. After a few years taking it easy and studying he is now right back in contention with a bronze at the 2011 Olympic Test Event and a silver at the 2011 Finn Gold Cup. He placed seventh at the Europeans after being one of the

favourites, and the spectre of national qualification perhaps played its part in a scrappy 2012 Finn Gold Cup where he salvaged a ninth. However he pulled a third out of the bag at the 2012 Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta. If he is on form, then he can sail fast and clever and will be a clear medal contender at the Games.



Dan Slater

NZL

Age: 36

World Ranking (highest): 15 (2)
Previous Olympics: 2000 49er (8), 2008 (12)
Best Results: Finn Gold Cup: 2008 (6), 2008 (2), 2009 (7)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (16), Palma (5), Hyeres (5)



Third Olympics for Dan Slater after sailing a 49er in 2000 and finishing a very disappointing 12th in 2008 in the Finn, after finishing as runner up in the 2008 Finn Gold Cup. Selected late by New Zealand Yachting, he is perhaps a bit short on training but his experience of the arena and the fleet should easily give him top 10 potential and he could well be in with a shot at the medals if

things go his way. A very experienced sailor he also campaigned the Laser for the 1996 and 2004 Olympics but failed to get selected. Finally switched to the Finn in 2005 and immediately made his mark with a silver medal at the 2005 European Championships. Has won several Grade 1 regattas in recent years and surely has the ability and potential to medal.



Piotr Kula **POL**

Age: 25
World Ranking (highest): 28 (13)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (23), 2011 Medemblik (7)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (6), Palma (11), Hyeres (12), Weymouth (17)



Won a very close Polish trials against the 2008 Olympian Rafal Szukiel and placed a very creditable sixth overall at the 2012 Finn Gold Cup, which clearly showed he has talent to burn. He has struggled with a knee injury over the past year, which kept him out of the 2011 Finn Gold Cup in Perth but proved this year he has the tenacity and the determination to race at the highest level. The Poles failed to

qualify for the Olympics in Perth so it came down to Falmouth in addition to being the final selection trials. Kula was clearly on a mission all week and produced the best results of his career to date. He could well be the surprise package of the Games.



Eduard Skornyakov **RUS**

Age: 31
World Ranking (highest): 14 (7)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (17)
Best Results: 2010 Hyeres (10), 2011 Finn Gold Cup (33)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (17), Europeans (11), Palma (22), Hyeres (6), Weymouth (27)



First appeared on the Finn scene in 2007 when he was the surprise winner of the European Championships on Lake Balaton in Hungary, in similar conditions to his home waters on the lakes in Moscow. Since then he hasn't ever got close to repeating that performance but is starting to make headway into the top of the fleet. After a brief spell in the Laser and the 49er he moved into the Finn in

early 2007. His European title was only his third major regatta in the class. Since then he has only made the top 10 on a handful of occasions, but a sixth this year in Hyeres proves he is on the right track.



Vasilij Žbogar **SLO**

Age: 36
World Ranking (highest): 13 (4)
Previous Olympics: Laser 2000 (19), 2004 (3), 2008 (2)
Best Results: 2011 Europeans (6), 2011 Finn Gold Cup (13)
2012 Results: Europeans (2), Palma (7), Hyeres (3)



Won a very aggressive trials again the 2004 and 2008 Olympian Gasper Vincec. Zbogar is a seasoned Olympian having competed in three Games in the Laser already and picked up a bronze and a silver in that class. He took the silver medal at this year's Europeans and then dominated the close of the Slovenian trials before taking some time out. Going into the Olympics he won't have raced in

a competitive regatta since Hyeres. After his first medal he was awarded Slovenian Sportsman of the Year 2004. He switched to the Finn in 2010 and has made steady progress ever since. Should be in the top 10 and perhaps fighting for a medal come the end of the event.



Daniel Birgmark **SWE**

Age: 39
World Ranking (highest): 9 (4)
Previous Olympics: 2004 (14), 2008 (4)
Best Results: 2011 Europeans (3), 2009 Finn Gold Cup (5)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (12), Palma (6), Weymouth (8)



After missing out in the Laser class in 2004, Birgmark switched to the Finn which was a much better fit for his size and weight and immediately qualified for Athens. After a 14th there, he lost the bronze medal at the Olympics in 2008 on the tie break after the medal race, so will be very keen to put that right in 2012. Best result since 2008 is a bronze medal at the 2010 Europeans. Struggled for

form so far this year, though he normally sails well in medal races and almost won the medal race at this year's Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta. A very consistent, steady and calm sailor who is always there or thereabouts. Probably his last Olympics in the Finn so will be more determined than ever to make it count.



Alican Kaynar **TUR**

Age: 23
World Ranking (highest): 35 (35)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (52), 2011 Europeans (33)
2012 Results: Europeans (12), Finn Gold Cup (29), Hyeres (21), Weymouth (28)



Sailed the 2009 Europeans and the switched full time to the Finn in 2010 after many years in the Laser. Won the Turkish trials after the Finn Gold Cup in Falmouth after sailing well to beat the long time Finn sailor Akif Muslubus. Kaynar has steadily improved over the past two years but has yet to break through very often. One highlight was this year's European Championship in

Scarlino, Italy where he won a race and finished 12th overall. He is still relatively small compared to the rest of the fleet but is clearly quick in light winds.



Oleksiy Borysov **UKR**

Age: 29
World Ranking (highest): 24 (15)
Previous Olympics: None
Best Results: 2011 Finn Gold Cup (22), 2011 Europeans (20)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (21), Palma (24), Hyeres (16), Weymouth (34)



After just missing out on qualifying for the 2008 Olympics by just one place, this time around Borysov qualified at the first attempt in Perth to secure a place in Weymouth. Has been sailing the Finn internationally since 2004 and has only won one major ranking event, the 2011 Sail Melbourne, in that time. He also placed second in Kiel Week in 2010. One of only two dinghy sailors representing

Ukraine in Weymouth (the other is in the Laser), Borysov unfortunately was forced to miss the 2011 Skandia Sail for Gold and the 2011 Olympic Test Event due to lack of financial support. He can normally can pull out a few good races in each regatta, including race wins, but now needs to put it all together at one event.



Zach Railey **USA**

Age: 27
World Ranking (highest): 8 (1)
Previous Olympics: 2008 (2)
Best Results: 2009 Finn Gold Cup (2), 2011 Finn Gold Cup (9)
2012 Results: Finn Gold Cup (10), Miami (1), Palma (2), Weymouth (4)



Against all expectations Railey won the silver medal in China and has been trying to live up to his billing ever since. The closest he got was a silver at the 2009 Finn Gold Cup, losing the title on the medal race. He has picked up various medals at several Sailing World Cup Events, and posted a solid fourth place at the recent Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta. Though not the biggest sailor in

the fleet he has historically produced some of his best results at windy regattas, as well as at light wind venues such as Qingdao. Railey is a very thoughtful, analytical sailor and it is well within his abilities to pick up another medal this summer.





2012 Finn World Masters, Pwllheli, Wales

At the 2012 Finn World Masters in Pwllheli, North Wales, Michael Maier took his fourth Masters without too much trouble, but everyone behind him had a great week's sailing, held in some unusually tropical conditions. The sun shined bright and hot every day but one and for that everyone was happy. The wind was generally light apart from one day and too light on the final day to sail the much awaited medal race. It was first time the Finn World Masters has been sailed in UK waters for 12 years, and only the second time it has ever been held in the UK. In the end there were 132 entries and everyone sailed in one fleet, but with two adjacent start lines using three committee boats. To the surprise of many it did actually work quite well, though a mid line mistake was more costly than usual.

Day 1

The fleet was held ashore until nearly 16.00 as the early fog gave way to high temperatures, sunny skies and very light winds. The Olympic Torch Relay visited the club that day and almost on cue as soon as it had departed the wind started to fill in. The wind quickly built to 10-11 knots, but after a further postponement, a general recall and then a black flag start – from which 20 boats were sent home early – it had decreased to 8-10 knots and gradually faded into the early evening. By the time the boats finished it was down to 4-6 knots. The fleet came back to shore around 19.00. Maier was always in charge. Tacking off the line soon after the start he favoured the right hand corner and took an early lead that was never really challenged. Laurent Hay had a good battle with Allen Burrell for second, but on the final beat Burrell split tacks to try and find more pressure. Neil Robinson followed Hay to the right and nearly caught him, but when Burrell crossed back, he had lost third place to Robinson.

Day 2

Both starts got way under black flag again, with the first race of the day picking out ten early starters. Rob Coutts led the fleet round the top mark from Alexandr Kasatov and Peter Kilchenmenn, while Maier was in



Finn World Masters 2012 - Final Results

1	CZE 1	Michael Maier	M	1	1	1	-2	1	1	5
2	GBR 2	Allen Burrell	M	4	-21	4	11	2	2	23
3	FRA 75	Laurent Hay	M	2	4	5	6	-12	8	25
4	GER 707	Uli Breuer	M	11	-18	3	5	3	9	31
5	LTU 7	Taurus Rymonis	M	6	10	-31	1	6	14	37
6	NZL 9	Rob Coutts	GM	(bfd)	2	2	16	22	6	48
7	GER 711	Andre Budzien	GM	7	12	16	-40	5	12	52
8	GBR 5	John Greenwood	GM	12	(bfd)	6	23	15	5	61
9	GER 700	Martin Hofmann	GM	10	(bfd)	18	3	18	31	80
10	ITA 4	Francsco Faggiani	M	5	25	13	-30	9	30	82
11	GRE 71	Panagiotis Davourlis	GM	21	8	10	-39	24	23	86
12	FRA 150	Pascal Tetard	GGM	8	3	34	-51	21	22	88
13	DEN 80	Michael Staal	GM	27	24	11	-57	11	15	88
14	GBR 17	Paul Blowers	M	20	26	-29	29	7	11	93
15	GBR 708	Michael de Courcy	M	19	20	-63	19	16	19	93
16	GBR 40	Nick Daniels	M	29	-35	7	25	17	16	94
17	FRA 99	Marc Allain d.Beauvais	GM	22	36	14	22	(bfd)	3	97
18	GBR 567	Martin Hughes	GM	32	6	37	-42	4	20	99
19	AUT 11	Bernd Moser	GM	14	16	9	-33	33	33	105
20	GER 165	Dirk Meid	M	(bfd)	41	26	24	8	10	109
21	FIN 22	Ville Valtonen	M	35	-62	35	15	10	18	113
22	RUS 41	Felix Denikaev	GM	16	27	19	38	19	(dnf)	119
23	NED 27	Paul Kamphorst	M	(bfd)	19	28	18	29	34	128
24	NED 50	Jan Zetzema	GM	28	17	23	10	52	-64	130
25	NZL 15	Greg Wilcox	GM	40	14	36	12	32	-42	134
26	SWE 14	Stefan Nordstrom	M	34	-82	21	20	30	29	134
27	GBR 679	Neil Robinson	GM	3	29	15	75	(bfd)	13	135
28	GBR 77	Howard Sellars	L	25	(bfd)	25	36	28	28	142
30	DEN 210	Henrik Elmer	M	15	-90	38	60	20	17	150
29	GER 62	Uwe Barthel	GM	36	22	-83	13	40	39	150
31	RSA 51	Philip Baum	GM	62	(bfd)	30	4	34	26	156
32	DEN 6	Lars Hall	GM	30	-68	66	47	13	7	163
33	NED 8	Rodrick Casander	GGM	33	11	8	52	66	-71	170
34	CZE 318	Martin Plecity	GM	41	43	39	14	-71	38	175
35	NED 81	Gerko Visser	M	38	30	-53	28	44	43	183
36	RUS 69	Denis Kharitonov	M	24	60	90	-100	14	4	192
37	SWE 721	Mikael Brandt	GGM	44	15	55	9	79	-89	202
38	GER 8	Jurgen Eiermann	M	17	23	27	7	(bfd)	dnc	208
39	RUS 16	Oleg Khudiakov	GM	(dsq)	88	12	41	23	47	211
40	NED 11	Henk De Jager	GGM	42	28	24	-104	62	58	214
41	AUS 8	Dirk Seret	GGM	9	61	-82	68	26	53	217
42	GER 217	Carsten Niehusen	GM	37	50	20	-80	41	69	217
43	DEN 249	Svend Vogt Andersen	GM	-73	63	48	45	46.5	21	223.5
44	NED 2	Wouter Molenaar	GGM	23	(bfd)	64	43	42	54	226
46	GBR 65	David Potter	M	64	(bfd)	33	56	35	45	233
45	RUS 142	Yury Polovinkin	GGM	26	78	43	27	-83	59	233
47	GER 208	Uwe Kinast	GM	68	34	60	34	38	-70	234
48	GBR 1	Sander Kooij	GM	(bfd)	51	56	49	31	48	235
49	GER 282	Michael Woiwode	GM	48	45	61	-92	49	36	239
50	RUS 25	Anatoly Voshchennikov	M	-90	33	69	44	54	41	241
51	GBR 68	John Mackie	M	71	58	-73	50	36	27	242





eighth. The very light winds made it a painful race for some, but Coutts held onto the lead down the first run and even up the second beat. Maier wiggled his way through on the second downwind, to lead round the shortened final lap to win the race. Coutts crossed in second with Pascal Tetard in third.

The wind increased slightly for race three, allowing the sailors to stretch their legs a little. Maier hit the right corner again to lead round the top from Uli Breuer, but took a wrong shift on the downwind to let Breuer into the lead at the gate. Maier moved up a gear to quickly take the lead again for his third win, while Breuer sailed out of the pressure on the second downwind to let Coutts through for another second place.

Day 3

A very light morning breeze prompted an early postponement but by the time this had come down and the boats had reached the starting area it was at 10 knots and building. Most of the early leaders started near the centre committee boat and after clearing the fleet tacked over to the right. Maier led this group and when he tacked on the layline it looked like a fourth win was in the bag. However the wind clocked round 20 degrees to the right, dropped in strength and the left side of the fleet almost reached into the top mark. First round was Simon Hoult followed by Maier and Stefan Nordstrom. Most of those on the right were hung out to dry. The breeze faded further and with more changes on the second beat, the decision to go left or right proved critical. Tauras Rymonis tacked over to the left early and by the time the fleet merged at the top mark had taken the lead, a lead that he held on to on the final shortened lap in 2-4 knots of wind. Maier crossed in second while Martin Hofmann was third. Lots of place changes followed as the 131 Finns struggled to find speed in the very light, shifty and sloppy conditions.

Day 4

Day four finally brought some real Welsh weather, with stronger winds and persistent rain. Race five got away with a number of boats pulled out for being over early including the leader at the top mark, Marc Allain des Beauvais. He rounded ahead of Breuer and Maier. However, it wasn't long until Maier had taken the lead but with the shifting winds, there were lots of place changes



52	SUI 11	Hans Fatzer	GGM	51	-81	46	17	74	56	244
53	GER 701	Klaus Dieter Gotz	GM	(bfd)	9	52	54	58	78	251
54	FIN 116	Jan Christoph Maiwaldt	GM	13	(bfd)	59	63	46.5	79	260.5
55	GER 175	Michael Mockel	GM	54	56	50	59	45	-90	264
56	RUS 34	Alexandr Kasatov	GM	47	dne	22	-62	37	25	265
57	GBR 631	Richard Hart	L	39	57	-97	78	43	50	267
58	ITA 11	Paolo Cisbani	M	18	(dnc)	47	47	bfd	25	275
59	FIN 112	Seppo Ajanke	GGM	(bfd)	99	72	46	27	37	281
60	HUN 2	Peter Sipos	GM	49	77	44	31	81	-85	282
61	GBR 61	John Heyes	GM	59	-87	78	64	48	35	284
62	NED 88	Chiel Barends	GM	80	7	67	-99	57	76	287
63	POL 26	Bogoslav Nowakowski	GM	-78	67	51	70	51	49	288
64	NED 35	Bas Proper	GM	(bfd)	64	57	65	39	65	290
65	GBR 80	Ray New	GGM	46	-101	17	96	70	63	292
66	GBR 20	Andy Denison	GM	84	83	41	67	(bfd)	24	299
67	GER 122	Krasmann Holger	GM	60	47	-108	94	56	44	301
68	NED 47	Auke Woerdeman	GM	65	71	-100	35	65	67	303
69	SUI 13	Peter Kilchenmann	GM	61	5	92	48	-106	99	305
70	GBR 10	Robert Deaves	M	52	(bfd)	77	89	55	32	305
71	GER 205	Rolf Elsaesser	GGM	31	(bfd)	40	79	67	91	308
72	RUS 95	Valdimir Udartsev	M	72	66	62	-111	50	61	311
73	NED 900	Pieter Meijaard	M	(bfd)	37	32	77	94	72	312
74	GER 248	Eckehard Zulow	GM	56	54	-79	71	63	77	321
75	SWE 111	Torsten Jarnstam	GGM	43	55	94	74	59	dns	325
76	NED 10	Nanne Boot	GGM	63	42	42	84	100	-102	331
77	GBR 4	Russell Ward	GM	50	31	68	53	(bfd)	dnc	336
79	GBR 548	Kevan Gibb	GM	57	70	45	82	(bfd)	83	337
78	RSA 540	Alan Tucker	GGM	(bfd)	76	58	86	77	40	337
80	CZE 222	Petr Vinkl	M	98	44	-109	21	84	92	339
81	GER 92	Detlev Guminski	GM	45	52	93	61	89	-104	340
82	CAN 3	Ian Bostock	GM	53	91	-118	37	64	100	345
83	HUN 51	Istvan Rutai	M	86	40	89	-110	73	73	361
84	GER 142	Jonny Paech	GM	-85	65	70	73	78	75	361
85	NED 1	Jan Van der horst	GM	66	32	75	58	(dnc)	dnc	365
86	GBR 46	Patrick Moore	GGM	102	79	71	-112	72	52	376
87	NED 823	Nico van Wirdum	GM	92	13	96	-117	75	101	377
88	GBR 682	Ted Mount	M	69	80	54	93	-109	82	378
90	RUS 71	Leonid Klyayman	M	(bfd)	86	65	95	76	60	382
89	FRA 40	Rochet Joseph	GGM	(bfd)	49	76	76	93	88	382
91	DEN 77	Flemming Bender Jensen	GGM	89	103	-106	90	60	46	388
92	GBR 695	Mark Petty-Mayor	M	55	94	85	-116	61	94	389
93	NED 52	Henk Meijer	GGM	(bfd)	46	86	105	88	66	391
94	GBR 63	Graeme Macdonald	GGM	83	48	-116	72	86	103	392
95	GER 293	Georg Siebeck	GGM	79	69	-101	81	80	87	396
97	GER 158	Stefan Meid	M	70	38	99	-102	102	95	404
96	GBR 611	Tony Lock	L	67	(bfd)	74	32	97	dnc	404
98	GBR 19	Simon Hoult	M	58	92	(dnc)	8	dnc	dnc	426
99	FRA 800	Yves Zoccola	GGM	75	-96	95	88	87	86	431
100	GER 706	Sabine Breuer	M	94	39	-124	83	116	107	439
101	NED 902	Pieter Risseeuw	M	(bfd)	53	110	98	101	80	442
102	NED 100	Arend Van Der Sluis	GM	(bfd)	73	49	dnf	dnf	55	445
103	NED 748	Fons van Gent	GGM	(bfd)	59	115	55	85	dnc	448
104	GBR 99	John Torrance	GGM	74	98	98	126	53	(dnc)	449
105	NZL 213	Maurice Duncan	GGM	88	89	-103	97	96	81	451
107	NED 9	Jobs Isselmann	GGM	97	102	91	-122	95	74	459
106	NED 6	Robert Cocq	GGM	77	(bfd)	88	91	69	dnc	459
108	NED 13	Harold Lensing	GGM	99	93	81	103	-104	84	460
109	BEL 76	Paul Goossens	GM	91	(dsq)	117	108	92	68	476
110	RSA 5	Robin Greaves	GGM	95	75	112	-125	90	105	477
111	NED 26	Peter van Veen	GGM	(bfd)	100	102	69	113	97	481
112	NED 32	Peter Verhoef	GGM	81	72	120	115	103	(dnc)	491
113	GBR 42	Adrian Buswell	M	93	111	104	-113	91	93	492
114	USA 4	Charles Heimler	GM	82	(dsq)	119	26	dnc	dnc	495
115	SWE 9	Veine Jutmar	GGM	dne	95	127	(dnf)	82	57	495
116	RUS 21	Vladimir Butenko	GM	(bfd)	84	80	66	dnf	dnc	498
117	GBR 55	Mike Till	L	(bfd)	105	105	107	98	98	513
118	NED 848	Pax van de Griend	GGM	76	(dsq)	87	85	dnc	dnc	516
119	GBR 706	Philip Livingston	M	101	97	-123	121	107	96	522
120	NED 51	Maarten Oberman	GGM	104	85	122	101	114	(dnc)	526
121	GBR 78	Robert Temple	M	(dnc)	dnc	dnc	dnc	68	62	532
122	GER 161	Ralf Kratz	GM	100	106	107	120	99	(dnf)	532
123	GBR 658	James Wyburd	GGM	(bfd)	104	114	109	105	106	538
124	NED 38	Olaf van Heusden	GGM	(bfd)	74	113	114	112	dnc	547
125	NED 896	Adrian Hermus	GM	87	109	84	(dnf)	dnc	dnc	548
126	NED 93	Gelmus Peeters	L	96	107	111	124	111	(dnf)	549
127	SWE 96	Christer Ridderheim	GGM	103	110	121	87	(dnf)	dnc	555
128	GBR 587	Douglas Stuart	GGM	107	113	125	119	108	(dnc)	572
129	GER 98	Andre Schmidt	GM	106	108	126	123	110	(dnf)	573
130	POL 13	Jan Okulicz	GGM	108	112	128	118	115	(dnc)	581
131	GBR 93	Ian Duffill	GGM	105	(dnc)	dnc	106	dnc	dnc	613
132	CZE 7	Pavel Svoboda	GGM	(dnf)	114	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	650



possible. Burrell enjoyed the windier conditions and moved up to second at the finish while Breuer claimed third.

As the conditions deteriorated further, with the wind increasing to 11-14 knots and the top gust recorded at 18 knots, race six got under way at the first attempt. The leaders again emerged from the left and at the top mark Denis Kharitonov led round from Breuer and Burrell. Maier rounded in fifth and again moved into the lead fairly quickly while Burrell claimed another second place. Allain des Beauvais was clearly spurred on by his BFD in race five by crossing race six in third.

Day 5

The sailors spent the final day on shore watching the water and hoping for wind, but it didn't happen and the prizegiving and farewells were brought forward. Michael Maier won his fourth Finn World Masters title, and was a worthy winner, while Allen Burrell won the silver medal for the second year running. Hay picked up his second bronze medal after previously finishing third in 2009.

Maier said, "We've had great weather this week, amazing weather in fact. In the light winds we had some races that were a bit tricky but I think everyone is happy with the week. We had a nice championship and everyone is going home with a good feeling."

Burrell said, "I am really pleased to win the silver again, especially with the way the week started with the light winds when I wasn't expecting to come second. Everyone at the club have done a great job organising everything."

Hay said, "I am a little bit disappointed because I think I did two mistakes and lost five points and then finished just two points behind Allen. I expected to have a good medal race today because I like that kind of competition, with a short and aggressive race, but it was not to be. So maybe next year."

There were new prizes this years for the Ladies and the Legend categories. Sabine Breuer was the only lady this year but said she would only take home the trophy if she finished every race and was not last. At just 52kg she is half the size of many sailors here, but she accomplished her goal for the second year running and got the biggest cheer. Despite opening with a black flag disqualification Rob Coutts took the Grand Masters title against some very tough competition, while Pascal Tetard dominated the Grand Grand Masters. The Legend category was won for the second year running by Howard Sellars, with British sailors taking all the medals.

Clwb Hwyllo Pwllheli Sailing Club was the perfect host, going to great lengths to ensure that all the competitors had a great time on and off the water. It was a remarkable championship in many ways not least the uncharacteristic weather. Next year the championship returns to La Rochelle, France, which hosted the event in 1996. Already forecasts are for a 200-250 boat championship. If Maier wins there he will equal the record set by Larry Lemieux between 1995 and 2004 of five Finn World Masters titles.



Overall: 1 CZE 1 Michael Maier,
2 GBR 2 Allen Burrell, 3 FRA 75 Laurent Hay



Grand Masters: 1 NZL 9 Rob Coutts, 2 GER 711
André Budzien, 3 GBR 5 John Greenwood



Grand Grand Masters: 1 FRA 150 Pascal
Tetard, 2 NED 8 Rodrick Cassander,
3 SWE 721 Michael Brandt



Legend: 1 GBR 77 Howard Sellars, GBR 531
Richard Hart, 3 GBR 611 Tony Lock



Ladies: 1 GER 706 Sabine Breuer



Finn sailing from across the world

BELGIUM



Finn Open Meuse, 14-15 April

Alain Denis wrote: The second edition of the "Open Meuse" regatta on Jollenhaven Woalenwiert, close to Maastricht and Liège, was blessed with a very nice northerly and 11 enthusiastic Finn-sailors. The first race was won by Paul, followed by Joël. Arnaud Baudin grabbed first place in the second race, followed by Philippe who always took the favoured sides (luck or genius?) and he was "shadowed" by Michel Baudin. The wind fell and further racing was abandoned.

We then went to enjoy the famous "boulets" dinner in the yacht club of Liège. The atmosphere was fantastic and reminded us that the Finn class not only excels in competitive sailing but also in openness and friendships. On Sunday we sailed three long races in a Force 4. In the absence of Paul, it became a beautiful head-to-head duel between Joël and Arnaud. Joël finally claimed victory by 1 point. Our youngest Finn-sailor, Matthias grew during the race and showed his talent by battling in front of the races.

1	BEL 77	Joël Gladly	6
2	FRA 55	Arnaud Baudin	7
3	BEL 15	Alain Denis	11
4	FRA 50	Michel Baudin	16
5	FRA 40	Joseph Rochet	18
6	BEL 16	Mathias Vanwonterghem	28
7	LUX 6	Serge Harles	28
8	BEL 76	Paul Goossens	32
9	BEL 169	Philippe Devillers	33
10	LUX 1	Michel Lesure	34
11	NED 48	Boudewijn Kortbeek	38

Gaverregatta

Christophe Benoit wrote: Five of the ten sailors were local heroes, Dutchman Maarten Oberman, after intense efforts, included. Our Belgian Champion, Filip Verhaeghe was absent, so confidence was high that victory would go to a local. Everybody was fighting but it was not Yves Verhofstede or Michiel Missiaen who took the lead, but Paul Goossens. Paul kept the lead to win. During the second race, Philippe came in front thanks to his strategy of sailing to the corners. In the third race, Paul and Philippe had the best start but places changed frequently. Paul won while Michiel bypassed Philippe to take second. The wind increased. In the fourth race,



everybody went to port, except Wannes who went to starboard. At the upwind buoy Wannes had a very nice lead and he could not be caught. The wind started to shift and dropped and it also started raining cats and dogs. The start of the fifth race was very tricky and because of the massive wind shifts the race became more like a lottery. Paul won this race as well.

1	BEL 76	Paul Goossens	6
2	BEL 14	Michiel Missiaen	10
3	BEL 5	Yves Verhofstede	14
4	BEL 169	Philippe Devillers	15
5	BEL 15	Alain Denis	15
6	BEL 6	Wannes Heymans	16
7	BEL 9	Christophe Benoit	20
8	NED 771	Ronald De Haan	29
9	NED 51	Maarten Oberman	34
10	BEL 61	Luc Vermeersch	40

DENMARK



Richard Beg-Larsen writes: The Finn fleet in Denmark has had a slow start this Summer, with low participation in two regattas and a third which was cancelled due to low sign up. The Polyester Cup in Kastrup was sailed in an ever increasing wind over April 28th and 29th, but the race officer managed to shorten the course, so we managed to get eight speedy short races in before it became too violent. This regatta has now been sailed for more than 15 years and is becoming the traditional Spring Regatta in Denmark.

1	DEN 6	Lars Hall	12
2	DEN 80	Michael Staal	13
3	DEN 262	Bo Teglers	18
4	DEN 249	Svend V Andersen	24
5	DEN 1	Frank Hansen	32
6	FIN 9	Eki Heinonen	43
7	DEN 77	Flemming Jensen	54
8	DEN 18	Richard Berg-Larsen	57
9	DEN 192	Ole B Madsen	59
10	DEN 14	Jan Verner Nielsen	63
11	DEN 234	Matti Lintunen	64
12	DEN 13	Peter Mikkelsen	90

After the Dragør Cup was cancelled, The Royal Danish Yacht Club was the host

for a "Grown up regatta" in Rungsted that is hopefully going to be fixed item on the calendar in the second weekend in June. On the first day of the Zhik Cup we had very good racing conditions, and still not too wild, while many sailors could not handle the boats on the second day. The Royal Danish Yacht Club has realised that more and more experienced sailors are sailing dinghy classes because it is easier, less expensive and much more fun.

As a result of this Royal Danish Yacht Club invited to the Zhik Cup experienced sailors in the OK, Finn, 505 and Laser classes and younger sailors were invited as well in the 29'er, 29XX'er and 49'er classes. The Finn was the biggest class with 13 participants and we had two great days of sailing in fresh shifting wind conditions. The chairman of the Danish Finn Class Association - Kenneth Bøggild - was a clear winner scoring only first



places except from one race where he finished second. All in all it was a great initiative from Royal Danish Yacht Club and the sponsor Zhik. We are all invited for next year's event scheduled for second weekend in June.

1	DEN 231	Kenneth Bøggild	6
2	DEN 210	Henrik Elmer	17
3	DEN 249	Svend V Andersen	23
4	DEN 1	Frank Hansen	26
5	DEN 10	Christian Stormark	28
6	DEN 6	Lars Hall	32
7	DEN 14	Jan Verner Nielsen	48
8	DEN 258	Christian Quist	54
9	DEN 192	Ole B Madsen	58
10	DEN 234	Matti Lintunen	63
11	DEN 18	Richard Berg-Larsen	67
12	DEN 205	Mogens Petersson	70
13	DEN 700	Jan Voetmann	72
14	DEN 191	Jørgen Jacobsen	89





GREAT BRITAIN



JP Morgan Asset Management UK National Championship 2012 Royal Cornwall Yacht Club, 5-7 May

Two weeks of top quality Finn racing at the JP Morgan Asset Management Falmouth Finn Festival began with the UK National and Open Championships and it set the scene for the Finn Gold Cup the following week, with cold and changeable conditions and some tricky winds.

Postma and Lobert won all the races on day two though Scott though hung onto the overall lead from Ainslie and Postma. The fleet was treated to three fantastic races in 12-14 knots, with nice waves and even some sunshine. Jonas Høgh-Christensen was the early leader in race three but it was the man of the day Postma who led across the finish. Scott rounded the top mark deep, but had a great downwind to catch up,

and nearly caught Postma in a very close finish. In race four Postma led at the top mark, but couldn't hold onto the lead and Lobert eventually took the gun. Scott got his revenge on Postma, just pipping him for third on the line. With a number of boats calling it a day, numbers were down for the final race. Postma again led at the top mark and this time he held on for his second race win of the day from Scott and Ainslie. The

J.P. Morgan Asset Management UK Nationals - Final results

1	GBR 41	Giles Scott	1	2	2	3	2	1	(dnc)	11
2	GBR 3	Ben Ainslie	(7)	1	5	2	3	3	4	18
3	FRA 112	Jonathan Lobert	(23)	4	7	1	6	6	2	26
4	CRO 524	Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic	5	3	6	9	4	(10)	1	28
5	DEN 2	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	8	(19)	4	6	10	2	3	33
6	ESP 100	Rafael Trujillo	2	(bfd)	3	19	5	11	5	45
7	UKR 1	Oleksiy Borysov	11	12	(19)	7	9	7	12	58
8	CZE 1	Michael Maier	14	7	10	(26)	11	14	10	66
9	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	12	16	12	11	(18)	13	7	71
10	RUS 9	Eduard Skornyakov	10	17	(25)	10	21	8	6	72



The current world champion Giles Scott got off to a good start with a small margin over his main rival Ben Ainslie, each winning one race each. It was windy early on but by the time of the start of race one the wind was down to 10-12 knots with a large sea running. Oscar was flying and this stayed up for the first downwind but then was removed and stayed down for the rest of the day. Eduard Skornyakov made the best of the first upwind to lead round the top mark, but it wasn't long before Scott was in the lead to win. Race two was started in a very sloppy and patchy 4-6 knots with Jonathan Lobert leading Pieter-Jan Postma and Ainslie around the top mark. The wind went really light on the downwind, and on the second upwind after half the fleet had rounded the gate the wind all but disappeared for 20 minutes. Ainslie hung onto his lead to cross ahead of Scott and Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic.

11	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	84
12	RUS 1	Alexey Selivanov	92
13	UKR 5	Andrii Gusenko	93
14	NZL 8	Matt Coutts	94
15	CRO 11	Josip Olujic	101
16	CYP 19	Haris Papadopoulos	107
17	GBR 29	Peter McCoy	110
18	NED 842	Pieter-Jan Postma	111
19	HUN 6	Gaszton Pal	111
20	HUN 8	Marton Beliczay	137
21	CRO 671	Tudor Bilic	137
22	CAN 7	Adam Nicholson	151
23	IND 11	Nachhatar Johal	154
24	GBR 5	John Greenwood	158
25	GBR 23	Harry Briddon	175
26	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	179
27	NZL 9	Rob Coutts	180
28	GBR 18	James Hadden	181
29	GBR 7	George Cooper	185
30	GBR 707	Adrian Brunton	187
31	GBR 2	Allen Burrell	191
32	AUS 261	Oliver Tweddell	197
33	GBR 708	Michael De Courcy	199
34	FRA 99	Marc Allain D. Beauvais	199
35	GBR 11	Edward Wright	205
36	GBR 85	Andrew Mills	207
37	GBR 679	Neil Robinson	209
38	IRL 4	Ross Hamilton	215
39	CZE 11	Patrik Deutscher	224
40	GBR 88	Mark Andrews	228
41	BUL 855	Dimitar Vangelov	228
42	GBR 635	Simon Percival	235
43	AUS 8	Dirk Seret	240
44	GBR 567	Martin Hughes	242
45	GBR 20	Andy Denison	253
46	GBR 665	Julian Smith	256

47	GBR 711	Simon Pettit	260
48	TUR 7	Akif Muslubas	266
49	BUL 77	Valentin Nedyalkov	268
50	GBR 68	John Mackie	270
51	NZL 1	Dan Slater	283
52	GBR 65	David Potter	289
53	GBR 80	Ray New	299
54	RSA 540	Alan Tucker	300
55	GBR 10	Robert Deaves	304
56	GBR 77	Howard Sellars	321
57	GBR 695	Mark Petty-Mayor	324
58	GBR 24	Rory Barnes	325
59	AUS 2	Rob McMillan	336
60	GBR 1	Sander Kooij	342
61	GBR 631	Richard Hart	349
62	GBR 63	Graeme Macdonald	351
63	GBR 100	Matthew Walker	355
64	RSA 5	Robin Greaves	365
65	GBR 617	Mark Harper	374
66	GBR 545	Dick Pratt	384
67	GBR 562	Jerry Andrews	395
68	GBR 644	Jack Arnell	399
69	GBR 197	Peter Vinton	416
70	GBR 58	Paul Brown	422
71	GBR 99	John Torrance	423
72	GBR 611	Tony Lock	428
73	GBR 658	James Wyburd	428
74	GBR 55	Mike Till	431
75	BER 11	Paul Hiles	445
76	GBR 19	Simon Hoult	446
77	GBR 4	David Higham	450
78	GBR 475	David Harker	450
79	GBR 30	Ian Frayne	453
80	GBR 64	Craig Kirkpatrick-Whitby	486
81	GBR 48	Anthony Walker	496
82	USA 975	Ronney Ball	504





fleet returned to shore cold, tired and in need of sustenance, which was adequately supplied at the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club's pasta evening.

Scott only needed one race to take his third UK title and that was all it took. He won the opening race of day three in much windier conditions to seal his third UK title with a race to spare. The race took over 45 minutes to get away following a series of general recalls and black flags. When it did Skornyakov led round the top mark with Scott close behind. Scott soon took the lead and rounded the gate to sail away to win the race and the championship. With the wind reaching 20 knots the final race was a hard test, with many deciding to call it a day. Kljakovic Gaspic battled against Lobert for the lead, but eventually the Croatian extended for a comfortable win.

The prizegiving was held in the Falmouth Watersports Centre, where the championship was based. Giles Scott was presented with the Sunday Times Gold Cup for the third time.



ITALY



Coppa Italia 2012

Coppa Italia Finn 2012 is well under way with five out of seven events completed and 22 races sailed by mid June. More than 100 sailors participated in these events, which were held in Scarlino (windy warm-up to the light wind Europeans), Terracina, Caldaro, Campione del Garda and Forte dei Marmi.

The event in Terracina was plagued by bad weather and only two short races were sailed because it was not possible to safely launch the boats from the beach.

Luckily in Caldaro at the Dr. Schaer Trophy 56 Finns from Italy, Austria, Switzerland and Germany enjoyed a good wind and could sail five nice races. The event was won by Martin Mitterer on equal points with Marko Kolic. Third was Simone Mancini. As usual in Caldaro sailors were treated to abundant and tasty food, together with the local red wine. Caldaro was also the first event of the Finn Alpen Cup, a new series organised by the Finn associations of the central Alps countries with four events, one per country.



The following event took place in Campione del Garda, where a new Sailing University is under construction. The races were dominated by Michele Paoletti, coming back after one year and the disappointment of the nearly missed Olympic trials. Second was Marko Kolic and third Simone Mancini. These two sailors are fighting head to head for the leadership of the Coppa Italia, followed by just a few points by Federico Laici.

In June the fifth Coppa Italia event was in Forte dei Marmi in Northern Tuscany, at last with real summer weather. Light winds from five to 10 knots and plenty of sunshine favoured baths, suntans and the light wind specialists. It was Italo Bertacca who showed great speed and tactical skills to win this event with a small margin on Marco Buglielli. Third placed was Federico Laici. A

great organisation was set up by Yachting Club Versilia for the Aldo Ferrari Trophy, in memory of their past President who was a passionate Finn sailor.

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

Provisional standings after 22 races

1	ITA 19	Simone Mancini	585
2	ITA 40	Marko Kolic	578
3	ITA 985	Federico Laici	565
4	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	469
5	ITA 4	Francesco Faggiani	468
6	ITA 37	Paolo Visonà	468
7	ITA 872	Nicola Menoni	448
8	ITA 91	Ettore Thermes	337
9	ITA 23	Umberto Grumelli	305
10	ITA 9	Franco Dazzi	291

Italian Master Championship and Italian Open Championship 2012

September will be an intense month for Finn activity in Italy, with the Master Championship taking place in Anzio (60 km from Rome) from 7 to 9 and the Italian Championship for all Olympic classes in Scarlino from 22 to 25 of September. Both events are open. Two weeks later the final event of Coppa Italia 2012 will take place in Malcesine (October 5 to 7) with the traditional International Finn Cup - Andrea Menoni Trophy.



NETHERLANDS



Ronald Ruiters writes: After a very busy first three months of 2012 with several training sessions in different areas, we started our real racing season in Loosdrecht with our traditional Easter Regatta. Loosdrecht is where our largest fleet is located and because of the well-known unexpected wind shifts and lots of small islands, the locals often take advantage of those circumstances.

Easterregatta

This year the committee choose to sail a upwind/downwind course instead of the famous "spaghetti courses". This was well appreciated by the 45 sailors competing. On Saturday we sailed four great races, with three different winners, and close racing. On Sunday, we were afraid no more races were held, but in the end, we were very lucky. Yes: wind came and we sailed another three races. Thierry van Vierssen was the best Master.

1	NED 841	Hein van Egmond	12
2	NED 41	Karel van Hellemond	18
3	NED 787	Nanno Schuttrups	18
4	NED 881	Thierry van Vierssen	24
5	NED 60	Luuk Kuijper	28
6	NED 29	Bas de Waal	36
7	NED 49	Jan Mark Meeuwisse	53
8	NED 43	Chris Frijdal	54
9	NED 81	Gerko Visser	62
10	NED 85	Rutger Rozemuller	66

Tulip Regatta

After the Easterregatta we could all stay in Loosdrecht for what we call the Tulip regatta; with 55 competitors. Four races were sailed and in the last race Karel van Hellemond and Hein van Egmond made life difficult for each other trying to win the regatta, but in the end, Sander Willems was on top.

1	NED 80	Sander Willems	9
2	NED 41	Karel van Hellemond	9
3	NED 841	Hein van Egmond	13
4	NED 787	Nanno Schuttrups	21
5	NED 881	Thierry van Vierssen	22
6	NED 29	Bas de Waal	28
7	NED 703	Eric Bakker	29
8	NED 7	Cees Scheurwater	34
9	NED 2	Wouter Molenaar	39
10	NED 777	Albert Kroon	44

Finnale

After the Tulip regatta the fleet went to Monnickendam for two days of great racing. Our host and sponsor Jan Zetzema and his



team organised one of the best events ever. A great committee, even better food and drinks and great hospitality make this event one you cannot miss in 2013. 47 sailors were so lucky to be there this year. At the top of the field it was very close racing between Wietze and Nanno, but Wietze won in the end with more first places.

1	NED 64	Wietze Zetzema	8
2	NED 787	Nanno Schuttrups	8
3	NED 881	Thierry van Vierssen	20
4	NED 60	Luuk Kuijper	22
5	NED 29	Bas de Waal	27
6	NED 912	Peter Verseveldt	31
7	NED 7	Cees Scheurwater	35
8	NED 69	Jelte Baerends	36
9	NED 27	Paul Kamphorst	40
10	NED 81	Gerko Visser	42

Ascension Day Regatta

The last spring regatta in Holland was sailed in Loosdrecht again. On Ascension Day 40 sailors sailed 6 races. With just a few weeks before The Masters, Wouter Molenaar proved he was in great shape.

1	NED 2	Wouter Molenaar	13
2	NED 60	Luuk Kuijper	17
3	NED 29	Bas de Waal	24
4	NED 66	Ewout Meijer	26
5	NED 77	Jan Jaap Lamme	26
6	NED 35	Bas Proper	39
7	NED 88	Chiel Barends	46
8	NED 888	Bas de Regt	49
9	NED 43	Chris Frijdal	50
10	NED 900	Leo Meijaard	58

Pwllheli

Besides our Dutch races a lot of our Masters went to Pwllheli. Paul Kamphorst was our best competitor, in 23rd. But we were also very proud of Rodrick Casander who was the second best Grand Grand Master in Pwllheli. Well done Rodrick.

Our season continues in Sneek from (August, 4-9) for the well known Sneekweek, partly held during the Olympics. On August 18-19 the Benelux Championships are held. And on August 25 and 26 the Randmeerrace in Harderwijk will take place. The summer ends with our Open Dutch Championships in Medemblik (14, 15 and 16/9). You are all invited to join and compete. You can find more information on our website: www.finn-sailing.nl. We hope to race against all of you this season.

RUSSIA



Volga Cup

Russia has opened new a yacht club and venue for regattas on the Volga River. A new modern resort River Club at Volga River, 130 km from Moscow, (at Konakovo town) invited sailors from the Russian Finn Association for a new regatta with the name of "Volga Cup", which was held in the middle of June.

New hotel and guests-houses were provided for sailors so all Finn sailors could bring their families and friends to the regatta. The river is quite wide in that place in order to carry out long enough races, while the wind conditions were quite tricky and interesting to test sailor's tactical skills. The weather gave us a present with sunshine and a wide range of winds from 3 to 30 knots.

The racing area was placed just in front of the main building with its restaurant, and all spectators could root for their friends in real time, so it was a good promotion for sailing sport and the Finn class.

The races were carried out on a traditional loop course as well as one distance race of about 10 km. Exciting views, floating islands and tricky wind patterns along the route gave the sailors big fun with a breathtaking struggle.

Eight races were carried out in total. Vasiliy Kravchenko won the regatta, while Felix Denikaev took silver, and Alexander Kasatov was third. It was decided to make this regatta traditional and to make it as a stage of Russian Cup from the next year.

Results:

1	RUS 17	Vasiliy Kravchenko	13
2	RUS 41	Felix Denikaev	19
3	RUS 34	Alexander Kasatov	20
4	RUS 51	Mikhail Petriga	21
5	RUS 21	Vladimir Butenko	24
6	RUS 71	Leonid Klyaiman	39
7	RUS 18	Evgeniy Dzhura	45



SWITZERLAND



Finn Alpen Cup 2012 & 50 years of Finn sailing on Lake Thun

June 8-10 2012, Lake Thun, Switzerland

Franz Bürgi writes: In combination with the Swiss event of the newly created "Finn Alpen Cup", a series of four regattas in Italy (Lago di Caldaro), Switzerland (Lake Thun), Austria (Mondsee) and Germany (Rottachsee), the Finn fleet of Lake Thun was celebrating 50 years of Finn sailing on this beautiful lake.

The combination of Finn anniversary and Finn Alpen Cup attracted 45 sailors from four nations to join the three day event. Day one brought one race attempt in fading westerly winds. The race had to be abandoned.



Day two showed the real potential of Lake Thun with moderate westerly winds all afternoon. With the help of the black flag the fleet got under way and four long races could be sailed. Many wind shifts made skillful tactics a must! Race winners were Martin Mitterer, Boris Kulpe, Franz Bürgi and Florian Demetz. Overall leader after this perfect day was Christoph Christen (above).

In the evening the "50 years of Finn sailing party" got under way with a Western touch and everybody had a lot of fun including good food, bull riding and excellent country music. There was no more racing on day three because the wind filled in too late. The

ranking after four races became the final one and Christoph Christen added another victory to his already long list.

1	SUI 5	Christoph Christen	7
2	GER 22	Martin Mitterer	8
3	SUI 12	Franz Bürgi	12
4	ITA 89	Florian Demetz	12
5	SUI 71	Beat Aebischer	15
6	GER 62	Uwe Barthel	17
7	SUI 28	Boris Kulpe	20
8	SUI 94	Andreas Friderich	20
9	SUI 3	Carlo Lazzari	28
10	GER 151	Andreas Bollongino	30



USA



2012 Trinity Yachts Finn North American Masters Championship

Southern YC club hosted the North American Masters this year and did a fantastic job. About 15 sailors went out for a practice sail the day before the regatta started in perfect 12 knot and sunny conditions.

2012 US Sailing team member, Erik Lidecis won the masters for the second year in a row. He was followed by 2010 winner Rob Coutts, and 1974 World Champion Henry Sprague. The next six spots were incredibly close with Dr. David Bayers and Scott "the Landrocket" Griffiths completing the top five.

The regatta started light and shifty with a rain shower. Lidecis, Super Henry, and David Brockbank jumped out to an early lead. David went for a swim to allow the lead two to gap out on the fleet. On the second run, Super Henry caught a big puff around Erik to take the win. The wind piped up for race 2. Again, Super Henry, Brockbank and Lidecis jumped out to an early lead. On the second lap, Henry played the shifts well. Erik passed Henry only to lay over before the finish allowing Henry to coast in for another win.

Day two of the regatta brought in the big part of the storm. The waves were very tall and steep. The RC, wisely abandoned for the day.

Day 3 started early in sunny and warm, light and variable wind conditions. The wind at the start was around 4 knots. Rob Coutts



played the first few shifts perfectly then extended his lead all the way to the finish line. The wind filled in to about 9 knots during race 4. Erik moved in to take the win, followed by Rob Coutts. In race 5 Jim Hunter played a perfect right-sided beat to round first with a nice lead. He was able to hold off Erik on the run and the two boats extended their lead but Erik used his upwind speed to take the win.

The Oscar flag was firmly in place for race 6 and the leaders seemed much more comfortable. Erik moved into first and didn't look back. The wind became a little spotty for the last race. Erik played the upwinds conservatively, using his speed to extend on the fleet while Coutts finished in front of the pack.

1	USA 505	Erik Lidecis	8
2	NZL 9	Rob Coutts	14
3	USA 11	Henry Sprague	18
4	USA 1227	David Beyers	37
5	USA 1	Scott Griffiths	38
6	USA 47	Robert Kinney	38
7	USA 117	Michael Mark	40
8	USA 75	Ash Beatty	44
9	USA 150	Louie Nady	49
10	USA 113	Macho Slavich	63



2012 Finn Midwinters, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Stephen Fuccillo writes: The 2012 Finn Midwinters were sailed in February 3-5. Many of the sailors travelled after Rolex Miami OCR so it had an international flavour. The winds were strong and the conditions extremely challenging at times in big swells.

1	DEN 2	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	11
2	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	18
3	CAN 110	Martin Robitaille	19
4	CAN 5	Greg Douglas	21
5	USA 40	Luke Lawrence	36

West Coast Olympic Classes Regatta

The 51st ABYC OCR was sailed from March 24-25 in Long Beach, CA. Day one had 10 knots of breeze and very shifty with brilliant sunshine. Day two was sailed in strong winds with gusts up to 30 knots. Scott Mason won and was in control for most of the regatta.

1	USA	Scott Mason	
2	USA 11	Henry Sprague	
3	USA 505	Erik Lidecis	
4	USA 53	Ben Leibowitz	
5	USA 47	Robert Kinney	

2012 Elvstrom Zellerbach Regatta

The Elvstrom Zellerbach Regatta was sailed May 5-6 at the St Francis Yacht Club. The course was set off the city front and sailed in steady San Francisco Bay breezes Erik Lidecis in his new Devoti Finn finally got it all together and smoked the fleet.

1	USA 505	Erik Lidecis	6
2	USA 30	Forrest Gay	8
3	USA 11	Henry Sprague	14
4	USA 253	Andrew Nelson	23
5	USA 20	Hendrik Van Geel	24

2012 Gulf Coast Finn Championship

The Gulf Coast Championship was sailed May 12-13 at the Buccaneer Yacht Club in Mobile, AL. In light, shifty winds, John Dane put on a show and schooled the fleet with seven bullets. The Mobile Bay area continues to be a stronghold for Finn sailing in the USA.

1	USA 69	John Dane	6
2	USA 3	Karl Kleinschrodt	18
3	USA 117	Michael Mark	19
4	USA 23	Perira	21
5	USA 33	Marhall	24



2012 IFA AGM MINUTES

**INTERNATIONAL FINN ASSOCIATION
12th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Falmouth, Great Britain
11 May 2012**

MINUTES

The meeting was opened at 18.00

1. National Class Associations

There were 16 nations represented at the meeting, accounting for a total of 32 votes, plus seven Executive Committee members.

2. Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes from the 2012 IFA AGM were unanimously approved.

3. Accounts

3.a Treasurer's report

Key Messages - Costs are under control. This is the third year in a row where expenses have reduced.

The budgeting process is improving year by year and expenses in 2011 were only €4225 more than expected which is a significant improvement over the previous two years and gives us confidence that the 4 year budget that we have set up to 2016 will prove accurate.

The Net Result in 2011 was a FOREX adjusted profit of €37707. As a result all bank accounts have increased balances at 31.12.2011. The overall Capital increase is €39774. This is very important as we lost money in each of the preceding 5 years. We now have a very solid financial base upon which to continue to develop and promote our Class and its Sailors.

Revenue - Revenue was significantly up in 2011 reflecting the usual high level of activity in the third year of the Olympic cycle. An increase in Income from Sails, Masts and Hulls was the main contributory factor to a €33202 increase in revenue overall.

A percentage of entry fees at the ISAF European and World Championships are also a new form of revenue. We usually get some of our Regatta expenses reimbursed by the organisers but at the ISAF events we get a percentage of the entry fee instead. This is also reflected in Expenses where Regatta expenses are greater than normal.

Advertising Revenue was down which is disappointing, albeit that it is still a good figure compared to years other than 2010. This is because North and Victory stopped advertising. If any of the sailors are in a position to influence the amount of advertising revenue that our suppliers contribute to class funds then please don't hesitate to do so.

Expenses - Expenses are relatively stable compared with 2010. The reduction comes from

the fact Stickers and PhotoFINNish books were printed in 2010 for several years. As a result there were minimal or no costs in 2011. Expenses in 2010 also included the cost of the Promotional Video (shown under Development).

Conference expenses were high, because it was a year when the decision for 2016 was taken. This resulted in an increased effort and presence from sailors at all of the ISAF conferences.

Office Expenses were higher than expected and this is mainly due to the Executive's use of a 3G mobile phone connection while in Australia. Corinne is going to look at other solutions to make sure that this does not happen again. Unfortunately the costs only became apparent once she had returned to France, by which time it was too late to do anything about it.

FinnFare expenses are down in 2011 but unfortunately the Royal Mail in the UK is both increasing its prices and starting to add VAT so it looks like costs may increase again in the future. We could look at extending the digital distribution but I suspect most sailors appreciate the hard copy. I know I do.

FinnShop costs were high at €1038. The main costs were the Half Models which we have now sold into profit. We have also used 10 for Presentations. PhotoFINNish sales in 2012 are already around €2700 and we have sold more copies in the first 6 months of this year than we did in the whole of 2011. This is partly because Robert is offering Free Delivery at the Gold Cup and World Masters. We have also sold €450 of other merchandise and Robert is hoping to run a stall during the Falmouth Finn Festival.

Overall, our commercial activities around the FinnShop are predicted to make a small profit every year. As long as it runs at least close to break-even it is worth it as the goods are both assets and also excellent gifts to delegates.

Assets - Accounts of €2676 is PhotoFINNish Royalties. The Committee have agreed to clear these now and PhotoFINNish Royalties have been added to the budget.

Budget - Corinne, Balazs and I have extended the budget out to 2016. The budget for payroll has been significantly increased to better reflect the experience, time and workload of Corinne. The IFA finances didn't allow an increase since 2007 but is now able to support an adjustment based on hourly fee and time increase due to more work within ISAF. The payroll costs still compare very favourably with those of other equivalent organisations.

Tim Carver, 4th May 2012

3.b The 2011 accounts were unanimously approved (available on IFA Website)

3.c The budget for 2012/13 was unanimously approved.

4. Executive Committee Reports

4.a President

On the occasion of the 2012 IFA AGM let me reflect on some recent achievements of and forthcoming challenges for the Finn class.

As you know the 2011 May ISAF mid-year meeting in St. Petersburg secured the status of the one person dinghy heavy event and the Finn as equipment on the 2016 Olympic programme. This achievement was a result of the fact that the Finn as the longest standing and technically most developed Olympic sailing class, managed to answer the questions asked in the framework of recent ISAF reforms and emerged as one of the strongest and most popular Olympic class.

Since May 2011 the focus within ISAF shifted to equipment selection for future Olympic events (e.g. Multihull, Women's Skiff) and event structure for the Sailing World Cup and ISAF Worlds.

At the end of April 2012 on behalf of IFA I signed the 2016 Olympic Class Agreement with IFA detailing the cooperation between IFA and ISAF for the coming years leading up to the Rio Olympics. The current ISAF management has been pushing for more and more centralisation but we managed to retain the importance of our class major events and control on event PR and event administration.

The flow of young sailors to the class has continued over the last year which results in healthy entry numbers at the Junior Worlds and Europeans. These events have grown rapidly in the recent past with separate junior championships already fixed for the next years.

As I have stressed on many occasions within ISAF and the class in the past, the Finn allows the widest range of weight, age and physical sizes to compete on a truly equal level and is the only single handed dinghy to allow sailors from 85kg to 110kg to competitively sail at Olympic level. At the same time the Finn has a real depth in terms of club and national fleets, as well as junior, senior and master age groups, which is partially the result of the fact that the class has been for a long time able to manage the different needs and interests of Finn sailors in every age category, on every level and in every segment of the Finn sailing world.

Although we are doing very well at Olympic level and in terms of youth/masters as well as national fleets in the classic Finn countries, the main challenge for the future years will be the strengthening of the Finn's global presence including Asia, Oceania, Africa and South America.

Through the IFA-assisted boat-production in South Africa and Brazil, we already have strongholds in Africa and South America. Oceania could also be reached from Australia. So, for the coming years we will have to reach out to these continents by way of special IFA projects and be ready for the time when Olympic qualification will be decided on a continental basis and Olympic classes will be judged also on their continental presence.

One of the reasons for our strength compared to other Olympic classes has been equipment control and evolution. The Finn has managed to move smoothly on a battle field many other classes fell casualty of. As a new item on our list is the hull control programme on which the Technical Committee and the Chief Measurer will report on at the AGM.

All in all, naturally there are further challenges ahead. We need to continue working on gear evolution and equipment control, further adapt the class rules current technology and IT, review issues as racing format, media presence, class sponsorship, attractive major Finn events and build on our traditions, strengths and experience.

Thank you all for the support in the last years and look forward to working with you in the future.

Dr Balazs Hajdu

4.b Vice President Sailing

The London Olympic Games are naturally this year's highlight. The Games are less than 3 months ahead and final preparations are on. There will be 25 great sailors competing in the Finn on the waters of Weymouth Bay. The Games started last December in Perth where in Finn 18 nations qualified their country for the Olympics 2012.

ISAF Worlds in Perth were quite a success. The Finn boat park, with no dressing room and showers, was may be the only bigger disappointment in event organising. The sailing conditions were excellent for the classes sailing on the first week, Finn included. The final two gold group races and the medal race were sailed just in front of the big audience sitting on the breakwater. That was a great experience not only for the spectators but also for the sailors. For Finn as a class it was positive appearance when everybody could see how active and dynamic Finn (boat) and Finn sailors were in 20 knots.

It was nice to see young rising guys qualifying their nations in Finn. Stakes for the Falmouth Gold Cup are high while its many strong countries still without a spot. Also the national selections are about done for most.

This Spring's biggest event was Europeans in Scarlino. This time the conditions were not ideal when regatta was suffering from really light winds. Anyway happy to see the podium filled with a lot of experienced but also some young blood.

Rule 42. Free pumping in 10 knots has been now around for two years and it seems like a successful decision now afterwards. Now when sailors have got used to it and adapted to new techniques required and race committees know when to hoist Oscar flag, things have been in balance. Also the amount of questionable yellow flags has decreased.

The future of Finn. Last year Finn ensured its Olympic status for Rio de Janeiro 2016. In mid-May the rest of the classes are decided. When the classes are clear the next thing is the format of sailing. The ISAF Event Committee has come up an idea to profile the classes more different

from each other. One suggested idea has been that in Finn free pumping would be allowed in all conditions. It's a radical idea. Before saying absolute no for this proposal it is good have an open discussion about it. I think the question is, concerning this proposal but many more coming up in near future, how much are we ready to put on table when fighting for Finn to remain its Olympic status?

All Best for the year 2012

Tapio Nirrko

4.c Vice President Development

This year with the qualifications upcoming for the Olympic Games it has been great to see more and more sailors on the circuit.

The largest focus this year has been on continuing to push for younger sailors to get involved with the class and it is great to see that even more new sailors are getting involved.

There are a few items to look at with the new format of the World Cup that will allow us to expand the outreach of the class. There are many more details to come on the format but I believe that we can focus getting more people involved in the class.

Looking at the next 4 years toward Rio 2016 we can make a big push of getting more sailors from South America competing in the class. With a builder in Brazil and their ability to access boats this should be a major area to continue to push over the next 4 years.

Overall, concentrating on building the class through these 4 areas below over the next 4 years will hopefully lead to more participation:

1. Clinics in new World Cup Venues (prior to events)
2. Focusing on building the participation in South America
3. Focus on pushing class through more media exposure and marketing
4. Minimising cost of entry into the class by helping new younger sailors and developing nations by giving equipment to International/National Class

We have a great ability to get more people involved in the class by utilizing the increased exposure the World Cup will offer. This gives the class a huge opportunity to get new Nations involved in the class which can only be good for all involved.

Zach Railey

4.d Vice President Masters

In July 2011 we had a very good Finn World masters Championship in Punta Ala, Italy, with 283 competitors. I already reported about this in my Report 2010-2011.

Decisions made after Punta Ala for future Finn World Masters Championships are:

- Group allocation will be done by daily results. The random system appeared not to work very well in both Split and Punta Ala.
- The aim for the group sizing will be 125 for each group. Many competitors found the groups in Punta Ala (70 boats per group) too small.
- On the last racing day a medal race will be sailed by the top ten sailors in the results on the last day of opening series. Prior to this medal race the final group races for the rest of the competitors will be sailed.

The FWM in Punta Ala showed that the numbers of competitors is reaching a maximum. There were thoughts about setting a maximum, but in my opinion this is difficult, as it is depending of the venue how many competitors can be handled.

This brings me to the Finn World Masters 2012 in Pwllheli, North Wales, UK, where we will certainly not reach very high numbers of competitors. As I said before: it is not a goal to set new entry records every year. A good Masters for all sailors and their families is the real goal. Of course with good and competitive racing. The preparations for the FWM in Pwllheli started already in 2009, when I visited the venue with Mike Till. Pwllheli Sailing Club is situated in the Snowdonian region, close to mount Snowdon, the highest mountain of the UK. The club is very experienced in organizing sailing events with large numbers of competitors up to over 300. So we can expect a smooth organization there.

Entry numbers have reached 132 now and I expect they will reach 150. The first candidate for 2014 is THE in Tihany, Lake Balaton, Hungary. I visited this venue in September 2010. It is situated on the Tihany peninsula.

During 2011 the Polish Finn Masters announced a Polish candidacy for 2014 and they had 4 venues in mind.

I visited them in September, we discussed pluses and minuses of each venue and in the end the present Polish Masters announced Sopot Sailing Club in Sopot as the official candidate for 2014.

In January 2012 Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club in Los Angeles, California announced its candidacy for 2014. The Masters Committee decided to give it a chance and accepted the candidacy.

The voting for 2014 will take place in the Annual Masters Meeting 2012 in Pwllheli, on Tuesday May 30th, 2012. A pre-presentation of all candidates can be watched on www.finnworldmaster.com

In the Annual Masters Meeting 2012 we will take leave of Michael Till (GBR 55) as a Masters Committee member. We will, for sure, miss his sharp and realistic approach. His succession will be on the agenda of the AMM.

We are all looking forward to the Finn World Masters Championship in Pwllheli. Almost everything has been arranged and set and of course we are looking forward to a good Championship in a sportive spirit and to the voting for the 2014 venue.

In 2013 we will sail the FWM in La Rochelle, France, from May 17th till 24th, 2013.

For now I wish all Finn sailors worldwide good sailing in good winds and I hope to meet many of them in coming events and I thank everyone who gave me support and assistance during the past year.

Fons van Gent

4.e Treasurer

(see item 3a)

4.f Chairman of the Technical Committee

(see item 8)

5. Elections of Members to IFA Committees

The current members of the Executive Committee were re-elected.

The members of the Technical Committee were re-elected.

The members of the Marketing Committee were re-elected.

6. IFA Championships

6.a. The meeting received a progress report for the 2013 Finn Gold Cup in Tallinn. Dates are confirmed as August 23-31. The Estonian championship will

2011 IFA ACCOUNTS

Revenue

Memberships	37998
Sail labels	34352
Mast labels	11754
ISAF Plaques for New Boats	11557
Interest	10
Advertising	4692
Finn Shop	715
ISAF Worlds & EURO entries	9010
PhotoFINNish Advertising	0
PhotoFINNish Sales	3449
Regatta Revenue	0
Forex Gain	2067
Total	115602

Expenses

Payroll (Exec Dir)	34976
Payroll (Exec Dir Owing)	0
Payroll (Other)	0
Office expenses	2883
Regatta & IM expenses	10272
Bank charges	234
Finnfare expenses	6725
Postage	708
Stickers (mast, sail, IFA hull)	0
IFA Clinic	0
ISAF Building Fee	0
Development	450
Promotion	0
Masters Admin	2500
Website hosting and technical support	197
ISAF meetings	12797
Calendar printing	0
PhoFinn Printing & Mailing	200
PhoFinn Royalty	2849
Finn Shop	1038
Forex Loss	0

Total Expenses 75828

Annual P/L	39774
FOREX Adjusted P/L	37707

Assets

Petty cash	194
Accounts receivable	0
GBP Working Account	46890
GBP Capital Account	28799
FRA Working Account	28612

104495

Delta 43836

Liabilities

Amount Payable **	2676
Salaries owing	3958
FGC Bond AUS	0

6634

Capital 97861

run immediately before the FGC. Web page will be published in August. Address will be www.finngoldcup.org/2013.

6.b The 2014 Europeans will be held at La Rochelle, France in early May between Hyeres and Delta Lloyd, subject to approved budget.

6.c A proposal has been received to hold a combined Olympic classes European championship in 2015. The meeting agreed to this in principle and that the decision on the venue would be taken by the Olympic Classes Committee. Possible venues include Arhus and Gdynia.

6.d For the 2015 Finn Gold Cup bids have been received from Takapuna, New Zealand and Quiberon, France. The Executive are also pursuing a bid from Rio as a major event in Brazil prior to the Olympics was thought a good idea, especially economically. Also possible to have South American championships in Brazil near the test event in 2015.

7. FIDeS

7.a A clinic is proposed before the Silver Cup in Maubuisson in July. This has been a big success in the past. There should be a focus on more clinics around the world to build participation, especially in Asia and Africa. Distribution of used gear to new countries. It is intended there will be two collection points every year – one in Europe, and one in the Americas. This will mirror the changes to the Sailing World Cup – which will be used to develop sailing regionally rather than as a series.

7.b Interest has been shown in the Finn by the Kosovan and Sudanese sailing federations.

7.c The meeting was informed of the changes to ISAF Sailing World Cup and the need for further continental Finn fleet development to further strengthen the class worldwide.

8. Technical Committee

8.a Chairman's report

During the year before the Olympics we try to leave the rules well alone. During 2011 – 2012, a problem showed up with the wording for the Pumping Rule, and it was amended. There were also some editorial corrections, incorporated into a 2012 Edition of our Rules. In total: tidying but no change.

I was asked to present a paper about Class issues including the supply of Official Measurers and our development of the Measurement Database, to the Equipment Committee at ISAF in November 2011. This was apparently well received, but there has been no specific feedback.

Agenda Item 8 (b): The Measurement Database is up and running, with many boats already on it thanks to Devoti Sailing and Marcin Owczarkiewicz, the Official Measurer who services Devoti. We now need to get as many as possible recent boats on it, so that we can present it to ISAF as a valid tool for use at Equipment Inspections. Subject to AGM approval, I hope that we can move forward with our wishes regarding Prototype Inspection and Periodic Inspection of builders.

At the Sailing World Championship in Perth, Corinne and the Equipment Inspector André Blasse had a great run around, and we had bad publicity, because a number of Boats had been measured but the Certification process had not been completed. The process is set out in the Rules. You need to keep any old Certificate Documents, and there is provision for reweighing without recertification – but it must be clear that any extra reweighing is an “attachment”.

TC and the Executive have been discussing ways to make the processes simpler.

Agenda Item 9: One item which can cause problems is the Annual IFA Sticker. We all agreed that the present system requiring a sailor's membership sticker to be glued to his boat is awkward when you change boats or charter! We have worked out two possibilities which we think would be an improvement. Corinne thinks we should get right up to date by having a membership database, which could take update information from the National Secretaries. The other possibility is to issue through National Secretaries as at present, numbered cards which would also have the member's name written on them.

Agenda Item 8: We have had a hard look at the Certification Process, starting with the question

“Should we allow the whole Certification process to be completed by the Official Measurer?” This is what we do with Rudders, Spars and Sails, but on balance several members of the Technical Committee believed that the present system of Certification of Hulls by the National Finn Association or National Authority should be retained.

Our discussions led to the conclusion that we should concentrate on simplifying the system and making it more workable, by making the fundamental identifier the ISAF Sticker Number, making it possible to complete the certification process by Email, allowing charter boats etc to certify without being given a national sail number. (Most Charter boats go to people who bring sails with Personal Sail Numbers or their own boat's numbers, but we might need a “what if?” provision for an option to use the sailor's national letters plus the ISAF Sticker number).

After all that – how about the boat?

Agenda Item 8 (d): TC have discussed and propose that we ask to remove the rules about sail corner reinforcement dimensions. We don't think they do anything useful.

We have been having a more difficult discussion about “Load Path” or “3DL” sails. We have a rule stating that the sail must be made from panels not more than 1 metre wide. This prohibits the one-piece sails made over a mould. The technology is now in use by more than one manufacturer. “Work arounds” for our rule have been devised such as panels with a varying thread pattern, and simply cutting a moulded sail into 1 metre strips and then gluing it together again. Maybe it's time to remove the restriction and allow the development. Will we look out-of-date in 2016 if we don't allow it?

The problem is that the moulded sail is likely to cost more, although it may have a longer life as “new”.

One manufacturer of Solo sails quotes	
Panelled Dacron	€ 645 + VAT
Panelled Kevlar Laminate	€ 853 + VAT
Thermo moulded 3DL	€ 1135 + VAT

Looking at the number of small shaped panels in some current sails, maybe the price difference will be less for our class, but don't hold your breath! I plan to ask AGM for direction about this: please talk to your National Secretary or representative, so that AGM can reflect the views of all the class.

I wish to record my gratitude to Our Chief Measurer Jüri Saraskin for his wise guidance and service. In addition to Jüri, we have a corps of International Measurers (who act as Equipment Inspectors at major regattas) including August Atz (ITA), André Blasse (AUS), Vladimir Burkalov (RUS), Dimitris Dimou (GRE), Kevin Farrar (USA), Peter Hinrichsen (CAN) and most recently Vasilii Kravchenko (RUS). These people serve and know the Finn very well – please help them concentrate on the real world by making sure your paperwork is right!

Agenda Item 4 (b).

As ever, various members of the Technical Committee have been very helpful during the year, and I will propose them for re-election next year. They are André Blasse (AUS), Robert Carlen (USA), Rodney Cobb (GBR), Robert Deaves (GBR), John Driscoll (IRL), Guillaume Florent (FRA), Jan van der Horst (NED), David Howlett (GBR), Gilbert Lambolely (FRA), Larry Lemieux (CAN), Walter Mai (GER), Gus Miller (USA), Miklós Németh (HUN), Tim Tavinor (GBR), Clifton Webb (NZL).

Richard Hart

8.b Online certificate database

The online certificate database is up and running and just awaits the physical move to the IFA server. Boats are being added on an ongoing basis.

8.c Measurement certificate certifying system

(see report above)

8.d Rule matters arising (refer to above)

The proposal to have inspection of prototype hull moulds before construction commences was passed.

The proposal to remove the sail corner reinforcement rule was passed.

A discussion was held about 3DL sails. A show of hands was taken to follow up with further investigation: 15 for, 7 against, 2 abstentions. The

Technical Committee was directed to report back with further findings.

The Technical Committee was re-elected.

The proposal on sail numbers was passed.

9. Administration

9.a Membership

It was decided to investigate a membership online database so regatta organisers and others can verify NFA membership of sailors. This would negate the need for IFA membership stickers but it was felt that these could continue on a non-numbered basis for those that wanted to display them.

9.b Constitution change

The following amendment was passed:

3.5 There shall be the following Executive Officers:

- President
- Vice-President (Sailing)
- Vice-President (Development)
- Vice-President (Masters)
- Treasurer
- Chairman of the Technical Committee
- Up to 4 other non-voting Executive Committee members (as elected by the IFA AGM) working on special IFA projects
- Executive Director

10. International update

10.a The meeting heard about the current ISAF plans on future ISAF Sailing World Cup. It is being changed completely and will no longer represent a series, but a collection of continental events that can be used as continental qualifiers to world championships, and as second Olympic qualifier...etc

10.b There will also be a EUROSAF regatta circuit

using many of the old Sailing World Cup events. 10.c It is proposed that the Finn be submitted as an Olympic core event

10.d A small group of sailors had an informal meeting during the Finn Gold Cup to discuss the 2016 Olympic format and Olympic reselection for 2020. Pieter-Jan Postma and Tapio Nirkko to report further, in FINNFARE or on the website

10.e Finn fleet size for 2016 is being reviewed by ISAF.

10.f Countries that wish to use country quota allocations places not taken for 2012 need to formally request the place.

Any other business

Dan Slater is retiring from the ISAF Athlete's Commission and a new person will need to be found from November. Dan has represented the Finn Class since the committee started in 2007.

The meeting was closed at 20.40

To be circulated to: National Finn Association Secretaries. IFA Executive Committee IFA Website, Email list Finn sailors



Photo: Mark Lloyd

Major Finn regattas 2012-2014

28-31/7/2012	Open Swedish Nationals	Nynäshamn, Sweden
29/6-7/7/2012	Silver Cup (Junior Worlds)	Maubuisson, France
10-11/8/2012	Toilet Bowl	Cazenovia, NY, USA
18-22/8/2012	North American Championships/CORK	Kingston, Canada
28/7-11/8/2012	London 2012 Olympic Games	Weymouth and Portland, UK
28/8-2/9/2012	Open Russian (www.moscow-finnclass.ru)	Moscow, Russia
5-9/9/2012	Master Euro Cup	Tihany, Hungary
7-9/9/2012	Italian Master Championship	Anzio, Italy
12-16/9/2012	Hungarian Nationals	Lake Velencei, Hungary
14-16/9/2012	Dutch Open/Masters	Medemblik, Netherlands
22-25/9/2012	Italian Open Nationals	Scarolino, Italy
6-7/10/2012	KSSS OCR	Saltsjöbaden, Sweden
7-9/10/2012	International Finn Cup - Tr. Andrea Menoni	Malcesine, Italy
12-14/10/2012	US National Championship	Sheboygan, Wisconsin, USA
2-8/12/2012	Sail Melbourne (SWC)	Melbourne, Australia
13-16/12/2012	Sail Sydney	Sydney, Australia
17-22/12/2012	Palamos Christmas Race	Palamos, Spain
7-11/1/2013	Australian National Championship	Cronulla SC, Sydney

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

SWC = ISAF Sailing World Cup event

Future Championships

2013

17-25/5	World Masters	La Rochelle, France
19-27/7	Europeans	Warnemunde, Germany
July	Silver Cup	Riva del Garda, Italy
23-31/8	Finn Gold Cup	Tallinn, Estonia

2014

1-15/9 (tbc)	Finn Gold Cup	Santander, Spain
tbc	Europeans	La Rochelle, France
6-13/6	World Masters	Sopot, Poland



Photo: Richard Langdon/Oceanimages.co.uk

MAXX Your Performance

The WB-Sails MAXX (for MultiAXial) is a new concept in sail design. Two base models to choose from: "Classic" for pointing and power in light to moderate conditions and flat water, and "Tiger" for breeze and waves. Proven performance at top level, combined with exceptional durability.