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MARCH 2013



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Photo: Sport the Library/Sail Melbourne

## Opening shot: World No. 1 and winner of Sail Melbourne, Brendan Casey



### President's Letter

Dear Finn Sailors,  
Dear Friends of the Finn Community,

What a fantastic and intense year we had in the Finn in 2012. Just to name the London Olympics and the Falmouth Finn Festival, the Finn was again in the forefront of the Olympic sailing world.

With the first months of 2013 another Olympic cycle and a new sailing season for our junior, national, and masters fleets have just began. And this year brings around another bunch of great Finn sailing events. The Gold Cup in Tallinn, the Europeans in wavy Warnemünde, the Silver Cup and Junior Worlds at sunny and windy Lake Garda, the Masters Worlds in La Rochelle, the European Masters Cup in Balaton, and a new event, the International University Sailing Cup using Finns in Moscow just before the 2013 Universiade in Kazan, Russia.

Apart from the above major events it is great to see how full the national report section of Finnfare is. Reports, results and images are showcasing the Finn's international presence and national depth as well as the class' colourfulness.

The ISAF Mid-Year Meeting will be held early May in Copenhagen with the 2013-16 ISAF Council and major committees having their first full meetings. Let me take the opportunity to congratulate the new ISAF President and Executive Committee on their election, they will surely address new and revisit older issues on ISAF's table and review ISAF's strategy. Corinne and I will be representing IFA at the meeting and will give you first hand information on issues affecting our class and Olympic sailing in general.

On behalf of the IFA Executive I may wish you all the best for the year ahead, both on and off the water.

Best regards

Dr. Balazs Hajdu  
HUN 1  
IFA President



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Articles, race results, photographs and reports from countries are always welcome. Please include FINNFARE in your mailing for newsletters, bulletins, press releases and race reports.

All advertisement enquiries should also be addressed to the Editor. A media pack is available on [www.finnclass.org](http://www.finnclass.org)

**FINNFARE Editor**

Robert Deaves, 2 Exeter Road, Ipswich IP3 8JL, England  
Mob: +44 (0)7932 047046  
Email: [robertdeaves@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:robertdeaves@yahoo.co.uk)



**New Finn Club Holland Secretary**

After 12 years service to Finn Club Holland, Robert Sledziewski (NED 23) has decided to step down. He has been replaced with Boudewijn Kortbeek and his email is [fchsecretaris@hotmail.nl](mailto:fchsecretaris@hotmail.nl). Thank you Robert for the many years work and welcome Boudewijn.

**New Brazilian Secretary**

Jorge Rodrigues has taken over from Bruno Caruso as the Brazilian secretary as the class there faces perhaps the most important few years of its existence. One of the agreements made at the class general assembly was to hold the next three National Championships in Rio to allow sailors the chance to race regularly in the next Olympic waters.

You can follow the Brazilian class on their blog at <http://finnbrasil.blogspot.com.br>

**New Norwegian Secretary**

There has been a change in the leadership of the class in Norway again. After resurrecting the association, Stein Foerland is stepping aside while the new secretary will be Zelimir Saljic. They can be contacted on [norsk.finnjolleklubb@gmail.com](mailto:norsk.finnjolleklubb@gmail.com) or through their new website at [www.finnjolleklubb.no](http://www.finnjolleklubb.no).

**2013 Silver Cup**

2013 Finn Junior World Championship, the Finn Silver Cup, will be sailed in Malcesine on Lake Garda, Italy, from July 5 to 12.

The organising Club is Fraglia Vela Malcesine, which annually hosts the International Finn Cup in October and where the Finns have a long tradition.

For online entry and informations on accommodation and logistic the Club website is [www.fragliavela.org](http://www.fragliavela.org).

There are different training opportunities in Malcesine before the event, including the Eurosaf Garda event from May 8 to 12.

**Executive Committee of IFA 2012-13**

**President of Honour**

Gerardo Seeliger  
Paseo Marquesa Viuda Aldama 52  
28109 Madrid, Spain  
Mob: +34 609 20 1020 • Tel: +34 91 661 6133  
Email: [g.seeliger@vueltamundo.org](mailto:g.seeliger@vueltamundo.org)

**President**

Dr Balazs Hajdu  
Furj u 25, H-1124 Budapest, Hungary  
Mob: +36 30 332 7415 • Fax: +36 1 319 1680  
Email: [balazs.hajdu@t-online.hu](mailto:balazs.hajdu@t-online.hu)  
Skype: bhajdu001

**Vice-President – Sailing**

Tapio Nirkko  
Urheilukatu 32 a 5, 00250 Helsinki, Finland  
Tel: +358 44 0293293  
Email: [tapio.nirkko@purjehtija.fi](mailto:tapio.nirkko@purjehtija.fi)

**Vice-President – Development**

Zach Railey  
Tel: +1 727 439 5505 (cell)  
Email: [zachsail@gmail.com](mailto:zachsail@gmail.com)  
Skype: zachsail

**Vice-President – Masters' Fleet**

Fons van Gent  
Moerbeilaan 19, 6086 EC Neer  
The Netherlands  
Tel: +31 475 592048  
Email: [fonsvangent@gmail.com](mailto:fonsvangent@gmail.com)  
Skype: fonsvangent  
[www.finnworldmaster.com](http://www.finnworldmaster.com)

**Executive Director**

Corinne McKenzie  
39 Rue du Portal d'Amont  
66370 Pezilla la Riviere, France  
Mob: +33 670 10 18 13  
Tel/fax: +33 4 68 92 60 46  
Email: [corinne.mckenzie@orange.fr](mailto:corinne.mckenzie@orange.fr)  
Skype: corinnerollandmckenzie

**Chairman Technical Committee**

Richard Hart  
26 Lower Spinney, Warsash  
Southampton, SO3 9NL, England  
Tel: +44 1489 575327 • Fax: +44 1489 576908  
Email: [Richard@Hart331.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:Richard@Hart331.fsnet.co.uk)  
Skype: rhahart

**Honorary Treasurer**

Tim Carver  
Tel: +44 7798 927971  
Email: [tim@timcarver.com](mailto:tim@timcarver.com), Skype: carvert

**Special projects**

Michele Marchesini  
Email: [michele.marchesini@me.com](mailto:michele.marchesini@me.com)

**Chief Measurer**

Jüri Saraskin  
Lossi 1A, Tallinn, EE0026, Estonia  
Tel: (W) +372 6726 777, (H) +372 6726 222  
Mobile: + 372 501 1321, Fax: +372 6726 778  
Email: [info@perimex.ee](mailto:info@perimex.ee)

**Chairman Marketing Committee**

Robert Deaves  
2 Exeter Road, Ipswich IP3 8JL, England  
Mob: +44 (0)7932 047046  
Email: [robertdeaves@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:robertdeaves@yahoo.co.uk)  
Skype: robert.deaves

**Cover photo:** Jorge Rodrigues at the Brazilian Championship. Photo: Ale Socci

**Insets:** Brazilian Championship (Ale Socci); Miami podium (Walter Cooper/US Sailing); Andre Nelis; Oliver Tweddell at Sail Melbourne (Sport the Library/Sail Melbourne)

**Next issue:** July 2013

**Back issues:** Back issues are available through the Finnshop on the IFA website from GBP 5 each including postage.

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[www.youtube.com/thefinnchannel](http://www.youtube.com/thefinnchannel)



## Champions Sailing Cup

EUROSAF has launched the Champions Sailing Cup, a series of five regattas in 2013. Each of the regattas are based on well-established events, Garda Trentino Olympic Week, Delta Lloyd Regatta in Medemblik, Sail for Gold in Weymouth & Portland and Kieler Woche. It will end at the Semaine Olympique Française, which from 2013 takes place in La Rochelle

The series website, which will link all five regattas in the series has been published at: <http://championscup.eurosaf.org/>

Individual regattas will publish their Notice of Race on each of the event websites, along with information concerning entry, and more. EUROSAF is very excited at being able to offer sailors and sailing this new series starting this year, and is delighted to have brought together five major regattas to do so.

## Boris Jacobson 1937-2013

Boris Jacobson, one of Sweden's most prominent Finn sailors passed away after a brief illness on Sunday 11 February. He was 75.

In the 1960s Boris was one of the best sailors in the Finn class. He was born in Uppsala where the Finn itself was born and was a product of Rickard Sarby's team in Uppsala. Boris was the European



champion in 1962 and 1963, and was also the runner-up at the Finn Gold Cup in 1962 and 1963. "Boran" was the Swedish champion no less than five times.

He represented Sweden at the Olympics in 1964 - Enoshima, Japan, where he placed 14th.

Swedish sailing has lost one of its greatest Finn sailors and the Finn class has lost a former champion.

IFA sends its condolences and sympathies to Boris Jacobson's family.

## A Finn on your desktop

For all Finn sailors, you can start a sailing regatta with the family or friends, thanks to a new game variation from "Tactical Sailing."



The program module, "Coach's Toolbox," is not viewed as a playful variation for dealing with the wind. Rather, it has been developed with the goal of being a training program with many combinations for learning how to deal with the wind tactically. With the toolbox you receive over 20 prepared scenarios – ready to run – which you use can practice and expand your tactical and strategic capabilities at any time.

Just like on the water, false starts and contact with buoys are immediately penalized in the game; a protest account registers the penalties. Each sailor can register opponents' contact with boats, as well as other breaches of the rules, with the "Protest" key.



The game is available as a CD (44 Euro) or direct download (39 Euro); it operates on almost every computer system. Learn more about the features at [www.TacticalSailing.com](http://www.TacticalSailing.com) under "Game & Tips."

**Advertising feature**

## Website for Finn Gold Cup

The official event website has been launched for the 2013 Finn Gold Cup to be held in Tallinn, Estonia from August 23-31.



The Finn class previously sailed its 1994 Gold Cup at Pärnu, and the event website includes a video of that event, together with an interview with the winner, a very young Fredrik Lööf.

Hosting the Finn Gold Cup is a remarkable event in Estonian sport. It is only the fourth occasion that this small nation has organised a world championship for an Olympic sport, following the 1922 weightlifting world championships, the 1988 Tornado world championships and the 1994 Finn Gold Cup. Estonia has strong traditions in Finn sailing. Aleksander Tsutselov from Tallinn won the Olympic silver medal in Rome 1960.

The Finn Gold Cup is being organised by the Estonian Finn Class Association in cooperation with Estonian Yachting Union and ESS Kalev Yacht Club. The racing will be held at the Tallinn Olympic Yachting Centre at Pirita, originally built for the 1980 Olympics. All courses are within 15 minutes of the shore. The regatta headquarters provide excellent facilities to cater to the needs of sailors, coaches, support teams and media.

The Notice of Race will be published soon. Check out the website and the 1994 video at: [www.finngoldcup.org/2013](http://www.finngoldcup.org/2013)

## Ralph Roberts awarded ISAF Gold medal



**Congratulations to Ralph Roberts, Finn Olympian, Finn judge, and friend of the class on being awarded a Gold Medal from ISAF in recognition of many year's service to ISAF and sailing. Ralph had been a member of the ISAF Council, the Youth World Sailing Committee, the World Youth sailing Trust, and is currently an International Judge, a former Int. Umpire, has been a member of two Olympic Juries, and was Chair of the 2012 Paralympic Jury. He competed in the Finn in the 1960 Olympics and is a former President of Yachting NZ, and Life Member.**

**We asked Ralph to reflect on his time working with ISAF and this is what he said.**

Firstly I feel very honoured that ISAF Executive has recognised the work that I put in since the first time I went to YIRU over 28 years ago. I have been very fortunate to have worked with so many wonderful people from all over the world at these ISAF meetings. Many of these friends mentored and moulded me in so many ways and for that I am so grateful. More importantly the women accompanying their husbands to the YIRU/ISAF conference always looked after my wife by inviting her to go sightseeing or visiting places while the meetings took place. They were so wonderful it made Penny want to continue to go to the meetings each year.

But let me go back to the beginning or the first time I went to the YIRU. About 28 years ago I had just become President of Yachting New Zealand and our YIRU Councillor John Faire was on legal duty with Team New Zealand at the America's Cup in Perth. So I was sent to the YIRU, now ISAF, meetings, which were then held always in London. The first day I wandered around the various meeting rooms listening to the discussions and wondering what was I doing there. That changed quickly as the nicest part was meeting so many old Finn sailors. They seemed to be on every committee. That evening at the cocktail party I was sure it was a Finn reunion.

The second day Hal Wagstaff suggested I sit in on the Youth and Development Committee, as I was always interested in promoting the development of youth sailors, which I did and for the first hour it was boring because they talked about how many lifejackets were required at the next Youth Worlds.

I asked a question from the floor and the response from the Chairman was, "what did I think the meeting should be discussing?" I had to think quickly and came up with an idea that only about half

of the young sailors who attend the World Youth Championships came with a coach. What was needed was to have a 'coach at large' who was permitted to be inside the course without restriction and able to film. In the evening he would be able to debrief all sailors whether they had a coach or not.

I sat down and then the Chairman Ulyn SWE came over and said he liked the idea and would personally pay 25% of the cost required. Then another, Julius Blankenstein ISR, and Paul Phelan CAN, came and promised the same. By late afternoon a fourth person, Vice President Ding Schoonmaker USA, also promised, and three of us followed with pledges. We were fully funded.

The following morning I gave President Tallberg a one page presentation of the idea with a list of the seven of us that made promises of funding £125,000 for 10 years and he presented it to Council (called CPOC in those days) and it was moved by Commander Barker and seconded by Harman Hawkins USA, of America's Cup fame, who said the promised money had come from the ISAF family so we do not need to waste any more time in discussion. He moved that motion be put and it was passed. A Trust was formed and is still in existence today.

The 'coach at large' programme has been going for 25 years and so many of the world's sailors credit the words of wisdom they learnt from the coach debriefs. Torben Grael said at the Youth Worlds Awards Ceremony in Brazil some years ago, that having a coach at large is the primary reason the World Youth Championship is so strong today. The young sailors listen to every word and more importantly go home and share their new knowledge with their friends.

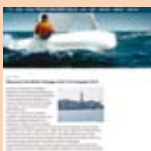
My second experience has been working with the Youth Worlds Sub Committee. Everyone had a common goal to try to make this event better. In the early years we didn't know where the championship would be next year, but now it is booked up three years ahead, which is wonderful.

My third vivid memory has been working with people from all the continents of the world and that has been such a lot of fun. Everyone brings a different angle to the debate, and fortunately they tolerated me not being multilingual, though they couldn't resist the smile.



## Europeans website

The German Finn Association, the Rostocker Regattaverein and the Akademischer Segler Verein zu Rostock invite sportsman from Europe and the World to the Finn Open European Championship & Open Junior European Championship from 19-27 July 2013 in Rostock-Warnemünde.



Warnemünde is one of the best sailing areas in Germany and was the venue for the Finn Europeans in 1961 and 1969 as well as – together with Leipzig – applicant for the Olympic Games in 2012.

[www.finneuropeans.org/ec2013](http://www.finneuropeans.org/ec2013)

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## Race Area Analyzer

Become an expert and beat the current Race Area Analyzer is a software-program that gives a detailed view of changes in tidal currents and helps tacticians take the right decisions during their race.

It has a high-resolution model of currents approved at the Olympic Games and World-Championships in Weymouth and La Rochelle. Special routing algorithms allow a precise calculation of best upwind and downwind courses, particularly for dinghies and small keelboats.

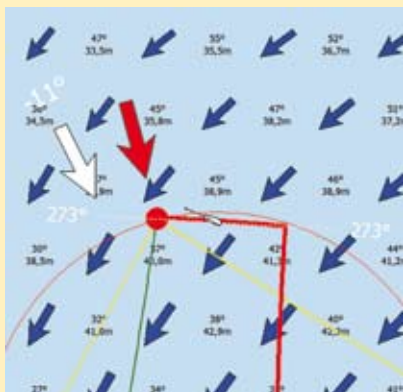


The software provides essential knowledge such as laylines in currents, attackangles, topmark approach courses, best downwind angles, windshifts caused by currents and strength of currents at any position of the race. Additionally Race Area Analyzer offers an interface for GRIB wind data.

Race Area Analyzer is very easy to use and addresses both sailors and coaches. It is an essential tool for training and racing in waters with currents.

Recently Race Area Analyzer is available for Weymouth and La Rochelle. New editions for the Olympics in Rio 2016 and all pre-Olympic test events will follow soon.

Please find more information and trial versions on [www.buell-software.com](http://www.buell-software.com) and videos on YouTube.



Advertising feature

## New Finn class publications available

It's been a busy few months over the winter in the Finn editorial office. The Finn class published FINNtastic Games in December and reissued FINNatics in January. Both became instant best-sellers in some regions on Amazon.

### FINNtastic Games

FINNtastic Games is a new book all about the class at the 2012 Olympic Games.

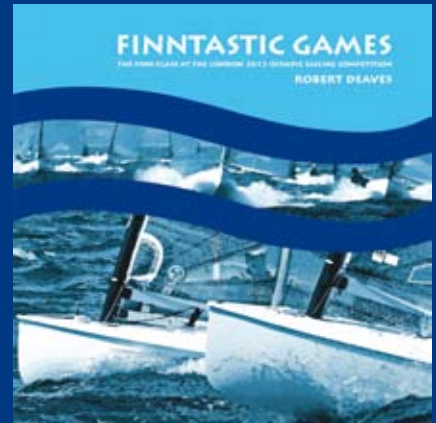
Over the course of the Olympics we released a series of press releases consisting of previews, interviews, race reports and wraps, all telling the sailors stories on and off the water. These press releases have been edited and compiled to provide a seamless story of the Finn class event at the Olympics, together with many great photos from before and during the event.

The book is only available through Amazon.com and the European Amazon sites (UK, Germany, France, Spain and Italy).

RRP is £11.99, EUR 14.99 or US\$17.99, though some regions offer discounts on these prices.

Technical details: 64 pages; Size: 8.5 x 8.5 inches; full colour throughout; US trade paper; soft cover; perfect bound; ISBN: 9780955900136; published: 3 Dec 2012.

In addition the book (with limited photos) is also available on Kindle stores worldwide. Current price is around EUR 1.



Above: book cover · Below: Kindle cover



More details on both books can be found at: [www.finnclass.org/shop](http://www.finnclass.org/shop)

### FINNatics

Due to the demand we still had for FINNatics, which was first published in 1999, the book has been reissued on Amazon. While the content is the same as the original edition, all photos in the new edition and black and white only, it is perfect bound and printed on US trade paper.

RRP is £14.95, EUR 18.95 or US\$ 19.95, but again some regions are discounting.

## Finn academy in Valencia

In February the Finn class concluded negotiations with Luca Devoti's Dinghy Academy in Valencia to commence a co-operation agreement that will result in the Finn class directly funding up to four athletes each year for training and coaching at the academy.

Already two sailors are benefiting from the initiative. Alejandro Foglia from Uruguay and Agustin Zabalua from Argentina have



been undergoing intensive training and will attend most major regattas this year.

In addition to providing coaching, equipment and logistics the agreement also includes five days free use of equipment and facilities for eligible sailors.

Further details and how to apply can be found soon on the Finn class website at [www.finnclass.org](http://www.finnclass.org), while information on the academy and blog updates can be found at [www.dinghyacademy.com](http://www.dinghyacademy.com).





# ISAF Sailing World Cup 2012-13



The fifth edition of the ISAF Sailing World Cup brings many changes to the format. There are four events only this time around, in Melbourne, Miami, Palma and Hyeres though more may be added to the programme at a later time.

## 1. ISAF Sailing World Cup Melbourne

### ISAF Sailing World Cup Melbourne 2012 - Final Results

1	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	1	1	1	1	1	(5)	1	2	1	2	11
2	AUS 261	Oliver Tweddell	3	2	3	2	2	1	4	1	(5)	4	22
3	AUS 41	Jake Lilley	2	3	2	3	3	6	(14)	4	4	6	33
4	USA 53	Ben Leibowitz	4	6	(9)	6	5	3	2	6	2	12	46
5	NZL 9	Rob Coutts	(8)	4	8	4	7	2	3	5	8	10	51
6	AUS 10	John Condie	9	5	5	8	6	(12)	6	8	6	14	67
7	AUS 26	Ian McKillop	5	7	6	5	9	10	7	11	(12)	8	68
8	AUS 8	Dirk Seret	(11)	11	7	9	8	11	8	3	10	16	83
9	AUS 260	Chris Caldecote	7	9	4	7	4	8	5	(14)	14	26	84
10	AUS 274	Adam Schone	10	8	10	(14)	14	7	9	7	9	22	96
11	AUS 5	Matt Visser	77										
12	AUS 262	Craig Ginnivan	86										
13	AUS 269	John Alexander	97										

Tweddell traded second and third places for the first half of the week.

Strong winds forced the abandonment of racing on day two before Casey continued with three more bullets on day three, but his winning run came to an end on day four with Tweddell taking the win in the only race completed. Casey continued to dominate, wrapping up the week with a series of first and second places, while Lilley slipped back from Tweddell as the stronger winds returned. Tweddell added a second race win to his score in race eight and was within

The wind proved very changeable for Sail Melbourne with a day lost with high winds followed by other days of very little wind.

On the first day in a shifty 7 to 12 knots Brendan Casey started as he meant to continue to two races wins. His overall victory was never really in doubt, while Jake Lilley, in his debut event, and Oliver



striking distance of Casey going into the medal race.

It had been blowing from the south at various angles and strengths all week, so perhaps it was only appropriate that for the medal race, Melbourne should turn on the hot northerlies between 18 and 26 knots. The medal race followed form with Casey cleaning up from Tweddell and Lilley, which was the way the podium also ended up.

Above: Podium (l-r: Jake Lilley, Brendan Casey, Oliver Tweddell) • Below: Brendan Casey (left), Jake Lilley (top), Oliver Tweddell, Chris Caldecote)

Photos: Sport the Library/Sail Melbourne





## 2. ISAF Sailing World Cup Miami

### ISAF Sailing World Cup Miami - Final Results

1	USA 6	Caleb Paine	[7]	1	1	1	4	2	1	2	4	2	20
2	CAN 5	Greg Douglas	5	4	[OCS]	4	5	1	2	1	3	3	34
3	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	6	[8]	3	3	1	3	4	6	2	5	43
4	EST 11	Lauri Väinsalu	4	5	2	7	6	7	7	3	[11]	10	55
5	AUS 1	Brendan Casey	2	[14]	4	2	2	5	3	DNE	1	1	57
6	CAN 110	Martin Robitaille	3	[11]	5	8	3	4	5	4	5	6	57
7	BRA 1	Bruno Prada	1	3	6	5	7	6	9	[11]	7	4	64
8	RUS 1	Alexey Selivanov	8	2	8	[10]	9	10	10	5	9	8	81
9	USA 21	Gordon Lamphere	12	6	10	12	12	8	6	9	8	[13]	101
10	USA 505	Erik Lidecis	9	7	7	9	[14]	13	8	8	10	12	103



11	CAN 17	Jeff Roney	88	20	USA 253	Andrew Nelson	170
12	USA 40	Luke Lawrence	90	21	USA 111	Cameron Schuh	183
13	USA 4	Rob Crane	107	22	USA 23	James Hunter	198
14	NZL 9	Rob Coutts	123	23	USA 1213	Andras Nady	204
15	CAN 9	Rob Hemming	133	24	USA 32	Charles Heimler	206
16	USA 69	John F Dane	143	25	ESP 315	Santiago Reoyo	214
17	USA 81	Joshua Revkin	151	26	GBR 1201	David Brockbank	218
18	USA 74	Henry Sprague	163	27	DEN 401	Craig Johnson	235
19	USA 117	Michael Mark	164	28	USA 22	Terry Greenfield	260



Caleb Paine led a field of youth sailors to claim his second ISAF Sailing World Cup event. He led from the first day and it never really looked as if he was heading for any other result. Runner-up Greg Douglas picked up an OCS in race three that left him struggling to make the podium, but he turned it around in the second half of the week with a string of top threes, including two wins. Bronze medalist Jorge Zarif also sailed a great week after a conservative start and proved very fast downwind. For Lauri Väinsalu, fourth place overall was a triumph over adversity following a serious knee injury in last year's medal race that took him out for most of the 2012 season.

One of the more intriguing storylines of the week was the return of Bruno Prada. After

he won the opening race, Paine won the next three to take and maintain the overall lead. The youngsters continued to dominate with Paine, Douglas and Zarif sharing the race wins. Brendan Casey was also in the mix, but it all went wrong for the world No. 1 on day four. He picked up his second yellow flag and a DNE, though did win the final two opening races.

In the medal race, the first upwind was dominated by Douglas and Casey, but Paine came through on the downwind to round the gate ahead of Douglas, Väinsalu and Casey. Väinsalu picked up four places and was just behind the leaders at the gate. The top three extended on the second upwind, with Casey not far behind and the final downwind turned into a big battle between

the top three, all finishing within seconds of each other. In the end Paine took the race win from Väinsalu and Douglas.

Runner up Douglas had this to say. "I'm happy with how the week went. I started the week a little bit off the pace but I was able to remain focused and improve during the week. Caleb Paine sailed very well and didn't give me much of a chance to catch him at the end. We have a really good training group right now which is mostly youngsters. As a group we feel that we have the opportunity to make a big leap this year so we have been extremely focused. We are ready to show the world what we can do."

Top: Caleb Paine receives Olympic Torch Trophy from Zach Railey. Photos: Walter Cooper/US Sailing and Ants Väinsalu



## André Nelis Remembered

**A**ndré Nelis, one of Belgium's greatest sailors, passed away on December 9th, age 77, after losing a long battle against cancer. The Finn class has lost one of its legends, a true icon of the class and a link back to the very beginning.

André was born in Antwerp and was one of the early superstars of the Finn class, with countless race and regatta wins through his career. He won the first ever Finn Gold Cup in 1956 from the great Paul Elvstrom and then won it again in 1961. He holds the joint record for the most consecutive Finn Gold Cup medals - seven in a row - as he took silver in 1958, 1959 and 1960 and bronze in 1957 and 1962.

He participated three times in the Olympics in the Finn class and won the silver medal in 1956 and the bronze medal in 1960. He also competed in 1964 where he finished 10th and was the reserve helmsmen in 1952 at the age of just 17. André Nelis belongs to the small circle of Belgian athletes that won more than one Olympic medal.

He bought one of the Borresen Finns used at the 1952 Olympics and used that up until 1959. He later built the first fibre glass Finn and used it to win the 1961 Finn Gold Cup. His design, the HVM Finn, was a successful and prolific Finn design in the 1960s with more than 300 built.

André lost his Olympic medals in a sail loft fire in the 1980s, but in 2009 he was presented with replicas by IOC President Jacques Rogge.

After his sailing career, André became a successful sail maker; he started in Sneek with Gaastra in the 1970s. In 1973 he started the first North Sails offshore site in Europe, together with Joep Straus. André participated frequently in yacht regattas and remained a fierce competitor until the very end.

IFA send its sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Photos supplied by Peter Danby, Bart Sarby, Gilles Nelis, Bernt Anderson, Ineke Schipstra, Jules Bänffer



I first met Andre at the 1958 Gold Cup in Zeebrugge, and I soon found that he was not only a formidable sailor, but also a friendly and amusing individual.

During the Gold Cup event I was invited to race a few days later on a lake in the south of Belgium, but I had left my car in England and pushed my boat on its road trailer on to the train ferry which sailed from Felixstowe to Zeebrugge. I was told that it would not be a problem because my Finn would be transported to Chimay and back (see photo above, André on right), so I was pleased to accept the invitation.

André was also competing, and I tried hard to beat him, which was not an easy thing to do. After racing on the first day, somebody arranged a special race in pedal boats, and as a keen cycle racer I thought it was my opportunity to defeat the big man. However, it was not to be – one of the pedal cranks on my boat was bent, and André beat me once again. However, when we got back to the hostel where we were staying, I spotted an interesting spider on the door, and André wanted to see what I was looking at. When he saw it he recoiled – he hated spiders, and at last I felt I had a small victory over him.

After the event André kindly drove me to Antwerp, where he had arranged for me to stay a night at his mother-in-law's house, and I was allowed to sleep in the same room as his Olympic medal. I was re-united with my Finn the next day, and as I travelled home I reflected that the highlight of my time in Belgium was meeting André Nelis.

Peter Danby

Here is a picture from the podium of the second Finn Gold Cup in Karlstad 1957.

André was the big favourite as defender of the cup. (I was 17 years old and a member of the organising team.) It was a shifty regatta with three outstanding sailors. André was unlucky and broke his mast in one of the races and finally ended third after the "lead pig" Jurgen Vogler from DDR and the big Harald Bredo Eriksson from Norway.

I started to sail the Finn in 1960 and met André in Travemunde 1961 where he took his second Cup (and I was 10th). Next time we met was in Tönsberg in Norway where André was third and I was sixth

I remember André as a very tall, thin, cool, calm person without any sensational behaviour, always in the right position on the water. His Cup series from 1956 - 1962 of 1-3-2-2-2-1-3 speaks for itself.

**Bernt Andersson**



Although I did not know him very well in his Finn years he was already a big hero for me in those years.

I recently helped Jules Bänffer with some research for the production of his book about Sailing Heroes in Holland and Belgium. I then discovered that he was very successful in the first seven Finn Gold Cups. He was always on the podium with two firsts, three second and two thirds. Nobody matched that, not even Paul Elvstrøm.

He was the most dangerous competitor for Paul in those years. He won a silver medal in 1956 in Melbourne and a bronze in 1960 in Rome. In 1964 he came 10th and then left the Finn class to concentrate more on sailing in offshore boats. In 1952 he was still very young at 17 but was sent to the Olympics as a reserve for the Belgian team. He was at that time a long and slender boy with a lot of talent.

Before the Finn he sailed in the old 12 ft dinghy but only single handed, not with a crew like they do now. He met the Belgian rowing silver medallist in the 1952 Olympics, Bob Baetens who took him with him for power training with weights. That formed the basis for his exceptional fitness and strength. Races had a much longer duration than now and were often decided in the last 45 minutes when the men were separated from the boys. Wooden masts with cotton sails made it a much heavier boat compared to the boats of today.

In the sixties he became the sailmaker of Gaastra, together with Joep Straus. Gaastra was at that time a small traditional local sail loft in Sneek in the Northern Netherlands province of Friesland. After a few years Lowell North approached a group of Olympic champions to set up a worldwide chain of lofts and André opened the first in Europe in his home town Antwerp.

He became very successful and sailed numerous big boats all over the world. Another speciality he developed was sails for the traditional flat-bottomed yachts with leeboards in Holland. They had so called half winders, the forerunners of the present asymmetrical spinnakers. At that time North had developed the first computer technology for cutting sails and that meant a revolution in the still very traditional sailmaking practice for that fleet.

André had a very outgoing personality and he was often not difficult to be heard on the racecourse in his unbridled enthusiasm. His passion for sailing was famous and his numerous jokes came with great salvos of laughter.

He fought cancer for some years but that could not stop him enjoying life until the very last weeks of his life. He leaves behind his partner Danielle and his sons Yves, Gilles and Loïc.

**Hans Zuiderbaan**

My memories of André Nelis are related to Finn Gold Cup in Karlstad and the European Championships in Naples 1957, and to the Finn Gold Cup in Zeebrugge 1958.

I remember him as a good-humoured and very fair sailor and being popular among his competitors. My uncle Rickard Sarby met him for the first time at the European Championships in 1953 in Germany, which were sailed in the German O-jolle. I think that André was the winner of the championships, and that this was the international breakthrough for him, only 19-20 years old.

I remember that Rickard spoke very well about André and said that he was a very skilful sailor and commended his fast downwind technique. They met for the last time at the Olympics 1956 in Melbourne.



Here is a photograph taken by Rickard at an excursion to Capri on a sail-free day at the European Championships in Naples 1957. André is in the backseat (with sun glasses) besides Börge Schwartz. Jürgen Vogler is in the front seat near to the camera.

**Bert Sarby**



**André Nelis • 1935 - 2012**  
Finn Gold Cup 1956, 1961  
Olympic Silver Medal 1956  
Olympic Bronze Medal 1960

Standing two metres tall and weighing in at 96 kg Jake Lilley may be only 19 years old, but he is already turning heads after his first few regattas in the Finn, which included a bronze at Sail Melbourne and a gold at the Sydney International Regatta. Later this year he will embark on the European circuit with no small ambition driving him on.



## Focus on Youth – Jake Lilley

Having gone through the Laser Radial and Laser Standard route, he quickly grew out of these boats and realised his long ambition to join the Finn class in late 2012.

He said, “I have always wanted to race Finns since I first stepped on a sailing boat. In addition, the Olympic Games has always been a massive part of my life. To now be sailing the true Olympic boat is a great privilege and there is nothing else I would rather do.”

Jake hails from Brisbane. “I started school sailing in early 2008 and quickly moved on, getting into the Laser Radial. I sailed the radial for two years and finished third in the ISAF Youth World Trials and immediately moved to the Laser Standard for 18 months.”

Jake says he realised his potential following his 12th place at the 2012 Kieler Woche, a pivotal regatta for him in many ways. “This was the last regatta of my 2012 European season and I really proved to myself that I could mix it up with the top sailors in the world.”

“After the 2012 European season, I came to the realisation that I was far too big for the Laser Class. I talked to my mentor, London 2012 Olympian, Brendan Casey about his thoughts on moving to the Finn, as he himself had been too big in the Laser for too long, and it became clear that the Finn was going to be the class for me.”

So after some fast-track training it was off to Sail Melbourne. “I had only been training for eight weeks before my first regatta, the ISAF Sailing World Cup Melbourne. I really had no expectations and was still on a very steep

learning curve as to how to exactly sail the boat. I knew the boat was going to be technically challenging and physically demanding to race and that is exactly what it was. In terms of my own performance I far exceeded my expectations for a first regatta.

“Melbourne provided its usual random weather and we were graced with a bit of everything as far as sailing conditions were concerned. Perhaps the most exciting day was 25 knots of wind and two metre high waves. Overall I had a solid week with consistent scores. I competed in my first medal race, finishing third in the race and collecting a bronze medal. It was fantastic racing against my new training partner, world number 1 and London 2012 Olympian, Brendan Casey.”

“Since then I have sailed at all the domestic regattas where I have been able to practice and vastly improve.”

“I next travelled to Sydney where I consolidated with some hard training and good racing at both the Sydney International Regatta and the New South Wales Finn State Championships. I had an unbelievable start to the NSW States with a 1, 1, 2 in some fickle breeze as we raced up and down Sydney Harbour. I was very star-



struck racing against my child-hood idol and three-time Olympian, Anthony Nossiter, but I didn't let this hold me back."

"The next day I finished with a very hard-fought fourth and eight from the two races in some crazy breeze and a lot of harbour traffic. But with one drop for the series, this was enough to leave me tied for first. Unfortunately Brendan beat me on a countback so I had to settle for silver. However, during the course of the week I also managed to win the Sydney International Regatta in which the NSW States had been run in conjunction with."

"The Finn fleet then travelled to Cronulla for the Australian Finn Championship held in the ocean off Cronulla beach over five days and 10 races. I managed to finish the regatta second overall, behind Brendan and ahead of Anthony. The week provided some extreme heat and off shore breezes. At the end of the week I was also the Australian Junior Finn Class Champion for 2013.

"I am very fortunate to have John [Bertrand] as a coach, he has been invaluable in my campaign so far. To be honest, Yachting Australia has executed a vision and they targeted John to develop a National Finn programme in my home town of Brisbane. So far it has been an excellent choice and I am sure there are much greater rewards to be reaped from Yachting Australia's vision and guidance. There's a very exciting quadrennium to come for sure."

How much influence did Brendan have on his sailing path? "Brendan has been such a key role model and mentor throughout all of my sailing career. I have always looked up to Brendan and he has always steered me in the right direction and given me invaluable advice."

He describes his introduction to the class as a massive learning experience. "For sure there are important things I must work on, but for now I am working on improving my entire game, not just some particulars. The learning curve in the class is so steep and with the knowledge that both Brendan and John keep giving to me, I don't know if I will ever stop learning at this rate."



His focus for 2013 will be a shot at the Junior world title (the Silver Cup) on Lake Garda in July. "Short-term I am focused on the Silver Cup. In saying this, each regatta I will compete in is just as important as any other and I want to give the very best performance in each of these events. I have some very high goals and aspirations, but I think the most important thing is having a good plan and focusing on the correct processes, one day at a time. Long-term goal of course is Olympic Gold."

However at the moment, he is just excited to be sailing. "To be honest I am really excited to see my boat. I am a big fan of the Finn and love all the details and minor differences in each boat. I am really looking forward to racing as well, that's what we all train for."

"I don't have a sponsor at the moment. The campaign is more-or-less funded by myself and my family, which is always tough."

Jake does benefit though from a strong and growing domestic Finn sailing scene that has really taken off in recent years and recovered to its strength in the 1970s and 1980s. "Rob McMillan has been instrumental in reviving the Finn Class in Australia and all I can say is I hope it continues to go from strength to strength. I see the class growing at all levels, and a new generation coming through."

"The Finn Class here is a bunch of great people and love to help each other out. We are trying to structure more training and racing together to all push each other to better levels. I love it and the camaraderie is great. A strong domestic scene is important on so many levels, and hopefully as a country we can show the world up right through, from junior, open and masters levels."

Final thoughts looking all the way ahead to Rio? "It's a long way to go and it's important to take it one step at a time in the hope of achieving the ultimate goal. But I'm really looking forward to the journey."

Follow Jake at his website: [www.jakelilleysailing.com](http://www.jakelilleysailing.com)



Left: Jake chases another rising Australian Finn sailor Oliver Tweddell during Sail Melbourne. All photos by Sport the Library/Sail Melbourne



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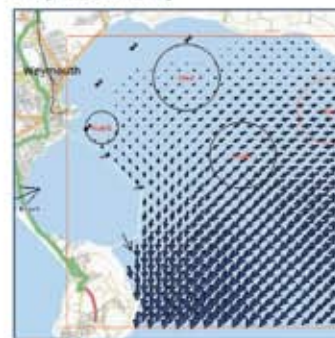
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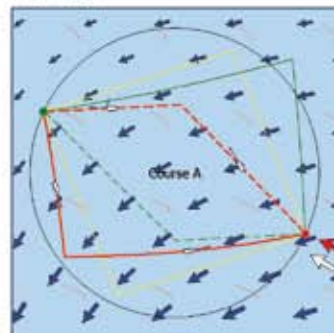


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## Masters News

The Organizing Authority for the Masters 2013, Société Régates Rochelaises is running after a slow start, mainly due to problems with the computer company that was supposed to build and control their event website.

The entries are coming in. After two weeks we had 94 entries. My estimation is that we will end up with a maximum of 250 competitors. Have a look on [www.srr-sailing.com/finn-world-master](http://www.srr-sailing.com/finn-world-master)

The PRO in La Rochelle will be Pierre Lemaire. Many of us will remember him being the PRO for the Masters 2009 in Maubuisson. He asked me if a gate start could be a good solution for big fleets like we have in the Finn World Masters nowadays. He sent me some information and indicated that some classes have good results with the system. I told him that, first of all, we will discuss this in the Masters

Committee and then in the Annual Masters Meeting. I know it is, for many Finn sailors, an unknown system and it is used in very limited events.

When we notice that a gate start is not a good idea for us, we forget it and stick to our system with groups, that has proven to be working in Masters World Championships in the past. Do we wish to be an experimental class? Like I said earlier: after having discussed the format several times, in the last couple of years, I hope we have now decided for a good system that can satisfy most of us and that can be used for a couple of years.

In the Annual Masters Meeting in La Rochelle we will vote for the venue in 2015. We have two candidates: Amici Velici Vigna di Valle in Bracciano, Italy and Nautical Club of Kavala, Greece. There's some information on [www.finnworldmaster.com/candidates](http://www.finnworldmaster.com/candidates).

In the AMM both venues will present themselves and after this we will vote, as usual.



I am looking forward to meeting many of you in La Rochelle in May and I hope we will, again, have a good Finn World Masters Championship with true winners after a sportive battle. Preferably in sunny and warm circumstances, so our spouses will be satisfied, too.

I wish you happy sailing in good winds,

**Fons van Gent,**  
(Vice) President Finn Masters Fleet

## International University Sailing Cup

After sailing was not included in the programme for the 2013 World University Summer Games, the Russian Finn Association seized the opportunity to create a new sailing event for students – the International University Sailing Cup (Finn). This will be held in Moscow in May and will be sailed in the Moscow Sailing School's fleet of Finns.

In 2013 Russia will hold the World University Summer Games – Universiade in Kazan from July 7-17. The sport of sailing is not included in that event, so the Russian Finn Association, together with International Finn Association (IFA), offered to hold the International Students Sailing event using Finns in Moscow just before the Universiade. This initiative was supported by the IFA, Russian Students Sport Union and has received the endorsement of the International University Sport Federation (FISU). Moreover, the President of FISU Mr. Claude-Louis Gallien is supporting the initiative. He was also Finn sailor and participant at the Olympic Games.

The driving force behind this new event has been the Russian Finn class secretary Vasily Kravchenko. "We have good potential to promote the Finn class. Many junior or post-junior Finn sailors are students and while all universities have their own sports competitions and sports programmes, and sailing is still an option for university sports programme, the Finn class is not represented there unfortunately. The university sports programme is a big additional force for class popularisation, which has so far not been used by the Finn class."

All National Finn Associations are invited to support the first International University Sailing (Finn) Cup in Moscow (May 28-June 2) and to send sailors and invite friends from the Laser class to participate in the event. The charter boats will be provided free of charge, and sailors will have chance to have a look at Moscow and Kazan (upon request).

Oleg Matytsin, the President of the Russian Student Sports Union and 1st Vice-President of International University Sports Federation said, "Today Russian sailing, including students, is experiencing a revival. They won five medals at the World University Games in 2011, and the success of the last 2 years at Junior Finn World and Continental Championships, who, incidentally, are also students, include gold and bronze at the World Championship and silver and bronze at the European Championships. It is no coincidence that Russia was given the right to host the International University Cup in sailing for the World Universiade Kazan 2013 in the Finn."

"The joint organisation of the International University Cup is important in terms of strengthening the ties between the student section and sports schools and countries. I think that active cooperation between the Russian Sports Student Union and the Russian Finn Association will help revive the student sailing and bring it to a new level."

### The official invitation reads,

*The International University Sport Federation (FISU), Russian Finn Association and Russian Students Sport Union are pleased to invite you to the International University Sailing Cup (Finn) 2013, which will be held in Moscow prior to the 27th Summer Universiade in Kazan.*

*The event will be held on Klyazma and Pirogovo Lakes in Moscow on May 28 to June 2, 2013. The Championship will take place at Moscow Sailing School, which hosted the 49er World Championship and the Finn Gold Cup in 2005, and Junior Finn World Championship (Silver Cup) in 2007 and 2011.*

*Eligible competitors shall be a national of the country he/she represents, be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1, 2013 and be a student or postgraduate student of a university. The entry fee is 130 Euro.*

*Charter boats can be provided for participants. One fully equipped Finn (a 2004 Devoti that was built for the 2005 Finn Gold Cup) and one mast (Hit Mast, bend numbers are available) can be provided by Moscow Sailing School to each participant for charter free of charge on demand with a damage deposit of 300 Euro. Sailors are invited to bring their sails and personal equipment only.*

*Sailors and accompanying persons can stay at Moscow Sailing School hotel just near the dinghy park. The approximate price is 30 Euro per night per person, and this includes three meals per day. The reservation of the rooms and charter boats should be done by April 30.*

*For more details please go to the official event web-site [www.iusc.ru](http://www.iusc.ru) or contact Vasily at the Russian Finn Association at [finn@moscow-finnclass.ru](mailto:finn@moscow-finnclass.ru)*



The approach of an Olympic Games normally has a positive influence on activities in the host country and this is proving to be especially true of the Finn class in Brazil.

Just over four years ago we reported on the joint initiative between Brazil, Pata Boats of Hungary and the International Finn Association to import a mould into Brazil to start building boats there for the first time in more than three decades.

The success story of that initiative continues and the class recently held its most successful National Championship in many decades. While numbers are still small compared to some European countries, it attracted 26 boats, out of a total of 36 Finns actively racing in the country, to three days of competition on the Guarapiranga Lake, in Sao Paulo.

## Finn focus on Brazil - the road to Rio 2016



The strength of the class was underlined by fact that most of the boats being raced were new boats built in Brazil on the back of the 2008 initiative. While there are still some imports from Europe, the sheer cost – in terms of duties and transport charges – and complexity of this has meant the unmitigated success of the home build project. Before 2008 the class had very little growth because the cost of importing a boat was almost the same as the cost of the boat itself.

The fleet at Guarapiranga included boats from the three centres of Finn sailing in Brazil. There were boats from Rio, São Paulo, and from the fledgling fleet growing in the capital Brasilia.

There was a complete mix of conditions over the three days, but favourite, the 2012 Olympian Jorge Zarif, took the title from the returning Bruno Prada. Andre Mirsky ended up third after Prada sailed a great last day to snatch second place. Zarif took six race wins out of the seven races (Prada took the other race win) to dominate the competitive and expanding fleet. Further growth is expected over the next three years as the country and the fleet prepare for the Olympics.

### New boats

The man behind the 2008 project was Jorge Rodrigues, though most of the new boats were built by the local boatbuilder Holos under his guidance. Jorge is now the new National secretary of the class as well as being involved in 'Apoio Rio 2016', a training support organisation for sailors and federations wishing to locate in Rio.

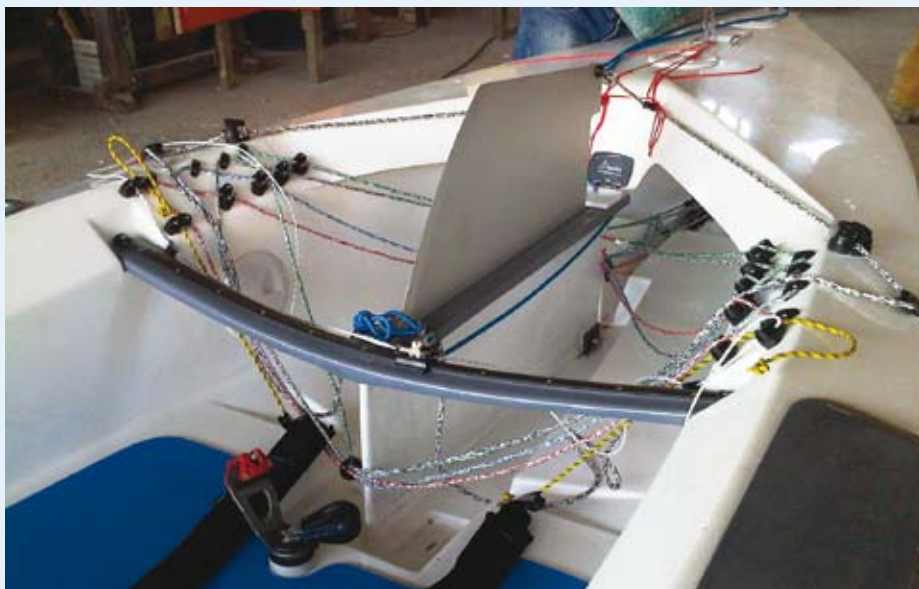
After the first dozen of so boats were built Jorge felt that the boat could be improved, so set about designing and building a new boat. Because the cost of Holos doing the work was so high, he started work himself and the first boat has recently been launched.

"I started to work by myself to develop this new boat last year. It took me 10 months of hard work to complete the job, but right now I have a new set of moulds for this new model."



All photos by Ale Socci, [www.greenpixel.com.br](http://www.greenpixel.com.br)





"I built a single hull to test it as a prototype. The new boat was sent to sail in the windiest region in Rio for a good structural test, and the boat went without any problem and without a single drop of water inside the hull. I am right now working with the class to see how will we measure and approve the new boat to allow me to sell it to our market."

"We also built a few masts here and we are still working to have a competitive mast for sailors in all weight ranges. We produced good masts for light or heavy sailors, but we still need to produce a mast with good numbers for the average sailors, from 90 to 100 kg."

"The first mast built here was very soft and only performs well for light sailors and in light winds. The second mast, after some fine tuning, sanding some areas and reinforcing in others was very good, and this mast won a local regatta in Rio with four races and nine boats competing."

"After this we went to Brasilia to race there and a local sailor, Juliando Camargo, liked the mast performance and decided to buy it. Some time ago Juliando also bought the first boat that we built and is the first helmsman to compete with both a boat and mast nationally built for a long time. He went to compete at our nationals and he got the best race position of all the boats we have built."

"Unfortunately, on the last leg of the first race of our Nationals, a very strong wind caused many sailors to capsize or rip their sails, and Juliando lost his precious sail that was perfectly matched to his mast. He finished fifth in the race but the sail was not usable, though he had proved the mast was fast."

Jorge says the mast project is a bit behind schedule, but a new mould is being planned, maybe built by Holos, and masts should be readily available in Brazil soon.

As for sails, one local sail builder tried to develop a sail but most sailors prefer to buy their sails from North Sails Argentina.

### History

Brazil has a long history and tradition in the Finn class. Its most famous Finn sailor was Jorg Bruder who was tragically killed in an airplane crash in 1973 while travelling to Brest to defend his world title for the third time. The country has twice hosted the Finn Gold Cup, the last time in 2004 when Ben Ainslie famously equalled Bruder's record of three consecutive wins that had stood for 30 years.

The current big name in the class is Jorge Zarif, and for anyone with aspirations to represent Brazil in the Finn class in 2016, Zarif is currently the one to beat.

The recent return of former Finn sailor and double Olympic Star medalist Bruna Prada has added a new ingredient to the mix, and though he won the opening race in January at the ISAF Sailing World Cup Miami, has yet to make a final decision on a full campaign. Though the numbers were low, it was a competitive week that gave Zarif the bronze, while Prada finished in seventh. On their return to Brazil, Zarif was again dominant at the Brazilian Sailing Week in Rio, winning nine of the ten race series.

Zarif said on his performance in Miami, "It was good in general, and I was happy



with the bronze. It was hard because I was always coming from behind, so you have to work harder in the free pumping to win positions. We always had the same guys in the front, one point was super important."

"The downwind was nice, so I gained a few positions in critical moments, but the upwind was not so good. We are working to improve that for Palma."

He has not been full time since the Olympics saying, "I had some surgery in my knee after the Olympics, so I have been training for just two months. The downwinds are much better than before."

"I am training with Bruno Prada and coach Rafa Trujillo in Rio. It's been great for us. Neither of us likes to lose so the training has been very hard. He has experience and he knows very well what you need to do to have good results, so I am trying to learn from him. We are having good times training and we are good friends. It helps a lot."



Prada commented, "I am happy to be sailing the Finn again. After just starting to sail the Finn two months ago I am happy with my upwind, and very impressed with the free pumping downwind, but I need to train a lot."

Since he last sailed a Finn at the 2004 Finn Gold Cup in Rio, he has only sailed Stars and big boats. Was it hard to come back? "I felt old...most of the sailors are at least 15 years younger. The biggest change has been the downwind free pumping for sure. A nightmare..."

While his Star helm Robert Scheidt has already been making his mark back in Lasers, was there an agreement between the two to try different classes for 2016? "Robert needs to eat a little bit more to become a Finn sailor...he is 80kg. He told me that he will try the Laser again. As I was nine years without sailing dinghies, my plan is to do one year of hard sailing, and then evaluate if I am able to go ahead." However, of course, both are still hoping for another chance in the Star.

"Jorge and I are training together. He is a big, young, talented sailor and with a lot of

## Focus on Brazil

motivation. It is very good training with him. Rafa Trujillo is coaching us. He is a great coach and he is helping a lot.”

### Olympic training

To help sailors, both Brazilian and from overseas, familiarise themselves to the conditions both inside and outside Guanabara Bay, the class is running its next three National Championships in Rio.

Rodrigues said, “The class decided that we will have the next three Brazilian Nationals in Rio de Janeiro as a way to encourage all Finn sailors to get to know the racing area for the Olympic Games of 2016, in Guanabara Bay.”

“We are also interested in hosting the 2015 Finn Gold Cup here in order to provide the Finn sailors some regattas and training for those who will compete in 2016. The idea would be to hold State Championships, Brazilian Nationals, South Americans and the Gold Cup in sequence, to provide various opportunities for sailing here.”

He is also involved, together with fellow Finn sailor Colin Reed, with the Apoio Rio 2016, (literally ‘Help Rio 2016’), initiative which offers help to sailors and national authorities looking to train in Rio prior to the Olympics. He said, “Apoio Rio 2016 has been set up to work in conjunction with FEVERJ (Rio de Janeiro Sailing Federation) and other established Brazilian sailing federations, to provide the operations side of team training support.”

Describing some of the problems they will face, “At present training facilities do not exist, but there are resources available. It will also be virtually impossible to find space for team containers on site in any of the host clubs. All clubs have very little spare space. It’s the one thing they don’t have.”

Logistics is the major problem but hopefully the solution is in sight, with Apoio Rio 2016 in negotiations to provide the required facilities. The initiative offers a wide range of services to visiting sailors and federations. A full presentation document, including detailed Rio weather information and contact information, is available on [www.finnclass.org](http://www.finnclass.org).



## Brazilian Nationals 2013 - São Paulo

The 2013 Brazilian Nationals was held from 18-20 January at the Yacht Club Paulista on the Guarapiranga Lake, São Paulo. There was a record participation of 26 boats, out of the 36 boats in the country.

This event demonstrated the class growth here, especially after Rio de Janeiro was chosen to host the 2016 Olympic Games.

During these three days of competitions, we had seven races in various weather and wind conditions, providing the sailors with many opportunities to compete in the excellent atmosphere of camaraderie among the participants.

Two sailors from Brasilia, the capital of the country where a new fleet is being formed, came to participate in the event. The race area represented a challenge since most of the sailors from Rio and Brasilia had never raced before on this site.

More good news for the class is that, after a long time away, Bruno Prada returned to compete in the Finn class and is looking to compete with Jorge Zarif for the Olympic berth for Brazil in Rio de Janeiro in 2016.

### Racing

On the first day of competition the only race of the day was held after a couple hours on the lake just waiting for the wind to come.

Eventually a light to moderate wind finally appeared and the race started well and everything was fine. But at the end of the last leg dark clouds came from the west, bringing strong winds that brought wonderful planing conditions and some capsizes shortly after the finish line, as well as a few ripped sails.

There was heavy rain with fog for some time, but all sailors were waiting for the race committee to hold one more race that day. After the rain stopped, the wind dropped too much so no more races could be completed. After the first day, Jorge Zarif led from Andre Mirsky.

This helped the sailors who had torn their sails to compete again on the next day without losing any races.

The second day of the competition was also marked by light to moderate winds with very shifty conditions, forcing the sailors to react



quickly. We also had three races this day and one of the major requirements was to sail fast and to keep the rudder clean from the leaves of the local gigogas, that were spread over the racing area.

The last race of the day was won by Bruno Prada, who broke the unbeaten streak of Jorge Zarif and showed that he has returned to compete seriously in the class.

At the end of the second day Jorge Zarif, Andre Mirsky and Bruno Prada were the best positioned sailors.

The Guarapiranga Lake reserved the best wind and weather conditions for the last day of competition. On a beautiful sunny day, with winds from 12-18 knots, we had more three races in these nice conditions, where pumping was allowed by the race committee, and naturally the sailors with better physical shape and pumping techniques took advantage of the planing potential of the boats under these conditions.



Jorge Zarif won the three races of the day, proving that he is, at the moment, the best sailor of the class in the country, winning the Championship.

Bruno Prada also sailed very well, and with two seconds and a fourth-place finish, which secured second place overall, overtaking Andre Mirsky. Mirsky had returned to class a little time ago, and this third place overall is a great result, especially considering the level of competition.

In the Master class, Bruno Prada, now 41, was the champion, followed by Rolf Bremer and Ricardo Santos, who finished tied in points with Tiago Moraes, but took the third position on result of the last race.



Ricardo Santos ended up joining the class and was surprised by his own performance for a beginner in the class.

### Meeting

During this Championship, two more events were carried out. The first was a National Meeting to discuss the direction of the class in Brazil, in order to consolidate the current growth phase of our class in Brazil.

The class decided that we will have the next three Brazilian Nationals in Rio de Janeiro, as a way to encourage all Finn sailors to get to know the racing area for the Olympic Games of 2016, in Guanabara Bay.

We are also interested in hosting the 2015 Finn Gold Cup here in Brazil, in order to provide the Finn sailors some regattas and training for those who will compete in 2016.

The idea would be to hold State Championships, Brazilian Nationals, South Americans and the Gold Cup in sequence, to provide various opportunities for sailing here.

We will have class elections every couple of years to define who will be the National

Class Secretary, and for the next period I have been elected. I'm happy to have my work recognised by the local sailors here and I will do my best to continue the work developed by Bruno Caruso.

The second event was a dinner organised by Bruno, that almost all the sailors of the Nationals attended, and where the atmosphere of fun and camaraderie found on the water were always present, as Andre Mirsky commented at the end of our dinner.

That's what I have for now, but I know that as time moves forward to the Olympic Games, we will have more sailors interested in sailing here and learning about the conditions in our bay. I welcome everyone that needs any help or assistance to contact me at my mail [jrsilva@gmail.com](mailto:jrsilva@gmail.com). It will be my pleasure to help you here in our wonderful city, Rio de Janeiro.

See you soon.  
**Jorge Rodrigues**

Brazilian Nationals 2013										
1	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	1	1	1	(2)	1	1	1	6
2	ESP 100	Bruno Prada	(8)	2	4	1	2	4	2	15
3	BRA 3	Andre Mirsky	2	3	3	4	(15)	3	6	21
4	BRA 100	Mauricio Bueno	(10)	6	9	6	3	2	3	29
5	BRA 709	Fabio Bodra	(11)	7	8	5	7	7	4	38
6	BRA 45	Marcelo Bellotti	9	8	(12)	3	6	6	9	41
7	BRA 53/27	Pedro Henrique	6	11	5	9	(12)	10	5	46
8	BRA 55	Fabio Prada	(DNC)	4	2	8	11	18	11	54
9	BRA 6	Juliano Rosas	5	10	7	12	17	11	(18)	62
10	BRA 126	Gabriel Raulino	7	9	14	16	5	(21)	14	65
11	BRA 17	Rolf Bremer	67	19	BRA 33	Ricardo Carvalho	101			
12	BRA 21	Ubiratan Matos	69	20	BRA 7	Bruno Caruso	102			
13	BRA 97	Ricardo Santos	72	21	BRA 9	Reinaldo Conrad	109			
14	BRA 0	Tiago Moraes	72	22	BRA 5	Jorge Rodrigues	113			
15	BRA 111	Arthur Lopes	77	23	BRA 108	Cristiano Ruschmann	129			
16	BRA 117	Ricardo Valerio	77	24	BRA 189	Arnaldo Fernandes	131			
17	BRA 42	Paulo Picchetti	79	25	BRA 102	Colin Reed	157			
18	BRA 11	Robert Rittscher	100	26	BRA 22	Nelson R. Carvalhaes	160			



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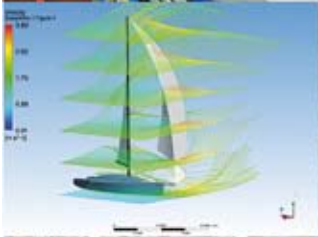


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## Technical Committee Update

The 2013 Rules make one change to the boat. AGM 2012 instructed that we make a Submission to remove the measurement restrictions on the strengthening reinforcements at the corners of our sails. For our shape of sail, it makes no sense to limit something that's intended to make our sails last longer. The restrictions are gone.

For some years, our leading builders have asked the Chief Measurer (Jüri Saraskin) to check the measurements over when a new mould is bought into service. This has been a very successful policy for everybody: on several occasions problems have been discovered and resolved before production commences, and the visit enables Jüri and the local measurer to update each other and discuss possible issues. This arrangement has now been incorporated into our Rules. We also submitted a proposal to require similar visits to manufacturers on a periodic basis, but this was rejected on the grounds that we have the right as a Class Association to do this.

AGM instructed us to continue seeking authority for the new Measurement database. This year ISAF agreed to this, and we were able to include a number of changes to allow development in the way we certify our Boats and record our Class Association Membership. We are working towards having the boat certification and measurement forms on the Class Measurement Database. We are also hoping to develop a Membership Database.

In a few years' time we hope that Regatta Organisers will be able to check our Certification and Membership when we enter, rather than at registration. However, for the present we need to continue with the paper versions as well. The main change so far is that when the new boat has been measured, scans of the documentation go on the Measurement Database and are sent electronically to our Certifying Authority for completion, instead of using snail mail.

The database is working well, but we have had some delays in finding a suitable host.

Sailors chartering boats have had difficulties because the commercial charter boats have not always been issued with sail numbers. Nowadays the best identifier for the boat is the ISAF Sticker number, so we have made a change allowing charter boats to be certified without being issued sail numbers in a national series. The boat can sail under the Helmsman's National Letters and can use the Helmsman's Personal Sail Number.

AGM 2012 gave no instructions about the introduction of a specification for Flags on Sails for major regattas (the delegates were worried about the expense). However our Olympic Classes Contract allows ISAF Regatta Organisers to require Flags, and a Submission was passed at the November Meeting of ISAF, requiring Flags. If we didn't have a Rule about Flag Sizes, then the organisers could specify what they liked. We considered that it was urgent to have a Class Rule on the matter, and made a Rule Change Submission based on work already done by Jüri and myself. We worked with ISAF and the 470 Class to standardise the wording and flag sizes.

The result is that we have a reasonable size of flag, positioned in what is generally agreed to be the most suitable place – just below the second lowest batten and near the leech. For the 470 and Finn, ISAF required that the flags be made by approved manufacturers. Initially they have approved one manufacturer, whose details are on the ISAF website. We hope that other manufacturers will apply for approval.

At present the Flag requirement only applies to the ISAF Sailing World Championships (FGC 2014), and to ISAF Sailing World Cup regattas. For other regattas, any requirement needs approval from the IFA under our Rule A.6 (but if you have your national flag on your sail, you don't have to take it off again!).

**Richard Hart**

Photo: Jonas Høgh-Christensen training in Palma in 2012

### RULE CHANGE

The following amendments to the Class Rules have been approved to be effective 1st March 2013 by the Class Rules Sub-committee.

#### C.10.3 IDENTIFICATION

- (a) The national letters and sail numbers shall comply with the RRS. See also G.1.4 (b).
- (b) As an exception to G.1.4 (a), for winners of the Finn Gold Cup and for Olympic Gold Medallists in the Finn Class, the sail insignia waves may be coloured Gold.

(c) At the ISAF Sailing World Cup and the ISAF Sailing World Championship, or when required by the Notice of Race, a skipper national flag, nominal size 740 x 443 mm, shall be applied to each side of the sail, positioned such that the aft edge of each flag is between 50 and 100 mm of the leech and the upper edge between 50 and 100 mm below the second lower batten pocket. The flags shall be made by an ISAF approved manufacturer as listed at <http://www.sailing.org/classesandequipment/FINN.php>.



Further details and files are available on [www.finnclass.org](http://www.finnclass.org)

## Fantastica Finn Academy

Fantastica Sailing Team together with Russian and Italian Finn Associations have organised a joint training project for Finn sailors – Fantastica Finn Academy.

The cooperation was organised in the form of an exchange of Russian and Italian sailors in participation in national regattas and in the form of a training camp at Malcesine on Lake Garda.

Russian sailors are taking part in regattas of Coppa Italia and Italian masters competitions while Fantastica Sailing team will support several of the best Italian sailors to take part in the Open Russian international regatta and in the International University Sailing Cup.

The international camps on Lake Garda have attracted international coach and teams from Italy, Russia and Croatia. Russian and Italian junior sailors prepare for Silver Cup there together with senior sailors, which work as reference and competitive environment while preparing for their own regatta plans. The training process on the water was accompanied by analysis on a shore.

In addition to the training process the experienced Finn sailor and One Design sailmaker Karlo Kuret shared his knowledge of mast characteristics, dynamics, philosophy of sails making process and some other important points for Finn sailors. This work was accompanied by practical investigations with experimental sails and cameras, which could track sail shape in different conditions.

In spite of very cold weather at Garda in winter time the struggle on the water and training temperature were very hot while the communication atmosphere was very warm.

The Fantastica Finn Academy is a good example and a chance to extend international connections as well as to grow new young sailors. The Russian and Italian Finn Associations would like to thank Fantastica Sailing team for this project.



Photos: Fred Hoffmann



## Brazil Sailing Week



# Finn sailing from across the world

Photo: Pavlína Soukupová

## BELGIUM



### Belgian Championship 2012

Christophe Benoit writes: Our nationals started under perfect circumstances: the weather forecast could not have been better and 19 Finn sailors showed up in Ostend to battle fiercely for the title. Most sailors seemed to be very well prepared for heavy sailing conditions, judging on the size of the bellies. It was fairly obvious who the man to beat was: Sebbe Godefroid had returned.

The stage was set in the first race with Sebbe winning convincingly. But also others were feeling lucky: Michiel (first year in the Finn) ended second and started day-dreaming about a medal, Boudewijn ended on a good sixth place and smiled as if he just left a Dutch coffee shop. Also the second race was won by Sebbe.

After lunch Sebbe won again and we started to wonder whether he would win them all. The other favourites, Filip and Joel, were very busy collecting second and third places. Our Finnzilla (Gold 2010), Jan-Tjeerd, sailed a 12th and 14th place before he realised that it was a good idea to regularly remove weed from the rudder.

The fourth race was full of surprises: Michiel collected his first OCS and Filip could finally beat Sebbe with Joel, Filip's shadow, just behind him. The last two races of the day were won by Michiel and by Jan-Tjeerd. Ad and Christophe's speed was below expectations and they were starting to consider going fishing.

Next day, at breakfast, it became clear that the promised force 4 would not show up. Sebbe removed all ambiguity over who would win the title and won the first three races. Paul collected an OCS and a DSQ (pumping). Ad and Dick, after a good night of sleep, demonstrated that they had rediscovered their sailing talents.

The situation was clear before we started the last race. Sebbe had gold and Filip had to sail just behind Joel to get silver. But this was not what Filip aimed for, he wanted his



silver to shine a bit more by winning the last race with Joel just behind him. All in all a great championship. We are looking forward to the next one on September 7/8 2013 on the Plate-Taille lake.

1	BEL 2	Sebbe Godefroid	11
2	BEL 8	Filip Verhaeghe	18
3	BEL 77	Joel Gladly	21
4	BEL 14	Michiel Missiaen	39
5	NED 895	Jan-Tjeerd Vandermeulen	41
6	BEL 73	Jan Bourgois	48
7	BEL 15	Alain Denis	51
8	BEL 76	Paul Goossens	53
9	NED 896	Ad Hermus	62
10	NED 45	Bas Weyman	69
11	NED 749	Dick Hooijer	75
12	BEL 6	Wannes Heymans	76
13	BEL 169	Philippe Devillers	104
14	BEL 493	Jean-Louis Rayee	107
15	NED 771	Ronald de Haan	112
16	BEL 9	Christophe Benoit	114
17	NED 48	Boudewijn Kortbeek	117
18	FRA 18	Julien Thys	127
19	BEL 61	Luc Vermeersch	132



## BRAZIL



### Brazilian Masters Championship 2012

Racing was scheduled in Rio over two days with two races each day. Saturday heralded perfect conditions with a win apiece between Colin Reed and Jorge Rodrigues. Sunday was marred by a massive cold front that arrived on the course just before the start, bringing heavy winds and blinding rain. The first race of the day was cancelled, and then the second race was held in very changeable conditions from light shifty airs to strong winds with frequent wind shifts. Guilherme Pereira was the only finisher and took the Masters title.

1	BRA 55	Guilherme Pereira (GM)	6
2	BRA 102	Colin Reed (GGM)	9
3	BRA 5	Jorge Rodrigues (GM)	10
4	BRA 9	Ricardo Maffia (M)	18
5	BRA 5	Tiago Moraes	18



### Brazil Sailing Week 2013

Rio de Janeiro, 14-24 February

1	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif (below)	10
2	BRA 53	Pedro Henrique Trouche	38
3	BRA 1	Bruno Prada	38
4	BRA 709	Fabio Bodra	40
5	BRA 21	Ubitaran Matos	43
6	BRA 97	Ricardo Filipe Santos	47
7	BRA 15	Arnaldo Fernandes	87
8	BRA 55	Guilherme Pereira	109
9	BRA 117	Ricardo Valerio	120
10	BRA 3	André Mirsky	121



Photo: Fred Hoffmann (more on page 22)

# FRANCE

## Semaine Internationale Aquarelle.com-Canal+ de Finn de Cannes Trophée Marinepool 2013

Marc Allain des Beauvais writes: The 10th edition of the Semaine Internationale Aquarelle.com-Canal+ de Finn de Cannes was held from February 12-15 and attracted 84 entries from 18 European countries. Seven races were competed over four nice and sunny days, a fantastic show in two magnificent open harbours overlooked by snow-capped mountains.



The Yacht Club de Cannes had put in a big effort and President Jean-Claude Montesinos was happy to welcome us to a venue devoted to Finns for many years. He reminded us that the concept of this event, chosen by IFA France, was to be a possible European Masters venue where Olympians are very welcome. Indeed this is the idea the Yacht Club de Cannes and the French IFA worked year after year and it fits.

Although it was sunny on the first day, the wind was too weak to compete and everybody was sent back ashore.

The second day had the same weather forecasts but the sun was hotter, making the mountains glitter under their white summits. Three races were sailed; each time there was a temptation to go to the left which seemed better with the two lles de Lerins channels; but each time, step by step, the breeze shifted to the right and veered. The first race was the most significant with a 25° veer half way up the first upwind ruining Federico Melo's fantastic start and demonstrating to the Russian team that "the more on the right, the quicker upstairs". In this game Eduard Skornyakov, Marton Beliczay, and Anders Pedersen were the first to understand the trick.

In the second race Melo got it right to win from Skornyakov, while, after a wonderful pin end start Aleksey Selivanov finished third. In the third race those who tacked right at the committee boat cashed in on a 10° veer during the first upwind. Deniss Karpak took the win from Andrei Gusenko and Björn Allansson.

### Final results - Cannes 2013

1	RUS 9	Eduard Skornyakov	1	2	6	2	4	6	7	21
2	EST 2	Deniss Karpak	14	9	1	4	8	2	4	28
3	AUT 3	Florian Raudaschl	6	8	8	3	3	1	9	29
4	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	29	6	4	5	10	3	5	33
5	NOR 1	Anders Pedersen	3	11	11	1	1	10	18	37
6	SWE 6	Björn Allansson	5	7	3	8	5	9	13	37
7	POR 5	Frederico Melo	7	1	10	22	9	8	8	43
8	RUS 1	Aleksey Selivanov	12	3	5	7	19	15	3	45
9	CZE 1	Michael Maier (M)	9	10	9	14	2	7	10	47
10	ESP 669	Pablo Guitian Sarria	17	19	13	6	6	11	6	59
11	UKR 5	Andrei Gusenko	60							
12	ITA 117	Giorgio Poggi	70							
13	FRA 75	Laurent Hay (M)	76							
14	GER 707	Uli Breuer (M)	81							
15	ESP 500	Al. Aranzueque Tormo	84							
16	RUS 5	Viktor Filippov	85							
17	HUN 8	Marton Beliczay	97							
18	FRA 89	Benjamin Montagut	103							
19	RUS 6	Arkadiy Kistanov	108							
20	FRA 114	Thomas Morel	114							
21	RUS 111	Andrei Ianitckii	122							
22	GER 182	S Schmidt Klugmann	122							
23	NED 7	Cees Scheurwater	147							
24	NED 29	Bas De Wall	153							
25	NED 965	Robert Thole	161							
26	UKR 8	Gavrysh Taras	162							
27	FRA 177	Fabian Pic	167							
28	GBR 17	Paul Blowers	177							
29	GER 165	Dirk Meid	183							
30	ITA 9	Alessandro Vongher	188							
31	GBR 40	Nick Daniels	193							
32	FRA 99	Marc AD Beauvais (GM)	198							
33	AUT 333	Gerhard Weinreich	199							
34	FRA 84	Jean-Pierre Lostis (GM)	207							
35	FRA 150	Pascal Tetard (GGM)	211							
36	RUS 1117	Bill Andrew (GM)	212							
37	SUI 63	Thomas Gautschi	219							
38	FRA 117	François Richard (GGM)	223							
39	FRA 28	Sebastien Grall	226							
40	GBR 87	Paul Childs	229							
41	NED 64	Wietze Zetzema	241							
42	GBR 77	Howard Sellars (L)	243							
43	FRA 51	Alec Leleu	248							
44	SUI 13	Peter Kilchenmann	254							
45	POR 10	Jorge Pinheiro De Melo	266							
46	GBR 65	David Potter	266							
47	SWE 8	Rainer Wolff	267							
48	NED 50	Jan Zetzema	270							
49	FRA 817	Bertrand Baumann	270							
50	SUI 11	Hans Fatzer (GGM)	272							
51	FRA 94	Loic Houdaille	279							
52	NED 100	Arend Van Der Sluis	285							
53	FIN 112	Seppo Ajanko	288							
54	GER 122	Holger Krasmann	309							
55	FRA 105	Charles Caudard	310							
56	FRA 73	Jean-Michel Castillon	316							
57	FRA 869	Regis Baumgarten	320							
58	SUI 28	Boris Kulpe	324							
59	SUI 3	Carlo Lazzari	328							
60	FRA 888	Mathieu Debonnet	329							
61	FRA 800	Yves Zoccola	330							
62	FRA 118	Thomas Scherer	339							
63	FRA 24	Philippe Hourez	340							
64	FRA 50	Michel Baudin	349							
65	FRA 74	Jean Louis Duret	351							
66	ITA 7	Antonio Pitini	355							
67	SUI 8	Bruno Marti	363							
68	FRA 102	Jacques Fauroux (L)	363							
69	FRA 14	Franck Morel	367							
70	ITA 18	Massimo Grossi	390							
71	HUN 51	Istvan Rutai	403							
72	NED 51	Maarten Oberman	413							
73	GBR 55	Mike Till (L)	414							
74	SUI 23	Rolf Megert	415							
75	FRA 200	Jean De Riberolles	418							
76	FRA 37	Alain Guillou	418							
77	FRA 164	Gerard Mazure	421							
78	FRA 83	Joel Godefroy	435							
79	GER 706	Sabine Breuer	450							
80	FRA 104	Jean Pierre Gailles	458							
81	NED 00	Ch. Kongsbak Poulsen	460							
82	NED 896	Hermus Ad	482							
83	FRA 827	Max Gavarry	491							
84	GER 19	Andreas Bollongino	500							



The third day was near perfect. On Cannes West Harbour there was a south-westerly 10-15 knots breeze with Oscar flag on all three races. What a great day of sailing we all had. Pedersen, Skornyakov and Florian Raudaschl survived the big shift in the fourth race, while Pedersen also took the next. Raudaschl was so happy with his speed that he then won the sixth race.

Nobody complained when back at the Yacht Club de Cannes where a substantial "goûter" was waiting for all the sailors and then a very elegant cocktail dinner.

After waiting for the wind on the Yacht Club de Cannes terraces, the committee, perfectly lead by Jérôme Nutte, took the risk of sending the fleet out to Cannes East harbour where they met a 5-7 knot veering breeze. Taking a very risky start, Laurent Hay won the pin, sailed 300 meters into some pressure, tacked right back and crossed in



front of the whole fleet. Nobody could catch him and he perfectly negotiated the two downwinds jibes and wasn't trapped by a big black cloud which crossed the harbour coming from Antibes. Behind him Alejandro Aranzueque Tormo and Aleksey Selivanov were happy to keep their second and third places.

At the magnificent prizegiving the top ten and the top three in each category were awarded prizes. Every competitor was also given a bottle of Hungarian wine ahead of the next European Master Championship on Balaton Lake. See you in 2014? Will we make it 100?



## Coppa Italia 2012

Coppa Italia Finn 2012 concluded at the Malcesine International Finn Cup in October. At the start of the event Simone Mancini was leading by a small three points margin on Marko Kolic and by another 15 points on Federico Laici.

Simone had a fantastic event, winning the Finn Cup and consolidating his leadership, and in doing so he conquered his second consecutive Coppa Italia.

The other podium places didn't change, with Marko Kolic in second and Federico Laici in third. Fourth was Marco Buglielli and fifth Paolo Visoni, who passed the new Secretary Francesco Faggiani with his third place in Malcesine. 29 races were eventually sailed in Coppa Italia 2012 over seven weekends and 130 sailors participated in the event.

Coppa Italia is supported by a pool of sponsors which 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.

1	ITA 19	Simone Mancini	777
2	ITA 40	Marko Kolic	749
3	ITA 985	Federico Laici	723
4	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	684
5	ITA 37	Paolo Visoni	612
6	ITA 4	Francesco Faggiani	585
7	ITA 872	Nicola Menoni	539
8	ITA 9	Franco Dazzi	408
9	ITA 917	Ettore Thermes	397
10	ITA 23	Enrico Passoni	366

## Malcesine Finn Cup

The 2012 edition of the International Finn Cup in Malcesine saw the participation of 43 helmsmen from seven nations. Wind conditions were unusually variable for the Garda lake, and only four races were sailed in light winds. Simone Mancini managed to be consistent in the difficult conditions and scored 7 points (1-7-1-5) with two bullets, while Timo Hagoort from the Netherlands was

equally consistent (4-1-3-3) and scored equal points with Sione but with only one race win had to settle for second place.

Third was the local Master Paolo Visoni (2-25-2-7), followed by Marton Beliczay from Hungary and Marko Kolic.

1	ITA 19	Simone Mancini	7
2	NED 8	Timo Hagoort	7
3	ITA 37	Paolo Visoni	11
4	HUN 8	Marton Beliczay	13
5	ITA 40	Marko Kolic	14
6	CZE 3	Rudolf Lidarik	16
7	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	22
8	ITA 985	Federico Laici	25
9	ITA 90	Emanuele Vaccari	25
10	SUI 7	Christoph Burger	28

## Trofeo Bertacca

The 2012 season in Italy ended as usual with the 10th edition of Trofeo Bertacca Sail Equipment, which took place at the beginning of November in Livorno, leaving its usual location of Torre del Lago where the Club is currently not active.

In the first day three races were sailed in a good but shifty 10-15 south-easterly and big waves. Unfortunately on Sunday torrential rain and strong wind gusts forced the race committee to abandon racing.

Enrico Passoni had a wonderful and consistent series with a 2-1-2 and comfortably won the event. Second was Vasilii Kravchenko from Russia and third the young Italian Laser sailor Francesco Marrai.

Vasilii came from Moscow with Mikhail Petriga, marking the first step of the cooperation between the Russian and Italian associations to conduct joint training in Malcesine (see article page 22). Everybody was very happy to see these sailors coming to Italy from so far away. With the Silver Cup on Garda this year, events will be organised at Fragila Vela Malcesine to promote the Finn to young sailors.

Francesco Marrai is a very promising sailor who already has under his belt World and European titles in the Laser. He is currently campaigning in the Laser but has a very well structured build and very much enjoyed trying the Finn.



The organisation was very good, with a nice Saturday night dinner in Livorno, where the Coppa Italia 2012 prizegiving was celebrated, with lots of prizes including one Finn sail offered by 3FL Sails.

The Trofeo Bertacca prizegiving was also very rich, as usual for this regatta, with prizes offered by sponsors and regatta organiser Italo Bertacca, owner of the Bertacca Sail Equipment in Viareggio.

1	ITA 6	Enrico Passoni	5
2	RUS 17	Vasilii Kravchenko	7
3	ITA 43	Francesco Marrai	9
4	ITA 985	Federico Laici	14
5	ITA 872	Nicola Menoni	15
6	ITA 4	Francesco Faggiani	21
7	ITA 19	Simone Mancini	23
8	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	29
9	ITA 23	Umberto Grumelli	30
10	RUS 51	Mikhail Petriga	32



Photos: Marina Prinziavalli

## GERMANY

Andreas Bollongino writes: Normally the German Finn class secretary has a relaxing time during the winter season (as he usually has the whole year to be honest). Not so this year: in July we have the European Championships in Warnemünde. Our President is busy pushing and supporting the local organisation committee. Tough work, if you promised to have a first class event.

The German Finn-Class and the German youth program 'Finn Team Germany' is offering training focused on the European Championship for members. The training will be held by Robert Stanjek (Olympic Star Sailor) and his team.

The Europeans will be a highlight in terms of sports and social events, do not miss it. The best way is to combine it with the Warnemünder Woche one of our famous Baltic Sea weeks one week before.

One month later the German Championships will be held in Steinhude, a well known location for European Finn sailors, hosting the biggest Finn events each year. We are looking forward seeing you in Germany this year.

### European Trophy

We had some discussions regarding the idea for a European Finn Trophy. To make it in 2013 would be too confusing and probably spoil a good idea. We should all use the big regattas in 2013 to discuss the events and

get a well thought through format for 2014. So we can go live with this series with the first regattas next year.

### Alpen-Cup 2013

The legendary Alpen-Cup will of course continue in 2013. The dates are:

**1 Italy**, Lago di Caldaro, Trofeo Dr. Schaar, 27-28 April

**2 Austria**, Finn Duell Wolfgangsee, 29-30 June

**3 Switzerland**, Niederhornkanne, Thunersee Yachtclub, 12-14 July

**4 Germany**, Finn Cup, Rottachsee (Allgäu), 10-11 August

Please see details at our webpage <http://finnalpencup.wordpress.com/>

## NETHERLANDS

After our last report in 2012, we had two more great regattas to go. The first was the traditional Boerenkool Cup which is named after a famous Dutch vegetable, which our grandfathers always say tastes best after the first night of temperatures below zero.

Luckily, that was not the case, but cold it was. And with great winds, we sailed five great races, with up to 70 boats. Our brand new Dutch Champion Timo proved his quality and he again won this weekend.

### Boerenkool Cup 2012

1	NED 83	Timo Hagoort	5
2	NED 41	Karel van Hellemond	8
3	NED 80	Sander Willems	13
4	NED 787	Nanno Schuttrups	13
5	NED 29	Bas de Waal	21
6	NED 60	Luuk Kuijper	28
7	NED 703	Eric Bakker	35
8	NED 881	Thierry van Vierssen	37
9	NED 777	Albert Kroon	37
10	NED 962	Jan Bart	44
11	NED 69	Jelte Baerends	47
12	NED 965	Robert Thole	51
13	NED 7	Cees Scheurwater	56
14	NED 780	Jan-Willem Kok	56
15	NED 2	Wouter Molenaar	58
16	NED 66	Ewout Meijer	60
17	NED 49	Jan Mark Meeuwisse	60
18	NED 101	Chris Frijdal	63
19	NED 67	Ronald Ruiter	65
20	NED 54	Joos Bos	69
21	NED 76	Klaas Bood	87
22	NED 888	Bas de Regt	89
23	NED 770	Hein Bloemers	90
24	NED 91	Bob Heineke	91
25	NED 891	Ronald van Klooster	97
26	NED 94	Tijmen van Rootselaar	97
27	NED 27	Paul Kamphorst	98
28	NED 47	Auke Woerdeman	100
29	NED 10	Nanne Boot	105
30	NED 100	Arend van der Sluis	105
31	NED 963	Paul Douze	108
32	NED 902	Pieter Risseeuw	117
33	NED 88	Chiel Barends	128
34	NED 11	Henk de Jager	130
35	NED 8	Rodrick Casander	131
36	NED 701	Fred Richter	142
37	NED 72	Lacus-Jan Groenhout	144
38	NED 833	Michel Miltenburg	146
39	BEL 76	Paul Goossens	146
40	NED 1X	Pascal Meijer	152
41	NED 6	Rob de Cocq	155

42	NED 924	Fred van Arkel	155
43	NED 816	Olivier den Ouden	156
44	NED 900	Leo Meijaard	158
45	NED 52	Henk Meijer	158
46	NED 4	Ruurd Baerends	164
47	NZL 1	Sander van Rootselaar	165
48	NED 942	Maarten Bart	167
49	NED 946	Robert Jan Noordhof	170
50	NED 722	Siebe Ekels	174
51	NED 45	Bas Weijman	204
52	NED 813	Lenard Kaptein	207
53	NED 18	Johan van Straalen	209
54	NED 771	Ronald de Haan	211
55	NED 9	Jobs Isselmann	220
56	NED 941	Pim Mommersteeg	230
57	NED 32	Peter Verhoef	233
58	NED 17	Ab Schippers	235
59	NED 943	Roel Lubberts	235
60	NED 862	Rob Woudstra	239
61	NED 119	Steven Voorn	242
62	NED 575	Rob Koelewijn	246
63	NED 38	Olaf van Heusden	248
64	NED 961	Stephan Lauers	249
65	NED 836	Bart Kraan	253
66	NED 849	Robert Eman	255
67	NED 687	Fred Buter	263
68	NED 748	Fons van Gent	268
69	NED 44	Koen van Os	272
70	NED 123	Ben Witkamp	279
71	NED 110	D. Sarels van Rijn	288

After the Boerenkool Cup we immediately went to the south of Holland. The final regatta of the year is always held in Roermond, the home of Fons van Gent. This year we had 18 sailors who made the long journey (for Dutch standards), which is a recent record. Saturday there was no wind, so everybody could prepare his boat in the best possible way for Sunday. After some delay the committee gave the signal that the races would start. This was being welcomed by the sailors as if The Elfstedentocht was being announced (typical Dutch skating race over 200 km which only takes place once every 10 -20 years) After three excited races, Chris Frijdal was the winner, followed by Bas de Regt and Chiel Barend, our Dutch Masters Champion.

Our traditional (2012 for the very first time) Winterweekend in Nijkerk was cancelled due to solid water. It was one of the best weekends in Holland to go skating on the lakes and canals. But unless the fact that the committee made the wise decision not to start an official race, five very poor skaters,

thought that sailing was still possible. With frozen sheets and travellers, very slippery decks and a joystick made of ice, they sailed one race. On the other side of the bridge nearby, they were skating. A local journalist made a great picture.....



But in Hellevoetsluis they are also sailing during the winter months. With almost weekly races with between 7 and 10 boats this is the place to be in the South of Holland. Especially in this cold and windy season. Daan Bart made this great picture.



Now we are preparing us for the first training sessions of the year. On February 24 we start in Nijkerk. After that the fleet trains in Harderwijk (3/3) Hellevoetsluis (9/3), in Loosdrecht (17 and 24/3). Our first real regatta will be held during Easter in Loosdrecht (30/3 -1/4) We all invite you to join us there.



## Oceanbridge Sail Auckland

Royal Akarana YC, 1-5 February

The popularity of this Grade 1 event continues to grow with 10 quality sailors lining up to contest this four day regatta.

The first days were sailed in 15 knot easterlies in a confused seaway, the older Finn sailors often dominating the first beat only to be run down by the highly athletic young guns of Josh Junior, Matt Coutts and Andrew Murdoch (twice Laser Olympic rep sailing his first Finn Regatta) in the free pumping conditions. Josh Junior dominated this area of racing running up a series of guns to take a clear lead into day three.

On day three the weather turned sour with 25-30 knots and big seas. The older heads mindful of body and gear failure four days out of the nationals stayed ashore. The young guns slogged out three races with honours shared between Matt Coutts and front runner Josh Junior. The final day promised 15 knots and delivered 25-30 knots with the Finn Fleet forced to navigate around broken Lasers. The regatta was deservedly won by Josh showing great technique and stamina.

1	NZL 24	Josh Junior	11
2	NZL 16	Andrew Murdoch	21
3	NZL 8	Matt Coutts	26
4	NED 83	Timo Haggort	41
5	NZL 111	Karl Purdie	52
6	NZL 2	Ray Hall	78
7	NED 94	Tijmen van Rootselaar	83
8	NZL 10	David Hoogenboom	83
9	NZL	Tom Brien	92
10	NZL 23	Alan Dawson	95

## 2013 Finn Nationals

Takapuna Sailing Club, 8-11 February

The NZL Finn fleet visited the proposed venue of the 2015 Gold Cup bid off the beaches of Takapuna. The regatta was sailed directly in front on the beach creating a stunning sight of 17 Finns racing hard in the light winds. The NZL fleet has grown and updated with 12 of the 17 starters in highly competitive Devotis. The fleet also welcomed two Dutch sailors for this regatta, Timo and Tijmen.



It was generally a fight between Coutts, Murdoch and Junior, though Timo Haggort took two race wins. Light winds dominated the championship with Oscar only being flown in one race. Matt Coutts won day two sailing flawlessly and he sailed solidly on day three to secure his first national title and the sail number NZL 1 for the next 12 months. Andrew Murdoch sailed consistently well and with good speed to pip Josh for second.

1	NZL 8	Matt Coutts	16
2	NZL 16	Andrew Murdoch	21
3	NZL 24	Josh Junior	21
4	NZL 111	Karl Purdie	28
5	NZL 2	Ray Hall	44
6	NED 83	Timo Hagoort	47
7	NED 94	Tymen van Rootselaar	53
8	NZL 22	Dirch Anderson	64
9	NZL 10	Dave Hoogenboom	69
10	NZL 88	Tom Brien	74
11	NZL 23	Alan Dawson	84
12	NZL 20	Chris Wells	90
13	NZL 19	Denis Mowbray	91
14	NZL 3	Ben Winters	114
15	NZL 21	Matt Butterfield	114
16	NZL 550	Dallas Bennett	118
17	NZL 193	Gerrit Bearda	120

## Auckland Finn Championships

Manukau YMBC, Auckland, 1 - 2 December

Nine Finns contested a keenly fought Auckland Finn Championship on the Manukau harbour. While the numbers were lower than expected the quality was high as was demonstrated by the tightness of the racing. With the wind generally 10-15 knots, Ray Hall dominated with five race wins in the seven race series to take the title from the current National Champion Karl Purdie. Mark Perrow is clearly getting to know his Finn as showed solid speed as he collected a series of top three places to take third overall.

1	NZL 2	Ray Hall	7
2	NZL 111	Karl Purdie	10
3	NZL 0	Mark Perrow	17
4	NZL 23	Alan Dawson	27
5	NZL 22	Dirch Anderson	27
6	NZL 233	Royce Hawkins	35

7	NZL 10	Dave Hoogenboom	38
8	NZL 193	Gerrit Bearda	45
9	NZL 55	John Duff	45

## North Island Finn Championships

Thames Sailing Club, 3 - 4 November 2012

The North Island Finn Champs weekend had everything, good turnout, good wind, great racing, hard luck stories, fireworks displays, great hospitality, plenty of adult beverages and a little bit of controversy. This is the 17th year this event has been run at Thames Sailing Club.

Josh Junior revelled in the windy conditions with 20 knots blowing for most of the weekend. Karl Purdie was consistently second, but took a win from Junior in the second race. After the first tough day, all the fleet, apart from Josh, sailed back to the clubhouse. Josh was seen sailing over the horizon towards Kaiaua on a training sail. When he returned he described it as the best sail he'd ever had in the Finn and included a screaming reach that had his boat airborne off the waves.

There was controversy on Sunday after the first race was thrown out after no boats returned on a general recall, but Josh proceeded to show a clean transom for the two remaining races of the day.

1	NZL 24	Josh Junior	7
2	NZL 111	Karl Purdie	10
3	NZL 10	David Hoogenboom	20
4	NZL 0	Mark Perrow	22
5	NZL 2	Ray Hall	36
6	NZL 233	Royce Hawkins	41
7	NZL 22	Dirch Anderson	46
8	NZL 23	Alan Dawson	47
9	NZL 55	John Duff	53
10	NZL 193	Gerrit Bearda	54
11	NZL 220	Peter Horton	64
12	NZL 21	Matt Butterfield	66
13	NZL 1193	Sarah Deadman	70

Many elite and Masters Finnsters are campaigning in Europe this coming season so expect to see many NZLs at La Rochelle, Garda and Tallinn.

# POLAND

## Polish National Championship 27-30 September 2012, Gdańsk

Over 21 entries at the most important regatta of the season is a symptom of growing interest of Finn sailing in Poland. This year the competition was held in Gdańsk, on the Baltic Sea. Most of nine races were held in strong wind conditions. The gold medal went to the defending champion and representative at the last Olympic Games – Piotr Kula. His domination was total, as he won almost all races. Tomasz Kosmicki finished second overall after winning the medal race. Rafał Szukiel, our representative in 2008, finished third.



1	POL 1111	Piotr Kula	11
2	POL 9	Tomasz Kośmicki	24
3	POL 7	Rafał Szukiel	26
4	POL 1	Miłosz Wojewski	32
5	POL 8	Łukasz Lesinski	45
6	POL 11	Maciej Małag	54
7	POL 13	Michał Jodłowski	56
8	POL 22	Jeremi Zimny	80
9	POL 19	Tomasz Mikulski	90
10	POL 666	Tomasz Wieteska	92

## Warsaw Championship 20-21 October 2012, Warsaw

The last event of the 2012 season, held on the Zegrze Lake next to the city of Warsaw, turned out to be one of the most important. More than ten competitors had an opportunity to finish on the podium in the Polish Cup 2012. Eventually 17 Finns took part in the last event. There were four races held on Saturday, in rather tricky conditions, but exceptionally nice weather. In the evening there was the Polish Finn Association meeting. We discussed about technical aspects of Finn with Andy Zawieja, Zbigniew Malicki and Tytus Konarzewski. There was also held official presentation of Apolinary Pastuszko book: (see below) "Finn – extremely



important dinghy in the history of Polish regatta sailing". On Sunday there was no wind at all. The regatta was won by Miłosz Wojewski. Łukasz Lesiński finished second, and Piotr Mazur third.



1	POL 1	Miłosz Wojewski	3
2	POL 8	Łukasz Lesiński	5
3	POL 10	Piotr Mazur	10
4	POL 22	Jeremi Zimny	13
5	POL 7	Mikołaj Lahn	15
6	POL 11	Maciej Małag	15
7	POL 26	Bogusław Nowakowski	18
8	POL 21	Jacek Bińkowski	19
9	POL 23	Piotr Pajor	21
10	POL 45	Paweł Karłowski	27

## National Match Race Championship 5-7 October 2012, Puck

One of the most interesting events held annually by the Polish Yachting Association, took place at the beginning of October in Puck. Only invited competitors are allowed to participate. This year eight sailors, all of them juniors, were given opportunity to fight for a match racing champion. The gold medal went to our Junior European Champion.

1	POL 13	Michał Jodłowski
2	POL 1	Miłosz Wojewski
3	POL 11	Maciej Małag
4	POL 22	Jeremi Zimny
5	POL 45	Paweł Karłowski
6	POL 411	Bartosz Ptak
7	POL 41	Jakub Reszka
8	POL 91	Kacper Jarocki

## Polish Cup 2012

One of the main changes that was supposed to encourage people to race more often in Poland was the introduction of the long forgotten Polish Cup. Eight events were taken into

account, six with traditions like National Championship or PYA Cup and two completely new events for Finns: Nordic Cup and Warsaw Cup. The Polish Finn Association decided that all regattas should be taken into account. It turned out to be a great success, as altogether 41 participants were ranked. This year the Polish Cup went to Miłosz Wojewski, who won two events, and was one of the top ranked in the others. Second was Olympic Games participant Piotr Kula, and third Jeremi Zimny, who took part in almost all events. Miłosz received a brand new golden cup, on which every year winner is obliged to engrave his name. The overall standings:

1	Miłosz Wojewski	86.6
2	Piotr Kula	72.6
3	Jeremi Zimny	69.5
4	Łukasz Lesiński	69.2
5	Bogusław Nowakowski	65.2
6	Jacek Binkowski	61.4
7	Rafał Szukiel	52.2
8	Piotr Pajor	51.8
9	Tomasz Kosmicki	51.6
10	Michał Jodłowski	49

## Upcoming season

Further growth of the class is predicted, as people are joining the Polish Finn Association all the time. Remember, that the Masters World Championship is in Poland in 2014. At this venue a very important event is held also in 2013 – Sopot Finn Cup. We encourage everybody interested in the Masters Championship to come to Poland this year and participate. Apart from that the Polish National Championship is included in the German Ranking list this year, so we expect some sailors from abroad on at least two regattas during the upcoming season.



## NORWAY



The Norwegian Finn Association has been formally re-established.



Tom Guthormsen writes: It is with pride that we can now announce that the Norwegian Finn sailors have established a formal class association which will have affiliation with both the International Finn Association as well as the Norwegian Sailing Association.

The board was established in December of 2012 and is being led by the newly elected President Mr. Zelimir Saljic. The establishment of the club has been through a long pregnancy, and the board wishes to thank Mr Stein Foerland for being a key resource and practically running the informal club singlehandedly since 2010.

Although the national activity level was moderate during 2012 several members participated in events throughout and

outside Scandinavia. Most noticeably is the performance of our youngest member Anders Pedersen NOR 1 who participated in many international races and was a hot candidate to represent Norway in the London Olympics, but unfortunately missed this by a narrow margin.

The young club has 11 active members with boats on the water, but several sailors from other classes have expressed an interest in the Finn so we expect growth in both memberships and activities during 2013.

The main event for 2013 will be the official Open Norwegian Finn Championships which will take place in the beautiful area of Hankoe (Hankø) August 17-18. The race will be arranged by Fredrikstad Sailing Club (Fredrikstad Seilforening) and the Royal Norwegian Yacht Club (KNS) and the venue will be located on the outside of the island of Hankoe.

We hope to see entries also from in particular our neighbouring Scandinavian cousins, but our invitation also goes out to anyone who wants to experience sailing in the beautiful Norwegian surroundings. The facilities are



frequently used for larger regattas and there is plenty of accommodation on site or nearby. Please feel free to contact us if you want more information about this event.



## SOUTH AFRICA



### South African National Championship

Aeolian Club, Vaal Dam, 26-29 September

Ingrid Wilcox writes: The 2012 Finn National Championship was sailed at Aeolian Club on the Vaal Dam from the 26-29 September. It will go down as the "dawning of a new generation in the Finn class" as it was a case of move over older generation for here comes the new and younger generation Finn sailor. This fleet is must certainly be one of the most experienced fleets in the country as it consists of sailors with years of sailing under their belts. Many of them are multi national champs not only in Finns but in many other classes as well.

But now it was the turn of the new generation as Gareth Blanckenberg, who has twice represented South Africa at the Olympics in the Laser Class, became the new Finn National Champion. Although he won almost every race he had to work hard as it was always hotly contested by a group of five young sailors, but it was Gareth who managed to pull off the victory by winning no fewer than four out of the seven races.

South African National Championship 2012										
1	RSA 11	Gareth Blanckenberg	1	1	(5)	2	1	1	2	8
2	RSA 585	Paul Wilcox	(6)	5	3	1	2	3	1	15
3	RSA 581	David Leigh	3	3	1	3	3	2	(DNC)	15
4	RSA 3473	David Shilton	2	4	2	(6)	4	4	6	22
5	RSA 1	Markus Progli	5	2	9	5	5	8	(10)	34
6	RSA 2	Ali Serritslev	9	(18)	8	4	8	5	5	39
7	RSA 51	Philip Baum	8	9	4	7	6	6	(11)	40
8	RSA 571	Andreas Bohnsack	(13)	8	7	8	7	7	4	41
9	RSA 582	Randolph Verheij	(11)	6	10	10	10	10	3	49
10	RSA 5	Robin Greaves	4	7	11	14	13	12	(DNC)	61

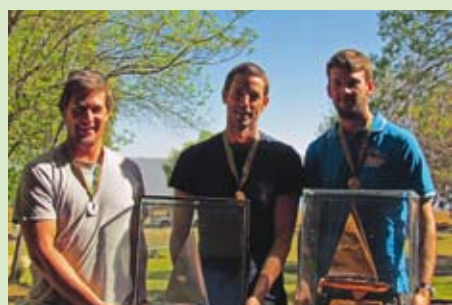


11	RSA 540	Alan Tucker	63
12	RSA 58	James Leigh	65
13	RSA 576	Ken Reynolds	77
14	RSA 539	Klaus Weixelbaumer	84
15	RSA 538	Chris Moreton	87
16	RSA 552	Eric Quarmby	91
17	RSA 21	Damien Botha	91
18	RSA 769	Stefan Falcon	99
19	RSA 53	Paul Thompson	113
20	RSA 573	Ralph Hodgen	114
21	RSA 570	Gerd Bohnsack	120
22	RSA 515	Malcolm Moreton	120
23	RSA 58	Tim Addison	131
24	RSA 51	Malcolm Tiley	145
25	RSA 685	Rob Willcox	151

Paul Willcox was second. It has been at least two years since Paul last sailed a dinghy as he has just returned from competing in the Volvo Ocean Race as a member of the Abu Dhabi Ocean Racing Team. Prior to this he has been sailing keelboats overseas. He tied on points with third placed and defending Champion, David Leigh. The tie was split on a count back as Paul had won two races against David's one. David has spent the

past season in Europe sailing various Finn regattas amongst which was the ISAF World Championships.

Forth place went to another youngster, David Shilton. Credit must also go to fifth placed Markus Progli who has never sailed a Finn before. He was offered the opportunity to sail the Nationals by Greg Davis, who was unable to attend. He took up the offer and certainly did credit to himself as his best place was a second. Not to shabby in this quality fleet.



Photos by Ingrid Wilcox and Jean Reynolds

The renewal of the South African Finn fleet continued at the 2012 Championships. A third of the competitors were under 30 with the youngest James Leigh, coming in at 16 and Damian Botha at 17. The average age of the top five competitors was just 26 years.

The great thing about sailing is that in this fleet you have this group of youngsters competing against the very, very experienced 70 plus year olds. As Paul said, it is a privilege to be able to sail against the Finn sailors. They all have so much experience and there is a lot to learn from these guys.

The vision of the International Finn Association, the South African Finn Association, Pata Finns and Pata Finns Africa in supporting financially and in kind the building of boats in the country is paying tremendous dividends. No fewer than 17 of the 25 entries were modern era boats. Not only has this boosted the numbers in the class but has created a new enthusiasm amongst the sailors. It is exciting and enjoyable sailing one of these new generation boats and this is what attracts the youngsters to the fleet.

Six of the seven races were sailed in wind speeds ranging from 8 to 18 knots providing a



full test of sailing skills. Friday just happened to be an enforced lay day. This was certainly not planned but because the wind was howling with gusts reaching 38 to 40 knots it was impossible to race. The competitors

spent the day comparing set ups of rigs and swapping notes on how to sail faster.

Next year the Nationals will be sailed at Mossel Bay from the 21-24 September.

## SWEDEN



### Swedish Championship

The Swedish Championship in the Finn class was part of a big event hosted by Nynäshamn, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Olympic Games in Stockholm. Back then the arena for the sailing was in Nynäshamn, and the sailors that participated in this year's Swedish Championship enjoyed the same splendid sailing conditions as 100 years ago.



1	Björn Allansson	8
2	Stefan Fagerlund	27
3	Stefan Nordström	32
4	Johan Wijk	37
5	Fredrik Tegnhd	38
6	Per-Arne Fritjofsson	50
7	Henrik Rydell	55
8	Christian Finnsgrd	62
9	Martin Pluto	68
10	Daniel Miles	74
11	Mikael Brandt	80
12	Erik Åberg	91
13	Pär Friberg	93
14	David Berg	105
15	Svante Colvin	116

16	Torsten Jarnstam	119
17	Ulf Bjureus	122
18	Håkan Stööd	138
19	Peter Bernstein	149
20	Hans Wiberg	164
21	Johan Forsman	173
22	Jan-Erik Floren	184
23	Thomas Dansk	188

### Sverigecupen

Throughout the season four regattas are hosted in Sweden that constitutes Sverigecupen. In 2012 the selected regattas were GKSS OCR, Uppsala, Swedish Championship and Sola Cup



1	Stefan Nordström	123
2	Henrik Rydell	170
3	Martin Pluto	184
4	Fredrik Tegnhd	191
5	Stefan Fagerlund	248
6	Per-Arne Fritjofsson	248
7	Mikael Brandt	251
8	Torsten Jarnstam	289
9	Erik Åberg	298
10	Ulf Bjureus	314
11	Daniel Miles	319
12	David Berg	361
13	Christian Finnsgrd	391
14	Jan-Erik Floren	444
15	Johan For sman	460
16	Johan Wijk	461

17	Hans Wiberg	465
18	Daniel Birgmark	498
19	Andreas Axelsson	517
20	Pär Friberg	529
21	Björn Allansson	565
22	Svante Collvin	565
23	Christoffer Finnsgrd	589
24	Thomas Dansk	625
25	Håkan Stööd	635
26	Peter Bernstein	646
27	Max Salminen	684
28	Jesper Stålheim	691
29	Kristian Åderman	726
30	Mikael Nilsson	729
31	Mats Enblom	732
32	Lars Edwall	747
33	Bengt Strömberg	760
34	Veine Jutmar	768
35	Patrik Jarnstam	808
36	Kenneth Höglund	809

### Winter sailing in Sweden

In Sweden the winter is often long and cold, so for some of the sailors that do not head south for sailing ice sailing is a popular activity. Among the most frequent enthusiasts we have Mikael Brandt from Uppsala.





**Saturday Race**

Lake Thun, September 15, 2012

This year's Saturday Race on Lake Thun brought 10 Finns to the starting line. Three races were sailed in light and shifty conditions. Peter Kilchenmann was the clear winner scoring three bullets.

1	SUI 13	Peter Kilchenmann	3
2	SUI 60	John Ulbrich	7
3	SUI 41	Peter Roesti	12
4	SUI 30	Urs Wenger	12
5	SUI 94	Andreas Friedrich	17
6	SUI 18	Urs Schürch	17
7	SUI 2	Helmut Klammer	24
8	SUI 77	Roebi Roesti	24
9	SUI 44	Thomas Roost	24
10	SUI 9	Andrea Roost	26



**Memorial Marc Lambelet**

Lake Neuchatel, October 20-21, 2012

As it is unfortunately often the case in late October, high pressure didn't promise much wind. Only one race was sailed in very light conditions. However the traditional 'Fondue' on Saturday evening made up for the missing action on the water. The winner on the lake was Christoph Christen (above) followed by light wind rocket Hans Fatzer and Peter Kilchenmann.

1	SUI 5	Christoph Christen	1
2	SUI 11	Hans Fatzer	2
3	SUI 13	Peter Kilchenmann	3
4	SUI 63	Philippe Jacot	4
5	SUI 7	Christoph Burger	5
6	SUI 41	Peter Roesti	6
7	SUI 18	Christoph Wilke	7
8	SUI 4	Jiri Huracek	8
9	SUI 28	Boris Kulpe	9
10	SUI 80	Jan Fischer	10

**Gingerbread Regatta**

Lake Thun, November 3-4, 2012

The Gingerbread Regatta attracted 40 sailors. With sunshine and warm temperatures on Saturday it didn't look like the last regatta of the year. A nice breeze allowed two interesting races. In race one Beat Aebischer and Christoph Wilke led at the first mark. Christoph Burger and Christoph Christen stayed close and managed to pass Wilke just before the finish. In race two Burger and Christen stayed in front all the way to the finish. With the Finn fleet of Lake Thun celebrating its 50th birthday, all the Finn pirates of the lake met for a roaring party on Saturday evening. On Sunday the wind was as tired as the pirates and no more races could be sailed.

1	SUI 7	Christoph Burger	3
2	SUI 5	Christoph Christen	5
3	SUI 71	Beat Aebischer	7
4	SUI 67	Peter Theurer	9
5	SUI 12	Franz Bürgi	11
6	SUI 63	Thomas Gautschi	13
7	SUI 11	Hans Fatzer	17
8	SUI 28	Boris Kulpe	20
9	SUI 18	Christoph Wilke	21
10	SUI 69	Jean Pierre Weber	25

**Wilke Cup 2012**

The Wilke Cup is already a tradition in Switzerland. The ranking is based on all national regattas of the year including the Swiss Championship and excluding local regattas. Its goal is to encourage sailors to participate in as many national regattas as possible. The first prize is a 50% discount on a brand new Wilke mast. The same sailor is only eligible every three years. The 2012 ranking was won by Boris Kulpe, the winner of the previous year. The prize was therefore rewarded to Christoph Christen in second place. Many thanks to Christoph Wilke for his great support.

1	SUI 28	Boris Kulpe	400
2	SUI 5	Christoph Christen	377
3	SUI 41	Peter Roesti	358
4	SUI 63	Thomas Gautschi	343
5	SUI 71	Beat Aebischer	324
6	SUI 11	Hans Fatzer	307
7	SUI 69	Jean-Pierre Weber	306
8	SUI 12	Franz Bürgi	301
9	SUI 3	Carlo Lazzari	239
10	SUI 80	Jan Fischer	229

**New Year's Race** (see main photo)

Oberhofen, Lake Thun, January 1, 2013  
Snow on the mountains, no wind on the lake! Five sailors started the new year with a regatta on Lake Thun. The wind was not yet awake but everyone had a lot of fun.

1 Peter Rösti; 2 Urs Wenger; 3 Ruedi Baumann; 4 Peter Kurz; 5 Franz Bürgi



**Major Finn regattas  
2013-2014**

8-10/3	North American Masters	Ft. Lauderdale, USA
13-17/3	Split Olympic Sailing Week	Split, Croatia
29-31/3	North American Championships	Mobile, USA
30/3-6/4	ISAF Sailing World Cup Palma	Palma de Majorca, Spain
19-26/4	ISAF Sailing World Cup Hyeres	Hyeres, France
28/4-2/6	International University Sailing Cup	Moscow, Russia
8-12/5	Fragila Vela Riva (ECC)	Garda, Italy
<b>17-25/5</b>	<b>FINN WORLD MASTERS</b>	<b>La Rochelle, France</b>
21-25/5	Delta Lloyd Regatta (EEC)	Medemblik, Netherlands
8-12/6	Sail for Gold (ECC)	Weymouth & Portland, UK
22-26/6	Kiel Week (ECC)	Kiel, Germany
5-7/7	UK Championship	Torbay, UK
<b>5-12/7</b>	<b>SILVER CUP</b>	<b>Lake Garda, Italy</b>
8-14/7	US Nationals	San Pedro, USA
12-14/7	Warnemude Week	Warnemunde, Germany
<b>19-27/7</b>	<b>EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP</b>	<b>Warnemunde, Germany</b>
<b>23-31/8</b>	<b>FINN GOLD CUP</b>	<b>Tallinn, Estonia</b>
4-8/9	Masters Europa Cup	Lake Balaton, Tihany, Hungary
7-8/9	Belgian Championship	Plate-Taille Lake, Belgium
18-22/9	Swiss Championship	Zug, Switzerland
9-13/10	Semaine Olympique Français (ECC)	La Rochelle France
1-7/12	ISAF Sailing World Cup Melbourne	Melbourne, Australia
12-15/12	Sail Sydney	Sydney, Australia
18-23/12	Christmas Race	Palamos, Spain

More details and regatta links can be found on [www.sailing.org](http://www.sailing.org) or on [www.finnclass.org](http://www.finnclass.org)  
Please check all details before travelling as dates can change at short notice.

ECC = EUROSFAF Champions Sailing Cup

**Future Championships**

**2014**

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

**2015**

Europeans – possible combined Olympic classes championship.  
Finn Gold Cup – Bids received from New Zealand and France.





## ***MAXX Your Performance***

Congratulations to Jon Lobert for a well deserved bronze. Four sails out of ten in the Medal Race were yellow MAXX-sails from WB. Proven performance at top level combined with exceptional durability.

WB-Sails Ltd, Helsinki, Finland [www.wb-sails.fi](http://www.wb-sails.fi) [info@wb-sails.fi](mailto:info@wb-sails.fi) Tel. +3589 621 5055

