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Photo: Björn Hedin

Opening shot: 60th Anniversary Regatta – Uppsala Kanotförening

The Legacy



Very little is documented about Rickard Sarby before the Finn came along, but he was a fascinating person, multi-talented and self-educated with extraordinary gifts and creativity. He was born in 1912 in a small village called Pesarby, which is about 50 km north of Uppsala (which is 70 km north-west of Stockholm). The name of the village actually gave rise to the family name. He was the youngest of four brothers and one sister. His only formal education was the six years he spent at Swedish elementary school.

Rickard came from a very talented and creative family, each one being artistic or musical in some way. When the family moved to Uppsala in the 1930s, Rickard was educated as a barber. For many years he ran one of the biggest barbershops in Uppsala, which became famous because of its imaginative and prize winning Christmas window displays.

Soon after arriving in Uppsala, Rickard was also introduced to canoe sailing and skate sailing by his oldest brother Ernst, who was an enthusiast and a driving force of Uppsala Kanotförening. Uppsala Kanotförening was founded in 1916 as a sport club for

elite canoe paddling by a young engineer Sven Thorell, who would later become one of Sarby's main opponents in the design competition for the 1952 Olympics. The clubhouse is situated 9 km south of Uppsala on the shores of Lake Ekoln, the northern part of Lake Mälaren, an ideal area for small boat sailing and racing.

The club became a unique breeding ground for small boat sailing, as well as skate sailing, and it was in this environment that Rickard was in his element, designing, building and racing sailing canoes. He was an innovator in boat and sail building techniques including producing laminated waterproof paper sails at a time after World War II when sail cloth was hard to obtain. He also designed the original flap bailer that was later commercialised as the 'Elvström' bailer.

All this experience came to a head in the Finn. His approach was to sketch full size drawings while also building scale models. The first Finn was built in double diagonal planking, which proved to be fast, and suitable for amateur building, but later, boats were also built from baking layers of veneer strips over a shell, and he also built some fibreglass hulls.

Sarby's legacy cannot be overstated. His design was so perfect that it has remained at the forefront of international and Olympic competition for six decades, while undergoing a continuous development in rules and technology. However, the hull shape, developed from the Swedish sailing canoes, and controlled by a strict set of class rules, remains untouched to this day.



FINNFARE

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Cover photo: Karel van Hellemond at

Uppsala (Photo: Björn Hedin) • **Insets:** Dutch sailors (with Boris Jacobsson) in Uppsala; Antal Gabor talks to Jorge Zarif and Filippo Baldassari at the Silver Cup; Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic shows his delight in winning the Europeans (photos: Robert Deaves, Júlia Dávid, Kamen Kovachev)

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President's Letter

Dear Finn friends, fellow competitors,

These lines are written in Busan, Korea, venue of the sailing event at the 1988 Summer Olympics and the 2009 ISAF AGM.

As a result of the 2008 November ISAF conference in Madrid, the Finn continues its Olympic pathway as one of the most long standing Olympic sailing classes.

The year 2009 marked another great year of Finn sailing in every aspect of our class. Traditions and modernism, history and a focus on the future lived again side by side in our activities.

From the 60th year Finn Anniversary Regatta in Uppsala to the 50+ boat Junior Worlds at Balaton, from a 260+ boat Masters Worlds in Maubuisson to a 90+ entry Finn Gold Cup in Copenhagen, our events proved once again to be highly competitive, rich in tradition and at the same time they showed a great future perspective for the class. Finn sailors from the age of 14 to 80+ and a body weight of 70kg to 120kg had a chance to sail against each other in these and a large number of continental, regional, national and local Finn regattas.

The year 2009 also marked another step in the evolution of the Finn as sailing equipment. A reduced hull weight and a modern compass on board, as well as a revised course format represent the most recent actions in this field and show that the 60 year constant and well controlled equipment evolution is one of the reasons why the Finn has the most continuous Olympic appearances under its belt from all current Olympic classes.

Looking ahead at 2010 the class will face new challenges and a changing environment in the world of sailing. The IFA Executive is ready to march on and would like to thank all sailors and class supporters for contributing to a spectacular 2009 sailing season.

Wishing you all the best for your sailing and private lives for 2010.

Best regards

Dr. Balazs Hajdu
Finn HUN 1
IFA President

Vice-President - Masters

Split in 2010

I hope you all have noticed that the discussions about the accommodation in Split have come to a satisfying end and that we will be sailing our Championship in Split in 2010. I am looking forward to this beautiful place like a lot of the Masters will remember it.

Message to Labud Sailing Club in Split

Maybe I have to make an apology to the people of Labud Sailing Club for having been very critical, but the job you all gave me in 2008 by appointing me as the Master's President is to look after our Finn World Masters Championship as we like it to be. This is an important part of my task and that is the reason to visit a venue prior to the Championship. And this includes making sure that everything is the way we like it to be: good sailing with good socials and especially: good accommodation for everybody within a short distance from the club. Also for campers. I am glad the people in Split convinced me that it will be OK for 2010 and so we will sail there.



I am unhappy that some Finn sailors have been negative about Split in the past months and especially about publications they made without asking me what was going on. Most of it was based on what they heard from others and not from me. There were discussions about the accommodation as I published them in the latest Finnfare, but it is blown up by some people and that will create a negative attitude within the Masters group. I hope a large amount of Finn Masters will travel to Split for a great championship.

Venue for 2012

In August/September I visited, together with Mike Till, Pwllheli Sailing Club in North

Wales, UK (2012 candidate) and you can read my report on the Master's website.

We will vote for the 2012 venue in the Annual Master's Meeting in Split in May 2010. Up till now Pwllheli is the only candidate, but I hope we will find a second candidate, so we will be able to make a choice.

Candidates after 2012

Also for the years after 2012 we need candidates, so if you know a venue which you think can handle the FWM and is willing to do the organisation in one of the coming years, please ask them to contact me.

Masters website

Please look at www.finnworldmaster.com frequently to avoid missing any news about the Finn World Masters.

I wish you all a good end of the season and hope to see you all in Split.

Kind regards,

Fons van Gent NED 748
(Vice) President Masters Fleet

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Photo FINNish

It's finally here. After much anticipation and a lot of work by a lot of people, the Finn's 60th anniversary book was published in November and will be available in time for Christmas.

Stocks of this unique 'must have' book are limited so if you want to be sure of a copy then get your order in fast.

There are also a limited number of hardback special editions.

Copies of the softback edition are available though many National Finn Associations and local suppliers including: NED, ITA, NZL, GER, as well as through the IFA. For the full list with contact and order details go to www.finnclass.org/finnshop.htm

Otherwise, you can order a copy online from the FINNSHOP with a credit card or Paypal account at www.finnclass.org.

Softback copies are £25 and the hardback edition is £60, plus postage and packing.

See later on in this issue for a full preview and some sample pages.



New scoring and Format for Finn World Masters Championship

Fons van Gent writes: The Annual Masters Meeting in Maubuisson last May asked Richard Hart and a few other Masters to create proposals for a new scoring system for The Finn World Masters Championship. Richard came with two final proposals:

- 1: Each day re-allocation into 2 or 3 flights of equal standard, with Gold, Silver and Bronze on the last day.
- 2: Age grouping, where the sailors will be divided in groups by age, i.e. 40–49, 50–59, 60–upwards.

For alternative 2 there was a lot of resistance because this would really influence the original idea of the Masters. The FWM Committee took the decision and has chosen for alternative 1. The complete text of this system can be found on www.finnworldmaster.com.

Finn Archive Depository

During the compilation of 'Photo FINNish' it became all too obvious that large volumes of important archives were lost forever. Too many times the answer came back, "It all got thrown away," "It was put into storage and lost," or "No idea where that is."

Technical Report

Balazs, Corinne and I have just come back from the ISAF Annual Conference, which this year was in Busan, Korea.

For the second time in ten years or so, somebody reported to a Committee that Finns were not properly certificated at a major regatta (we weren't the only class under this unwelcome spotlight). On both occasions, the reason was that the Equipment Inspectors found certificates where the owner's name or sail number wasn't entered, the certificate wasn't acceptably stamped by the certifying authority, or the Inspector couldn't read the National Secretary's signature. We've been trying to get some sort of Equipment Inspection at the Grade 1 regattas for many years: now we're starting to get it!

Please make sure that your paperwork is right. Bad publicity like this doesn't help us. Incidentally, trying to help sort things out for various people cost me two days, and at least one national secretary also had a run-around. We would rather have been out sailing.

In the longer term, perhaps it is time to think about a website database to back up our paper certificates. An Event Organiser could simply check the Certification before accepting the Regatta Entry. A prototype database (from the Tornado Class) was shown at ISAF last year, and both ISAF and some Member National Authorities are working on the idea. From the administrative

point of view, the Class would have to decide whether to do the job internally, or support an ISAF database in due course, and would have to make suitable budget and organisational provisions. From the Technical point of view, I plan to discuss with your Technical Committee what should be included. Names and addresses are probably not an option (although we might get sponsorship from Burglars International). Another question though, is whether we would actually need the whole Measurement Form to be recorded. For many years we have believed that this was necessary, but nowadays one might question whether a database would need more than the equipment identification, lead and swing test information that is on the Certificate Form for new boats. Maybe we'll have some proposals for our AGM.

There are moves at ISAF to include some major regatta requirements in a new section of the Standard Class Rules. One candidate for inclusion would be the Equipment Limitation currently 2 masts, 2 sails, 2 rudders, 2 booms, (and I've been told that we should include 1 hull in the list!). At the Sailing World Cup Events, one organiser decided to impose his own different limitations, and the proposed new section of the SCR is intended to prevent this sort of situation from arising.

Last year AGM authorised me to make housekeeping changes to our rules, so we may ask to change a few typos etc for the

2010 Editions: ISAF seems to be happier with a new edition each year.

AGM also instructed me to talk with a working group about preventing competitors spending Megabucks on specialised development of dramatically faster Equipment for the Olympic Games, to which other competitors would not have access. It was suggested that this had happened in another class last time around. I have discussed the matter with various individuals and propose to discuss it within the Technical Committee, but for the moment it seems to me that there is not a problem with hulls or sails, and it seems highly unlikely that there is any permitted development with masts that would make the boat dramatically faster. We should remember that the Olympic Games Regatta is ideal ground for rumour-mongers, and coaches are well aware of the possibilities for psyching-out the opposition.

Of course one reason for the investigation is to see if we can limit campaign costs for the hotshots, and sailing costs for the rest of us. Maybe we could save something if we revisited the Equipment Limitations for our major regattas: if only one mast were allowed then we wouldn't have the option of a stiffer and a softer mast for different conditions.

Richard Hart

Therefore the International Finn Association has set up the Finn Archive Depository, which aims to collect, look after and preserve material from the Finn class history. The IFA already has a vast archive and this is the perfect final destination for all those old photos, movies, programmes, articles etc that otherwise would get thrown away.

So please, if you have any old Finn related material that future generations might be interested in, send it to the Finn Archive Depository for safekeeping. Already we are finding old movies, more old photos than could fit into any number of books as well as other interesting items. Over time we would like to bring you all of this in a special online archive so it can be enjoyed the world over.

Also of course, people pass on and material is lost. If you wish for your Finn archive to be preserved, please make provision for it to be sent to the Finn Archive Depository. If you know anyone with such an archive please let them know about this scheme, so that more material can be saved and preserved. More details at: www.finnclass.org

ISAF Sailing World Cup

The inaugural ISAF Sailing World Cup concluded at the Sail for Gold Regatta in Weymouth in September. Following a very consistent season Ed Wright had clinched the title before the last regatta. Some possible changes to the scoring systems used were mentioned for 2010, but the core regattas remain the same: Sail Melbourne, Miami OCR, Princesa Sofia, Hyères, Delta Lloyd Regatta, Kiel Week and Sail for Gold.

1	Edward Wright	GBR	112
2	Ivan Kijakovic Gaspic	CRO	89
3	Giles Scott	GBR	71
4	Rafal Szukiel	POL	66
5	Rafa Trujillo villar	ESP	64
6	Zach Railey	USA	56
7	Andrew Mills	GBR	53
8	Pieter-jan Postma	NED	52
9	Deniss Karpak	EST	47
10	Dan Slater	NZL	43

ISAF World Rankings - 23 September 2009

		Nation	Prev	Points
1	Ivan Kijakovic Gaspic	CRO	1	5149
2	Edward Wright	GBR	8	4976
3	Pieter-jan Postma	NED	5	4779
4	Rafal Szukiel	POL	4	4686
5	Peer Moberg	NOR	7	4686
6	Rafa Trujillo Villar	ESP	2	4665
7	Zach Railey	USA	3	4607
8	Tapio Nirkko	FIN	11	4590
9	Giles Scott	GBR	13	4573
10	Dan Slater	NZL	6	4572
11	Daniel Birgmark	SWE	9	4366
12	Eduard Skorniyakov	RUS	121	4331
13	Jonas Høgh-Christensen	DEN	10	4304
14	Andrew Mills	GBR	18	4278
15	Michael Maier	CZE	15	4245
16	Piotr Kula	POL	19	4196
17	Mark Andrews	GBR	21	4054
18	Jonathan Lobert	FRA	20	4007
19	Florian Raudaschl	AUT	22	3987
20	Giorgio Poggi	ITA	16	3881



Andrei Balashov 1946-2009



Andrei Balashov died on 21 October, aged 63. He was one of the great Russian Finn sailors, twice medalist at the European Finn Championship, twice medalist in the Olympic Games in the Finn class, seven times USSR Finn Champion, was awarded the title 'Honoured Master of Sports'. Andrei Balashov was born in Leningrad on March 22, 1946.

As a teenager Andrei tried a variety of sports, but in 1956 he saw a poster for the yacht club on the door of his school and decided to go in for sailing. In the spring of the following year he was invited to crew a sailing boat, the "M" class. Later in 1959, he started in the Finn class, which determined his future. At that time Andrei set the targets for himself – the first target was to get to the Olympics, and later – to win them. From 15 years old he worked at marine plant "Nevsky" as an electrician, ship fitter, and in the evening after work, he fled to the yacht club "Trud" to go training.

The first significant success came in 1967 in Leningrad at Spartakiada competition of the USSR (the equivalent of an internal Olympic Games inside of USSR). He won the bronze medal, and lost the gold only due to a lack of experience, but he really had every chance of winning. At this point in his life he has already won at the junior competition, won the regatta in Leningrad and three times became the adult champion of Leningrad. He drove in the winter to the Sukhumi training camp, and participated in his first competition in Tallinn – at the International Baltic Regatta – all out of his own pocket.

In 1969 he graduated from secondary school and later moved to Moscow. Travel restrictions at that time prevented him from achieving his goal of gold medals internationally, but from 1973 to 1976 he won the USSR Finn championship four times in a row, and later also won it in 1978 and 1980.

In 1976 Andrei won the silver medal at the European Championship. At the 1976 Olympics in Canada, he fought for gold until the last race, and only then he yielded because of his physique to his German rival Jochen Schümann. In 1980, he won the bronze medal at the European Championship, as well as the bronze medal at the Olympic Games. And again until the last race he had a real chance for the gold.

Andrei considered his main weaknesses was insufficient height and weight, and moving to the Star class in 1980, he was

finally in his element. He quickly mastered this difficult class, and finally broke into the world elite and regularly achieved his cherished goal – victory in regattas at world level. But in 1984 the USSR team did not participate in the Olympics Games, and, as one of the strongest helmsmen in the world, he had to leave to continue his duties in the Navy at Kamchatka (Far East).

After retiring from the Navy, Andrei returned to Moscow in 1991 and participated in the America's Cup programme. He also worked as a coach in China.

In 2008 and 2009 Andrei was connected to the work of the Moscow Finn Association. He participated in training, training athletes, helping committees, and in 2009 was connected to the preparation of the national team in the Finn class, and even sailed the Finn again, taking part in a number of regattas in Moscow – including the Open Russian Championship.

Andrei's dedication towards fantastic goals and performance are a good example to many young Russian athletes. In this case, being a truly great helmsman and sportsman, when he turned to you he lifted us all, making us believe that each of us is capable of doing the same thing, and that he should just make a little more strength to believe in the goal.

Andrei's last years were among his friends – Finn sailors – and he shared his experience and attitude to sport with the younger athletes. He also performed well in the final races in the 2009 Russian Finn Championship, which we consider was a rare stroke of luck for all of us. Andrei will continue to live in our hearts.

Vasiliy Kravchenko

Shortly before he died, Andrei completed a lengthy and frank interview for the IFA, with the help of Vasiliy Kravchenko. Part of this interview is included in 'Photo FINNish'. The full interview will be published at a later date.

Top left: At the 1977 Finn Gold Cup in Palamós
Top right: In 1979 at the Baltic Championships
Right: With the bronze medal he won in Tallinn at the 1980 Olympic Games





Where it all started....

For three days in August, Uppsala in Sweden was the centre of the universe for Finn sailors. Sixty years ago in 1949 the first Finn was launched there by its designer Rickard Sarby, in his attempt to win a design competition to select the monotype dinghy for the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki. This year, 56 sailors from 10 nations returned to the same club over the weekend of 14-16 August for three days of sailing and celebration. It was also combined with the 2009 Swedish Championship, which was won for the third time by local sailor Mikael Brandt.

It said on the t-shirts "Where it all started..." and for the 56 sailors who made it to Uppsala, despite the horrible forecast, that is what it was all about. This was where it all started and the club, looking much the same as when the first Finn was launched in 1949, is steeped in Finn history. The famous portrait of the boat's designer, Rickard Sarby adorns the clubhouse wall, while old Bruder wooden masts are still stored in the roof of the boatshed.

Rickard Sarby died in 1977, but his nephew Bert Sarby, and the original owner of Finn No 2 put in an appearance, while the original Finn No 1 (below), preserved and looked after by the local maritime museum, was on display all weekend.

Friday night was the practice race. Ominous black clouds put off some, but 15 hardy sailors ventured out in light winds. By the time the race started, the sailors were rewarded with heavy rain, 20 knot winds, and a thunder and lightning show on all sides. The drop rate was high and only six boats finished. Fittingly the race win went to event organiser Sverker Hard after finding a large shift on lap two to take the lead to the finish.

Friday dawned sunny and warm with a good forecast. The racing was held at the other

end of the lake to get the best conditions and four excellent but 'difficult' races were completed. Starting in 4-5 knots and maxing out at 15-18 knots the day ended with another thunderstorm.

Day one belonged to the large Dutch team sailing. Karel van Hellemond took four race wins in a shifty but increasing wind to lead overnight. Thierry van Vierssen, Cees Scheurwater, Jan Willem Kok and Henk de Jager filled out the top five spots after a day of consistent sailing in very inconsistent conditions.

Lighter winds were a welcome relief to some on day two with three more races completed after a short delay to allow the wind to fill in. The Dutch team continued to dominate, with van Hellemond winning two races to maintain the overall lead, while Torsten Jarnstam won the first race of the day, after the early leader Mikael Brandt forgot about the final leeward mark and sailed straight to the finish, throwing away a sure race win.

The final day ended on a high, with 30 knot winds and spectacular sailing conditions. Only about half the fleet ventured out, but these conditions are what the Finn was made for. Very few sailors had problems and the fleet put on a great display of seamanship and skill in the extreme conditions. Even Gus Miller managed to complete the race without incident.



The prizes were presented by Boris Jacobsson (centre), European Champion in 1962 and 1963

Jan Willem Kok won his first race of the weekend with Thierry van Vierssen in second and Karel van Hellemond securing the series in third. Top junior Ross Hamilton posted his best result of the series with a fourth.

The final race was abandoned on the first downwind as the wind gusted 30-35 knots and the rescue fleet was fully occupied with the Two-Crown class, with which the regatta was shared.

In the end, the Dutch team took a clean sweep of the medals, while Mikael Brandt took his third Swedish championship and the 50+ prize. Brandt is a local legend who started sailing Finns at Uppsala Kanotförening while Rickard Sarby was still active in the club.



Photos by Björn Hedén, Torsten Jarnstam and Robert Deaves

60th ANNIVERSARY REGATTA – UPPSALA, SWEDEN

1	NED 41	Karel van Hellemond	1	1	1	1	(4)	1	1	3	9
2	NED 780	Jan Willem Kok	(9)	5	2	5	3	2	3	1	21
3	NED 747	Thierry van Vierssen	3	2	3	(7)	6	3	2	2	21
4	SWE 721	Mikael Brandt	5	7	5	4	(10)	8	4	10	43
5	NED 904	Cees Scheurwater	2	8	8	2	7	(15)	11	7	45
6	SWE 735	Johan Wijk	6	4	9	(13)	12	7	5	8	51
7	SWE 701	Daniel Miles	(12)	10	10	8	8	5	9	12	62
8	SWE 40	Sverker Hård	(16)	14	6	10	2	11	12	15	70
9	NED 11	Henk de Jager	(31)	3	7	3	11	23	19	6	72
10	NED 50	Jan Zetzema	(18)	13	17	6	14	6	7	9	72
11	SWE 111	Torsten Jarnstam	8	18	15	17	1	12	14	(dns)	85
12	SWE 8	Christofer Finnsgård	(36)	9	16	11	13	24	15	5	93
13	IRL 4	Ross Hamilton	(22)	15	11	18	19	21	6	4	94
14	SWE 740	Henrik Rydell	10	12	(26)	22	20	4	10	19	97
15	SWE 726	Håkan Olsson	26	16	12	12	5	13	(28)	18	102
16	NED 1	Jan van der Horst	11	23	14	14	31	10	8	(dns)	111
17	CZE 221	Daniel Vinkl	7	22	dne	(39)	17	9	17	11	140
18	SWE 21	Robert Deaves	20	(31)	21	28	23	16	16	16	140
19	SWE 759	Fredrik Tegnhed	29	24	(34)	16	25	26	13	14	147
20	POL 21	Jacek Binkowski	15	17	18	(41)	30	19	29	20	148
21	SWE 731	Johan Åqvist	32	36	20	24	9	30	21	(dns)	172
22	SWE 747	Mats Enblom	23	20	19	25	22	28	36	(dns)	173
23	CZE 222	Peter Vinkl	19	28	(37)	27	28	22	27	22	173
24	SWE 3	Christian Finnsgård	33	32	30	19	15	25	22	(dns)	176
25	NED 754	Kees Kruyer	35	34	27	23	26	14	20	(dns)	179
26	FIN 212	Ville Valtonen	27	19	31	20	34	39	(43)	13	183
27	USA 975	August Miller	25	27	29	(49)	39	29	24	21	194
28	SWE 717	Pär Friberg	40	(ocs)	35	31	24	20	23	25	198
29	GER 150	Gunter O. Hoffmann	4	6	4	15	(dns)	dns	dns	dns	200
30	SWE 801	David Berg	34	11	36	38	18	31	32	(dns)	200
31	SWE 698	Peter Bernstein	14	30	33	29	37	34	26	(dns)	203
32	SWE 328	Lasse Wastesson	17	44	41	21	32	(ocs)	33	17	205
33	SWE 744	Bengt Strömberg	50	21	22	30	21	37	25	(dns)	206
34	SWE 702	Gert Pluto	13	38	43	33	33	33	(48)	23	216
35	SWE 65	Anders Nordin	30	25	25	26	40	(ocs)	18	dns	221
36	ITA 43	Pietro Piram	39	40	13	32	16	45	37	(dns)	222
37	SWE 699	Mats Wahlberg	38	26	28	37	36	35	35	(dns)	235
38	SWE 800	Erik Åberg	37	37	24	(dns)	44	27	45	26	240
39	NED 32	Peter Verhoef	(dns)	29	39	42	29	17	30	dns	243
40	SWE 752	Hans Wiberg	28	41	38	44	35	32	38	(dns)	256
41	SWE 734	Ulf Bjureus	44	35	32	40	(51)	41	42	24	258
42	SWE 750	Lasse Larsson	41	42	45	36	42	40	31	(dns)	277
43	DEN 19	Johnny Agesen	21	(dsq)	23	9	dns	dns	dns	dns	281
44	SWE 738	Hans Gustavsson	43	51	(dns)	45	38	18	34	dns	286
45	SWE 6	Christer Ridderheim	46	33	40	35	43	44	46	(dns)	287
46	DEN 246	Ane Zielinski	24	43	46	47	49	48	39	(dns)	296
47	SWE 529	Jesper Åberg	45	46	48	48	27	42	47	(dns)	303
48	SWE 709	Gunnar Åberg	48	39	44	46	47	43	41	(dns)	308
49	DEN 192	Ole Blichfeldt Madsen	(dns)	45	49	34	52	36	40	dns	313
50	SWE 72	Charles Ley	49	(52)	47	50	48	49	50	27	320
51	SWE 743	Håkan Örtqvist	54	47	42	43	46	50	51	(dns)	333
52	SWE 666	Martin Pluto	42	49	51	51	45	47	49	(dns)	334
53	SWE 100	Adam Pluto	53	48	(dns)	dns	41	46	44	dns	346
54	SWE 77	Lars Maersk Hansen	51	50	52	(dns)	50	38	53	dns	351
55	SWE 716	Thomas Dansk	52	53	50	(dns)	53	51	52	dns	368
56	SWE 725	Jan-Erik Florén	47	(dns)	dns	dns	dns	dns	dns	dns	389

He previously won the title in 1995 and 1997, and also took the Finn World Masters title back in 1990. He said, "I am really surprised to win here, but it is fantastic. There were four guys who I thought were in with a chance, so I am really pleased to beat them. The light winds earlier helped me a lot."

The historical perspective of the regatta was immense. Many of those sailing the regatta, came for no other reason than to celebrate all that the Finn has been and is now and the class they love

in the place where it all started. All went home having made new friends both from overseas and at the very friendly club. There is something about this class that inspires a loyalty and a dedication of purpose that no other class can match. That is what makes the Finn class so great.

Top to bottom: Uppsala Kanotförening, where it all started; coming ashore on Saturday; Robert Deaves; Daniel Vinkl; Håkan Olsson; new Swedish Champion Mikael Brandt; Martin Pluto learns the hard way





Ivan Klijakovic Gaspic wins in Varna

AGB FINANCE FINN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

The first ever major Finn championship in Bulgaria was also the first major championship win for Croatian Ivan Klijakovic Gaspic, who put together a very impressive series, only once finishing outside the top eight and winning three races to take the 2009 AGB Finance Finn European Championship by an impressive points margin. Finland's Tapio Nirkko put together his best series ever to take his first major podium place, while Britain's Ed Wright finished one point back to take bronze. The junior title went to Ioannis Mitakis from Greece, from an encouraging number of new young sailors sailing their first Finn championship. Reports by Corinne McKenzie. Photos by Kamen Kovachev.

1	CRO 524	Ivan Klijakovic Gaspic	1	3	4	8	(13)	2	1	1	6	2	28
2	FIN 218	Tapio Nirkko	9	2	2	4	(19)	14	5	6	1	14	57
3	GBR 111	Edward Wright	2	4	(ocs)	11	1	4	9	10	9	8	58
4	CRO 25	Marin Misura	4	(20)	19	5	3	3	3	8	12	3	60
5	GBR 41	Giles Scott	5	1	14	12	2	17	2	5	15	(36)	73
6	NED 842	Pieter-Jan Postma	3	8	16	(34)	9	1	7	2	14	13	73
7	EST 2	Deniss Karpak	6	7	8	3	(26)	16	10	4	3	20	77
8	GBR 634	Andrew Mills	10	5	1	17	5	11	4	17	(48)	11	81
9	NOR 1	Peer Moberg	11	24	3	(dnf)	6	15	17	9	4	6	95
10	POL 7	Rafal Szukiel	13	21	10	18	7	(bfd)	18	3	8	4	102



A total of 75 sailors from 21 nations arrived in Varna for the first ever major championship on the Black Sea. Bulgarian Finn sailor, Mihail Kopanov who has raced on the Finn circuit for many years said, "This is very good for Bulgarian Sailing. This is the biggest Olympic class event ever organised in Bulgaria and I think it will bring good experience and confidence for future events."

The Bulgarian Federation worked hard to provide the event with the best organisation and services and secured the participation of main sponsor AGB Finance and the Municipality of Varna. The President of the Bulgarian Sailing Federation, Mr. Chavdar Alexandrov Stoylov expressed his content that such an event was held in the Black Sea Region, "The ambition of

the new management of the Federation is to organise even bigger and prestigious events which would bring a positive image not only to sailing in Bulgaria but also to the country as a touristic destination."

Day one – Perfect Finn racing

What could be better? Wind, sun, waves, good racing. The Finn sailors truly enjoyed their first day on the Black Sea. Racing started with a north-easterly breeze averaging 10 knots. The race committee, under the guidance of Finn Olympic PRO Peter Reggio, set a windward leeward course.

The left side of the beat proved favoured with more pressure and better angle provided by the proximity of the coast. Tapio Nirkko led the fleet to the top mark followed by Marin Misura, Mihail Kopanov and Ivan Klijakovic Gaspic. Gaspic moved to the front on the run to win the first race. It was a tight race among the juniors, Lauri Vainsalu, Filippo Baldassari and Josip Olujic finished top three juniors in 23rd, 24th and 25th positions.

The wind increased to 14 knots for the second race with the Oscar flag displayed. Once again, Nirkko was first at the top mark, making his gains upwind, but seemed to lose some ground on the run. He was closely followed by Jonathan Lobert, and Giles Scott. Nirkko was still in front at the end of the second beat, but Scott passed him on the run to take the race.

Day 2 – Victory for Andrew Mills

Race 3 started with a 10 knot northerly breeze on the third start. Andrew Mills started close to the pin end and chose the left side along the coast looking for more pressure. His

move paid off when he reached the top mark with a big lead over the rest of the fleet. Only Mark Andrews was on his tail, but was soon signalled OCS by the racing committee.

"I gained more ground on the first run," explained Mills, who rounded the bottom mark 40 seconds ahead of Nirkko. "On the second beat I covered the fleet but still had a decent lead. I lost some on the last run with the dying breeze." Nirkko took second place in the race and the overall results, five points behind Gaspic.

Milosz Wojewski was the best Junior, in 17th place, but the overall lead remained with Baldassari who has steadily improved with the help of coach Valentin Mankin.

After an hour wait for the wind, further racing was cancelled racing for the day.

Day 3 – Gaspic holds onto top place

On day 3, three races were sailed in light to medium winds. Races victories went to young Polish sailor Jakub Pasik, Ed Wright and Pieter-Jan Postma.

The winner of race 4 was a real surprise. Jakub Pasik said, "I took a good start at the committee boat and crossed all the fleet to go up the left side. I was second at the top mark just behind Haris Papadopoulos. I passed him on the run and could control the fleet until the finish."

From 7 knots the wind slightly increased in the second race but was unstable in direction. Considered as the most difficult race of the day, Race 5 was won by Wright, when he could discard his OCS to climb to second overall.



EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2009 - FINAL RESULTS

11	GBR 88	Mark Andrews	19	9	(ocs)	16	4	6	11	11	35	1	112
12	AUT 3	Florian Raudaschl	12	16	(34)	9	15	9	8	21	2	21	113
13	POL 17	Piotr Kula	7	14	5	(45)	12	8	6	16	36	10	114
14	SWE 6	Bjorn Allansson	8	10	13	13	(27)	19	12	7	26	16	124
15	UKR 1	Oleksiy Borysov	18	19	11	6	(38)	10	31	19	7	5	126
16	RUS 9	Eduard Skorniyakov	14	15	18	23	11	(33)	16	13	10	9	129
17	FRA 115	Thomas Le Breton	20	11	7	14	16	13	14	(48)	32	25	152
18	ITA 101	Riccardo Cordovani	21	17	15	20	18	22	(28)	12	19	18	162
19	CYP 19	Haris Papadopoulos	17	23	9	2	14	28	15	37	(41)	32	177
20	CZE 1	Michael Maier	16	13	21	28	21	21	21	23	18	(35)	182
21	GRE 77	Ioannis Mitakis	37	31	(40)	7	17	40	30	14	5	19	200
22	ITA 117	Giorgio Poggi	22	12	23	32	20	18	24	18	(45)	39	208
23	FRA 112	Jonathan Lobert	(ocs)	6	28	40	24	5	13	27	31	37	211
24	POR 5	Federico P De Melo	15	33	6	47	8	7	22	28	(63)	47	213
25	CZE 52	Tomas Vika	28	25	31	27	29	12	(dnf)	20	23	42	237
26	POL 45	Jakub Pasik	41	(dnc)	27	1	22	41	26	35	50	7	250
27	RUS 1	Alex Selivanov	31	35	(43)	10	41	35	33	29	22	17	253
28	HUN 6	Gaszton Pal	27	38	12	38	30	29	23	(66)	39	22	258
29	EST 11	Lauri Vainsalu	23	34	37	44	(54)	23	35	22	17	24	259
30	UKR 5	Andriy Gusenko	36	37	38	(43)	32	20	37	38	13	12	263
31	CRO 11	Josip Olujic	25	39	26	31	10	39	25	42	(49)	33	270
32	ITA 123	Filippo Baldassari	24	22	33	51	25	24	29	15	53	(65)	276
33	CZE 9	Michal Hruby	38	26	22	(dnf)	bfd	32	27	50	21	15	307
34	GER 771	Jan Kurfeld	(dnf)	18	dne	48	42	25	20	31	29	28	317
35	GER 500	Philipe Fischer	48	(53)	32	36	43	43	40	24	27	29	322
36	GRE 8	Alexandros Dragoutsis	(dnc)	29	29	30	23	31	55	40	37	55	329
37	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	39	41	45	15	35	56	43	26	(dnf)	40	340
38	RUS 707	Egor Larionov	33	32	42	24	49	34	36	(65)	43	48	341
39	GBR 642	John Tremlett	26	30	(ocs)	41	28	30	39	55	54	38	341
40	BUL 24	Mihail Kopanov	29	(54)	52	22	40	46	44	33	51	27	344
41	AUS 54	Nathan Quirk	(65)	51	24	29	31	49	59	32	55	30	360
42	CZE 81	Tomas Hrnal	47	48	30	-55	46	50	34	36	24	45	360
43	EST 3	Heiko Eesalu	32	40	36	21	57	37	50	(58)	34	54	361
44	HUN 8	Marton Beliczay	35	42	56	(ocs)	37	36	41	49	47	23	366
45	GER 772	Ulli Kurfeld	42	28	39	50	39	42	46	30	(62)	51	367
46	UKR 21	Anton Sadchykov	43	46	47	37	36	38	47	39	40	(59)	373
47	TUR 211	Alican Kaynar	34	36	44	46	33	(bfd)	49	51	44	50	387
48	GER 717	Sebastian Kaule	40	27	20	53	34	(bfd)	45	47	66	64	396
49	IRL 1	Roger Anthony Craig	62	56	(ocs)	19	61	55	62	41	11	34	401
50	CZE 3	Rudolf Lidarik	30	44	51	35	(dnf)	27	38	34	dne	70	405
51	POL 12	Milosz Wojewski	53	45	17	49	51	26	19	(dnf)	dne	dne	412
52	RUS 91	Viacheslav Sivenkov	52	50	41	39	52	52	(58)	46	42	41	415
53	CZE 11	Patrik Deutscher	50	59	62	33	53	57	(66)	44	16	44	418
54	RUS 17	Vasiliy Kravchenko	46	57	55	(64)	55	48	32	45	33	49	420
55	GRE 71	Panagiotis Davourlis	51	47	50	25	59	53	(61)	61	57	26	429
56	BUL 82	Georgi Yordanov	60	58	54	(70)	68	45	48	52	30	31	446
57	CZE 21	Jan Cajcik	49	55	(dnc)	62	45	44	42	25	52	dnc	450
58	BUL 8	Anastas Petrov	56	(60)	49	52	47	54	53	43	58	46	458
59	BUL 855	Dimitar Vangelov	54	66	46	26	48	64	65	(dnc)	46	57	472
60	TUR 35	Efe Kuyumcu	(ocs)	52	63	66	56	47	52	60	25	58	479
61	GRE 6	Alexandros Raris	44	49	60	61	60	51	56	(62)	38	61	480
62	CRO 52	Nikola Baric	55	61	61	54	44	61	54	57	56	(69)	503
63	ITA 134	Vittorio D'albertas	58	65	35	60	50	58	70	59	(dnf)	56	511
64	BUL 1	Stoil Stoilov	61	68	57	59	58	63	(73)	68	28	52	514
65	BUL 77	Alexandar Alexandrov	59	63	48	(68)	63	62	51	56	59	53	514
66	POL 9	Tomasz Kosmicki	45	43	25	(dnc)	dnc	dnc	60	54	dnc	dnc	531
67	CZE 221	Daniel Vinkl	71	(dnc)	64	56	65	67	69	64	20	62	538
68	GRE 21	Antonis Tsotras	57	62	58	42	62	(bfd)	64	69	65	67	546
69	CZE 55	Milan Hrnal	66	(69)	59	69	64	68	57	53	61	63	560
70	USA 666	Bogomil Pehlivanov	69	71	53	58	67	66	(74)	63	68	66	581
71	RUS 72	Roman Kotlyarov	63	64	68	67	66	60	63	(70)	64	68	583
72	ITA 36	Mario Borroi	64	70	67	65	70	69	(71)	71	69	43	588
73	GRE 14	Anastsios Katsimidis	70	(73)	66	57	69	70	72	67	60	60	591
74	RUS 7	Alexander Novikov	67	(72)	65	63	71	65	68	dne	67	72	614
75	RUS 71	Leonid Klyayman	68	67	69	(dsq)	72	59	67	72	dne	71	621



The wind strengthened for the third and last race of the day reaching 14 knots and allowing for free downwind pumping. Pieter-Jan Postma enjoyed these conditions taking the race in front of the two Croatians Gaspic and Misura. "It was a great job from the racing committee to get these three races in today," said Postma. "The runs were difficult, but I was able to put a safe distance on the fleet." Regatta leader, Kljakovic Gaspic said, "I was 7th at the top mark and made huge gains on the run. I love sailing downwind when Oscar is up. I just focus on the waves and wind and forget about the rest. It is just pure pleasure."

The Junior fleet remained close. Tomas Vika was leading in 24th, seven points ahead of Baldassari in 25th, while in third was Josip Olujic in 26th. Jakub Pasik was 27th on equal points with Ioannis Mitakis.

Day 4 – Croatian sails away

Two victories by Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic on the fourth day gave the Croat a safe 21 point lead. The wind was light to medium and shifty, but provided good racing. "I had a good start on the left of the line and went to the middle," he explained. "Marin Misura was first, just in front of me. I was very fast on the run and passed Misura. Giles Scott moved up to second, in front of Misura and Mills.

Kljakovic Gaspic also took the second race by an impressive margin. "It was very tactical, I sailed up the middle again and

could see half of the fleet on the left with more pressure, but I had clear wind and great speed. I decided to control the sailors on the right and keep an eye on the left. I was very patient, until I could see I was clearly in front. When I got fresh wind from the right, I increased my lead to 70 meters by the top mark."

Tomas Vika remained at the top of the Juniors, closely followed by Baldassari and Ioannis Mitakis.

Day 5 – Kljakovic Gaspic secures title

The fifth day tested the nerves of sailors and racing committee. Very light and fluky, the wind provided two challenging races, won by Tapio Nirkko and Mark Andrews.

Kljakovic Gaspic sailed confidently in these tricky conditions, scoring a second and a sixth and increased his lead to 29 points to take the title with a day to spare. Nirkko maintained a one point lead over Wright, while Giles Scott lost ground over the top three, adding 17 points to his score.

Winning the last race was not enough to bring back Mark Andrews into the top ten after a 35th in race 9. He was 11th place, missing out on the medal race for the third regatta in a row. He said, "I had a bad feeling this would happen."

Final day – no racing

Light and very unstable wind on the last day

forced the racing committee to cancel the Medal Race and the final race.

So Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic took his first major Finn title. The new European champion came into the event as a hot favourite as Number 1 in the World, "I am of course very happy with my result. I know I had great speed and I was confident I could do well. To win this first major title means a lot for me."

He faced strong competition all week, especially from Tapio Nirkko, who raced his best regatta ever, finishing second. Ed Wright who was among the pre-regatta favourites took the bronze.

The Juniors had pushed themselves hard all week, but also to showed the seniors where they stand. After a slow start in the event Ioannis Mitakis enjoyed the light conditions to move ahead and take the title. At the age of 19, he not only took the Nikos Kouklelis trophy in a talented fleet of 22 juniors but also sailed at high level among the seniors, finishing 21st overall. Tomas Vika took the silver and Jakub Pasik the bronze.

All the sailors and officials enjoyed being in Varna, racing on the Black Sea and most of all the great hospitality from the organisers, club members and the Bulgarian Federation who provided a high standard regatta.



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Photos: OnEdition

Skandia Sail for Gold – Weymouth

The 2009 Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta was the first major Finn event held at the 2012 Olympic venue and the sailors gave it an all-round thumbs up. On the water the conditions were challenging and off the water the visitors were impressed with the facilities. Fresh from his success at the Europeans, Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic was the most consistent in the windy and shifty conditions in Weymouth Bay to take the final event of the 2009 ISAF Sailing World Cup by a decisive margin.

SKANDIA SAIL FOR GOLD 2009 – FINAL RESULTS

1	CRO 524	Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic	5	3	8	3	2	3	(16)	1	25
2	GBR 111	Edward Wright	2	2	(10)	9	1	7	6	7	34
3	USA 4	Zach Railey	9	(26)	2	1	13	10	1	2	38
4	NED 842	Pieter-Jan Postma	(11)	1	3	6	10	4	7	8	39
5	SWE 11	Daniel Birgmark	(19)	8	5	10	4	1	3	15	46
6	GBR 41	Giles Scott	10	5	1	2	(16)	8	15	9	50
7	NZL 1	Dan Slater	6	6	(dnf)	5	15	2	11	6	51
8	FRA 115	Thomas Le Breton	3	4	6	7	5	(13)	13	13	51
9	GBR 634	Andrew Mills	1	12	7	(25)	3	12	14	3	52
10	RUS 9	Eduard Skorniyakov	4	7	(15)	13	9	11	9	10	63



11	FRA 112	Jonathan Lobert	68	25	IND 11	Nachhatar Johal	170
12	ESP 7	Alejandro Muscat	77	26	GER 21	Anian Schreiber	172
13	POL 7	Rafal Szukiel	78	27	FIN 218	Tapio Nirkko	176
14	ITA 117	Giorgio Poggi	83	28	ESP 161	Miguel Fernandez	179
15	SWE 6	Bjorn Allansson	96	29	GER 127	Julian Massler	192
16	GBR 88	Mark Andrews	96	30	GBR 99	Henry Bagnall	199
17	USA 1140	Bryan Boyd	104	31	AUS 223	James Paterson	207
18	POL 17	Piotr Kula	117	32	EST 11	Lauri Vinsalu	212
19	GER 771	Jan Kurfeld	125	33	GBR 18	James Hadden	214
20	RUS 707	Egor Larionov	134	34	GBR 68	John Mackie	218
21	AUT 3	Florian Raudaschl	137	35	GBR 595	Edward Thorburn	223
22	SWE 111	Max Salminen	137	36	GBR 681	Simon Pettit	240
23	USA 5	Andrew Casey	159	37	GBR 9	George Cooper	249
24	SWE 7	Kristian Derman	159				

The final event in the 2009 ISAF Sailing World Cup opened with winds from 12 to 16 knots from the north-east, sunny skies and great sailing conditions. This uncharacteristic wind off the Dorset coast produced very shifty conditions and stayed in place for most of the week. The wind increased mid-week with some classes kept ashore on Tuesday, and increased further on Wednesday when racing for the Finns was abandoned.

Ed Wright led after day one, but slipped up on the windy day two. Fellow Brit Giles Scott then took the lead, but the consistency of Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic paid off and he moved ahead on Thursday. He picked up a high score on Friday before winning the next to go into the medal race with a nine point lead.

But it wasn't to be. The final day was set to be a spectacular finale with TV cameras on the water and in the sky and live online tracking – the only thing missing was the wind. By

12.00 four classes had been abandoned, including the Finns. A change in the weather had brought soaring temperatures, sunny skies and light winds in the early morning and then a postponement as what wind there was fizzled away. After a week of strong winds, and despite a massive media presence, nature had the last laugh.

This meant that Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic had won his second ISAF Sailing World Cup event of the year, while runner-up Ed Wright had to be content in the knowledge that he had already done enough to take the Sailing World Cup for Finns.

Summing up, Kljakovic Gaspic said, "For me it was a bit tricky because as I am the lightest guy in the fleet (at 92kg), so I had a big fight with these guys. At the moment the Finn is a really demanding boat to sail as the fleet is getting better and better, and we really need to be really fit and strong guys."





Jorge Zarif wins Silver Cup on Balaton

PATA BOATS JUNIOR FINN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Ten years ago the first ever Junior Finn World Championship took place in Melbourne combined with the senior Finn Gold Cup. At the Finn Gold Cup in 2004 in Rio de Janeiro, the Brazilian Olympic Committee presented the IFA with the Jörg Bruder Silver Cup, to be presented to the Junior Finn World Champion. In 2007 in Moscow the Silver Cup became an independent event for the first time with 50 sailors taking part. In 2009 the Pata Boats Junior Finn World Championship took place at Balatonfüred, on the shores of Lake Balaton in Hungary. With 51 entries from 18 nations it was the largest Junior Finn World Championship ever, and underlines the growing interest in the class by a new generation of young, tall, fit, heavyweight sailors. Words and photos by Júlia Dávid.

FINN SILVER CUP 2009 – FINAL RESULTS

1	BRA 109	Jorge Zarif	1	3	3	(34)	1	2	10
2	RUS 707	Egor Larionov	3	7	1	3	(27)	12	26
3	UKR 5	Andriy Gusenko	2	(10)	9	1	5	16	33
4	ITA 123	Filippo Baldassari	7	9	5	11	(37)	4	36
5	CZE 52	Tomas Vika	(dnf)	14	4	4	13	8	43
6	POL 45	Jakub Pasik	(20)	11	11	9	2	10	43
7	GER 21	Anian Schreiber	(14)	12	2	8	4	18	44
8	GRE 77	Ioannis Mitakis	9	2	(bfd)	10	10	14	45
9	HUN 5	Bakóczy Róbert	4	5	14	17	(29)	6	46
10	GER 127	Julian Massler	13	15	7	(24)	7	20	62



The weather wasn't at its best on Balaton during the Pata Boats Junior Finn World Championship. Only six races out of the scheduled 10 were sailed, with generally light and fitful winds providing a challenging weeks sailing. However as well as the title, also up for grabs was the main prize of a year's use of a brand new Pata Boats Finn.

The week started with a postponement through a lack of wind and then two fine races in 8-10 knots won by Jorge Zarif and Alican Kaynar. Then on day two there was no racing. Several attempts were made to get the fleet away, but each time the wind all

but disappeared leading to abandonment after abandonment.

After light winds kept the sailors on shore again in the morning, two more races were held on day three with wins for Egor Larionov and Andriy Gusenko. Zarif made his only slip-up of the championship with a 34th and dropped to sixth, with no discard yet allowable. Larionov took the overall lead while Gusenko climbed to second, and Filippo Baldassari to third.

Although two starts were attempted, only one race was completed on the penultimate day. Richard Hirschler was the early leader, but Zarif was keen to make up for race four and soon took the lead to win by a large margin. He went into the medal race with a six point lead over Larionov and Gusenko.

In the medal race, Zarif took his third race win of the week to emphatically take the Pata Boats Junior Finn World Championship title, just a few weeks after being the leading junior at the Finn Gold Cup in Copenhagen.

Egor Larionov and Andriy Gusenko placed sixth and eighth to hang onto to silver and bronze. The final race for the rest began in an easterly 8 knots. The winner of the race was Artur Ponieczynski followed by Ian Cook and Christoph Froh.

The best Hungarian Róbert Bakóczy in 9th position overall received a special prize from Balatonfüred city, a precious crystal vase.

After, Zarif spoke with cheerful nostalgia: "I have sailed since I was seven years old. First, I began with an Optimist, but I did not succeed very much. My father said it was



not important which class I sailed, just to learn how to handle a boat and that results would come only at the age of 13-14. In the Laser I was much more successful, and I won the junior Brazil championship.”

“But the real success came with the Finn class. Apart from the Brazilian championship, I won the South-American Championship too. I would like to be a professional sailor. Naturally, I am very happy to win the world championship. Maybe you did not notice, but I was very nervous before the medal race, because the wind blew chaotically shifting at least 30 degrees. But after the start I calmed down and I could race well.”

Gábor Antal Hungarian manufacturer of Pata Boats said, “It is fantastic for us to see the bright faces of young Finn sailors. It reminds me of my own youth and the time when I started to build Finn boats. I did not think that this dream could ever come true. I am very proud to be the main sponsor of the World Championship. It makes me especially happy to see how much young sailors are interested in the main prize of the Silver Cup and I am also glad that I can show them the innovations I applied in this boat.”



In 2010 the Finn Junior World Championship is scheduled to take place in San Francisco just before the senior's Finn Gold Cup. Zarif has five years left as a junior and it may not be long before he is making his mark in the senior fleet as well, just like his father before him.



11	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	(32)	4	16	6	19	15	60
12	CRO 11	Josip Olujic	(24)	8	10	21	6	17	62
13	USA 9	Ian Cook	10	6	(bfd)	16	18	12	62
14	CZE 11	Patrik Deutscher	6	16	17	(32)	8	26	83
15	CZE 21	Jan Cajcik	19	22	15	18	9	(dnf)	83
16	EST 11	Lauri Vainsalu	12	19	(bfd)	22	15	16	84
17	UKR 21	Anton Sadchikov	17	(37)	6	5	31	30	89
18	POL 12	Milosz Wojewski	8	20	8	30	(36)	24	90
19	POL 11	Artur Ponieczynski	27	18	19	(42)	16	11	91
20	TUR 211	Alican Kaynar	5	1	(bfd)	13	26	dnc	97
21	HUN 728	Haidekker Elemér	29	28	18	14	17	(37)	106
22	POL 1	Adrian Górka	15	(bfd)	24	35	14	19	107
23	GER 64	Lennart Luttkus	6	(35)	13	29	35	25	108
24	GER 712	Christoph Froh	21	(bfd)	bfd	7	20	13	113
25	SRB 7	Milan Dordevic	35	23	(40)	2	33	21	114
26	GRE 21	Antonis Tsotras	28	26	28	(dnf)	12	20	114
27	POL 9	Piotr Bajonczak	26	(42)	25	12	24	27	114
28	GRE 6	Alexandros Raris	18	13	12	(44)	38	42	123
29	CZE 81	Tomas Hrnkal	(38)	30	20	27	25	23	125
30	CRO 52	Nikola Baric	36	34	21	(43)	3	34	128
31	FRA 89	Benjamin Montagut	33	24	35	(36)	23	14	129
32	BUL 855	Dimitar Vangelov	(39)	38	22	19	28	22	129
33	HUN 212	Hirschler Richard	(bfd)	21	bfd	31	11	18	133
34	IRL 4	Ross Hamilton	11	dne	23	26	22	(dnf)	134
35	POL 77	Maciej Pezala	(45)	17	26	25	39	28	135
36	HUN 3	Büki Zsolt	23	29	30	15	41	(dnf)	138
37	HUN 300	Payr Egon	(34)	25	31	20	32	32	140
38	HUN 1	Zentai Zoltán	25	(bfd)	34	23	30	35	147
39	RUS 91	Vyacheslav Sivenkov	31	33	(bfd)	37	21	31	153
40	HUN 2	Böröcz Bence	22	31	33	28	(48)	39	153
41	POL 41	Piotr Falczynski	30	43	29	(48)	40	29	171
42	POL 71	Maciej Misko	40	41	27	40	(46)	33	181
43	HUN 77	Pajor Szabolcs	37	27	36	39	(45)	43	182
44	HUN 20	Balogh András	(48)	40	39	33	34	38	184
45	CZE 55	Milan Hrnkal	(42)	36	32	38	42	40	188
46	GRE 14	Anastasios Katsimidis	44	32	37	(45)	43	41	197
47	CZE 222	Pavel Korych	41	39	38	41	44	(46)	203
48	HUN 140	Héjj Ádám	46	44	41	47	(51)	47	225
49	FRA 55	Baudin Arnaud	43	(bfd)	bfd	46	49	36	226
50	HUN 41	Bartos Ádám	47	45	42	(dnf)	47	45	226
51	SVK 6	Jozef Lami	49	46	43	49	(50)	44	231



Finn sailing from across the world

BELGIUM



Open Belgian Championship 2009

The Open Belgian Championship was sailed in Ostend on 3-4 October in heavy weather. Conditions varied from force 5 on Saturday morning to force 7-8 in the afternoon, then going again to force 3-5 on Sunday. Nine races were sailed. Jan-Tjeerd Van Der Meulen and Jan Bourgois were

both tied in first after 7 races. Both of them also proved that they can swim as good as they can sail. Jan-Tjeerd finally won the last races and so the title.

Jan Bourgois was second and first Belgian. Yves Verhofstede, miraculously recovered from back pain, and finished third.

Newcomer Joel Glady did surprisingly well and to finish 4th. Luc Vermeesch won the 'Classic' prize and the 'Turtle' prize (finishing all races) and so proved that you can also survive stormy conditions with a classic boat. In summary this was a championship to remember, the champion deserved the title fully and the organisation was perfect.

1	NED 895	Jan-Tjeerd v.d. Meulen	11
2	BEL 73	Jan Bourgois	15
3	BEL 5	Yves Verhofstede	18
4	BEL 19	Joël Glady	35
5	NED 749	Dick Hooijer	37
6	BEL 8	Filip Verhaeghe	48
7	NED 51	Maarten Oberman	50
8	BEL 61	Luc Vermeesch	56
9	NED 5	Alain Denis	59
10	BEL 24	Frank Lingier	62
11	BEL 9	Christopher Benoît	71
12	BEL 169	Philippe Devillers	75

DENMARK

Richard Berg-Larsen writes: The 2009 Danish Nationals began with a very windy day, followed by a nearly calm day, but still good conditions. The third day began with several postponements and a cancelled race when the wind turned 90°. We finally got three races in on the third day only beating the latest starting time by a few minutes.

Once again, the Dutch fleet not only showed up to make up the numbers, but also took several top spots. Winner Karel van Hellemond took three race wins, with other wins going to Jan Willem Kok, Thomas Mørup-Petersen, Lars Hall and Cees Scheurwater.

The Ofelia Cup did not have the biggest turn out this year, and the late part of this year's season did slow down considerably, probably due to the Gold Cup being held here, and not a general slowdown. Only Kasper Andresen won more than won race, including the last one to beat a very consistent Lars Hall, who was only once outside the top three.

Open Danish Nationals

Næstved, 7-9 August

1	NED 41	Karel van Hellemond	18
2	DEN 9	Thomas Mørup-Petersen	32
3	NED 780	Jan Willem Kok	36

4	NED 904	Cees Scheurwater	36
5	DEN 46	Kasper Andresen	63
6	NED 844	Gertvan der Heilden	68
7	DEN 3	Jørgen Svendsen	86
8	DEN 17	Lars Juel Christensen	96
9	DEN 262	Bo Teglers	96
10	DEN 6	Lars Hall	99
11	NED 66	Ewout Meijer	102
12	DEN 2	Michael Staal	103
13	GER 150	Günter Hoffmann	105
14	DEN 218	Jesper Petersen	109
15	DEN 140	Michael Bæk	109
16	DEN 208	Jørgen Lindhardtzen	118
17	DEN 1	Frank Hansen	119
18	NED 27	Paul Kamphorst	125
19	DEN 231	Kenneth Bøggild	141
20	DEN 249	Svend Vogt Andersen	142
21	NED 11	Henk de Jager	155
22	DEN 19	Johnny Aagesen	158
23	SWE 111	Torsten Jarnstam	166
24	DEN 5	Søren Oster	183
25	NED 18	Johanv an Straalen	188
26	SWE 40	Sverker Härd	198
27	DEN 77	Flemming Jensen	209
28	GER 26	Willi Meister	211
29	DEN 22	Søren Svare	222
30	DEN 18	Richard Berg-Larsen	225
31	DEN 248	Ole Vorn	247
32	DEN 192	Ole Blichfeldt Madsen	254
33	SWE 734	Ulf Bjureus	260
34	DEN 178	Malte Pedersen	262
35	DEN 14	Jan Verner Nielsen	263
36	DEN 15	Lars Erting	267
37	DEN 226	Birger Sund Nielsen	268
38	DEN 201	Nikolai Ratzlaff	271
39	DEN 250	Kristoffer Svarrer	282
40	DEN 229	Jan Rasmussen	293
41	DEN 13	Peter Mikkelsen	297
42	DEN 204	Henrik Ask	317
43	DEN 8	Peter Malm	320
44	DEN 21	Peter Henry Nielsen	324
45	SWE 750	Lasse Larson	329
46	DEN 190	Torben Sandø	337
47	DEN 210	Finn Jens Andersen	339
48	NED 754	Kees Kruyer	364
49	DEN 246	Ane Zielinski	368
50	DEN 1246	Hasting Molich	408

Ofelia Cup

Snekkersten, 19-20 September

1	DEN 46	Kasper Andressen	10
2	DEN 6	Lars Hall	10
3	DEN 3	Jørgen Svendsen	14
4	DEN 2	Michael Staal	15
5	DEN 19	Johnny Aagesen	23
6	DEN 5	Søren Oster	28
7	DEN 149	Michael Bæk	29
8	DEN 205	Mogens Petersson	43
9	DEN 246	Ane Zielinski	45
10	DEN 248	Ole Vorn	47
11	DEN 15	Lars Erting	49
12	DEN 14	Jan Verner Nielsen	51
13	DEN 192	Ole Blichfeldt Madsen	52
14	DEN 190	Torben Sandø	67



JM Finn British Open Championship August, Castle Cove SC, Weymouth

1	SWE 11	Daniel Birgmark (right)	8
2	GBR 88	Mark Andrews	15
3	GBR 634	Andrew Mills	16
4	FIN 216	Tapio Nirkko	19
5	GBR 99	Henry Bagnall	25
6	GBR 48	John Tremlett	34
7	GBR 2	Allen Burrell	40
8	GBR 653	Adrian Brunton	48
9	GBR 567	Martin Hughes	56
10	GBR 33	Graham Page	63
11	GBR 672	David Potter	65
12	GBR 635	Simon Percival	73
13	GBR 68	John Mackie	93
14	GBR 679	Neil Robinson	99

15	GBR 41	James Hadden	102
16	GBR 61	John Heyes	104
17	GBR 4	Russell Ward	107
18	GBR 20	Andy Denison	115
19	GBR 9	George Cooper	118
20	GBR 611	Luke Ridout	119
21	GBR 665	Julian Smith	121
22	GBR 689	Rhodri Thomas	123
23	GBR 656	Graeme Macdonald	125
24	GBR 12	Dan Belton	128
25	GBR 681	Simon Pettit	147
26	GBR 1	Sander Kooj	152



27	RSA 540	Alan Tucker	160
28	GBR 562	Jerry Andrews	166
29	GBR 631	Richard Hart	169
30	GBR 664	John Torrance	180
31	GBR 77	Howard Sellars	181
32	GBR 58	Paul Brown	181
33	GBR 24	Rory Barnes	181
34	GBR 580	Steve Brown	183
35	GBR 620	Laurence Peters	190
36	RSA 53	David Higham	207
37	GBR 55	Mike Till	213
38	GBR 42	Adrian Buswell	222
39	GBR 13	John de Leeuw	228
40	GBR 100	Matthew Walker	228
41	GBR 14	Steve Sampson	251
42	GBR 662	Robin West	259

International German Championship 15-18 October, 2009, Duemmer Lake

Christoph Froh writes: The German championship took place this year on the Duemmer Lake, near to Osnabrück. It began with the compulsory measurement on Wednesday, which was finished with a few controls in the boats for everybody in the morning. Later some sailors went out training to be ready for everything.

The first race on Thursday started on time with 11 knots of wind, which later increased, allowing the first three races to be sailed. Race wins went to Christoph Froh, Florian Raudaschl and Jan Kurfeld. In contrast to Thursday, the weather on Friday looked completely different. Storm gusts and rain

meant the racing was postponed until the following day. However, a huge number of good proposals were made in the evening at the Finn-class meeting.

The next morning the fleet again went out on the water, with temperature of -2°. Because the race management was as cold, they sent the Finn Sailors in after two races with 10 knots to wind come ashore. Then after two hours of warming up they went for the last two races again on the water. Christoph Froh won the first race of the day, and Jan Kurfeld won the remaining three.

The final races should have been sailed on the Sunday, but after a two hour wait for the wind, it was called off. Shortly after the winners were announced, with Kurfeld

taking the regatta again by a decisive margin. Finally it has to be said that the German Championship on Duemmer Lake was a real success, marked by a happy cooperation and fun sailing, in spite of the cold.

Results (top 10)

1	GER 771	Jan Kurfeld	9
2	AUT 3	Florian Raudaschl	21
3	GER 712	Christoph Froh	27
4	GER 772	Ulli Kurfeld	33
5	NED 904	Cees Scheurwater	42
6	GER 22	Martin Mitterer	43
7	GER 8	Jürgen Eiermann	44
8	GER 717	Sebastian Kaule	46
9	GER 64	Lennart Luttkus	57
10	GER 500	Philipe Fischer	73

Márton Beliczay writes: This year the Hungarian Championship was held 16-19 of September, as usual, but at a different venue. On the northern coast of Balaton, in the western basin, Révfűlöp was the host for the first time in the history of the Finn class. 43 boats were entered with four boats from abroad, two from Slovakia, one from Serbia and one from South Africa.

The start of the first race was in an easterly 8 knots, with some chops and small shifts. The first race was won by Balázs Hajdu followed by Gaszton Pál. For the next race, the wind dropped to 5 knots, which resulted in quite a long race. Balázs confidently won this race also, followed by Ian Ainslie. The third race was abandoned on the first downwind due to the low wind speed.

On the next day the weather was pretty cloudy with some rain early morning and

very small wind, so the day began with a postponement, but later four races were held in 4-6 knots north-easterly in the morning. The first race was won by Ian. Gaszton took two bullets after that and Balazs won the last one of the day in 10 knots. Gaszton was leading after 2 days of sailing in front of Balazs and Ian.

Friday started with some very light air and a postponement, until the wind stabilised. The wind dropped to 4 knots in the end, which resulted in a very long race for most of the boats. After finishing, the organisers postponed ashore. Around 16:00, a south-westerly wind came, so the fleet went out and had a nice race in 6 knots. After a very good start and tactics in the first upwind Tibor Pallay won the race from Géza Huszár.

Only one race was remaining for the last day of the regatta. The north-easterly wind was



blowing with 11 knots, which made a very thrilling competition for the top 10. No place was sure in the top ten. After the start, Balázs was leading from the right side, second was Ian and third was Gaszton. Downwind the positions didn't change, only Balazs gained a bigger lead compared to Gaszton. On the second beat Gaszton passed Ian and after that nothing changed until the finish.

So, Balazs won his 10th national title, Gaszton was second for the fifth time. Ian Ainslie, who came back to the class this year sailed a very good regatta and finished third. In the masters fleet Antal Székely was

the champion finishing seventh overall with Péter Haidekker second and Péter Sipos third. In the junior fleet, Róbert Bakóczy won the competition with Elemér Haidekker second and Richárd Hirschler third. The oldest competitor was the legend László Zsindely and the youngest was Elemér Haidekker, who is just 14 years old.

All in all, this was a good regatta again, with some light winds and 10 races. After the prizegiving ceremony, the competitors received a gift, which was a cake celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Finn. Next year, the nationals will be the same dates at Balatonlelle, which is on the Southern coast of Lake Balaton on the western basin. We hope to see you there.

1	HUN 1	Balázs Hajdu	18
2	HUN 6	Gaszton Pál	21
3	RSA 1	Ian Ainslie	26
4	HUN 270	Géza Huszár	40
5	HUN 5	Tibor Pally	43

6	HUN 55	Dávid Schömer	56
7	HUN 7	Antal Székely	58
8	HUN 8	Márton Beliczay	59
9	HUN 16	Zsombor Majthényi	63
10	HUN 75	Örs Németh	66
11	HUN 24	Róbert Bakóczy	72
12	HUN 50	Ákos Lukáts	77
13	HUN 127	Péter Haidekker	88
14	HUN 2	Péter Sipos	109
15	HUN 728	Elemér Haidekker	114
16	HUN 4	Lajos Varga	125
17	HUN 212	Richárd Hirschler	126
18	HUN 300	Pay'r Egon	130
19	HUN 51	István Rutai	135
20	HUN 77	Szabolcs Pajor	138
21	SRB 1	Srdjan Volarevic	141
22	HUN 3	Zsolt Büki	144
23	HUN 44	Tamás Varga	153
24	HUN 41	Zoltán Bartos	153
25	HUN 25	Máté Sipos	174
26	HUN 35	József Jung	180
27	HUN 20	Bence Sipos	186
28	HUN 9	Tamás Beliczay	196
29	HUN 95	József Farkas	209



30	HUN 17	Graham Douglas	222
31	HUN 347	László Zsindely	225
32	HUN 36	Zoltán Kudron	230
33	HUN 70	Márton Szendrői	245
34	HUN 111	Ádám Héjj	249
35	HUN 44	Gyula Scharbert	254
36	HUN 22	Miklós Ruffy	254
37	HUN 972	Gyula Mónus	260
38	HUN 69	Csaba Stadler	267
39	HUN 91	Béla Szigethi	267
40	SVK 6	Jozef Lami	290
41	HUN 27	Imre Solymosi	310
42	SVK 56	Alexander Lami	316
43	HUN 415	Ádám Bartos	334



Italian Masters Championship

Marco Buglielli writes: The fourth edition of the Italian Masters Championship took place in Viareggio at the beginning of September with the participation of 34 Masters coming from all parts of Italy.

On the first day a strong south-westerly with big waves prevented racing. The following day in the morning the wind was lighter but going out to sea was still not possible because of huge waves. Only in the afternoon did the sea state improve and the fleet was called out for a race in light wind which was won by Marco Buglielli followed by Italo Bertacca and Paolo Visonà.

The final day the weather was finally stable and after a first race in light wind which was again won by Marco, a stable 10 knots westerly breeze filled in and allowed two more perfect races, in which Francesco Cinque dominated.

The Italian Master title went for the third time to the Secretary Marco Buglielli (1-1-3-2) followed by the current World Grand Master champion Francesco Cinque (4-12-1-1) and Paolo Visonà (3-10-5-5). Fourth place went to Florian Demetz from Caldaro and fifth to the local Italo Bertacca, whose shop Bertacca Sail Equipment sponsored the event. Grand Grand Master champion was Franco Dazzi, with Klaus Mair in second and Bruno Catalan in third.



1	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	4
2	ITA 5	Francesco Cinque	6
3	ITA 37	Paolo Visonà	15
4	ITA 89	Florian Demetz	16
5	ITA 34	Italo Bertacca	21
6	ITA 50	Norberto Felici	24
7	ITA 60	Riccardo de Sangro	24
8	ITA 9	Franco Dazzi	24
9	ITA 93	Klaus Mair	25
10	ITA 925	Umberto Grumelli	26

Malcesine Finn Cup

The classic International Finn Cup was organised as usual by Fraglia Vela Malcesine on the first weekend of October. 48 Finns from nine nations completed all the six scheduled races over three warm and sunny days.

Five races were run with a typical Ora between 10 and 16 knots and race wins went to Riccardo Cordovani, Giorgio Poggi, Michael Maier and Anian Schreiber. On the final day starting signal was at 8 am with the northerly Peler that was lighter and less stable than usual, causing some bad placings from the top guys. The Greek Alexandros Dragoutsis was at ease in the conditions and won the race.

In the pre start there was an interesting match race between Michael Maier and Giorgio Poggi who were close at the top of the leaderboard. They both eventually retired from the race, allowing Giorgio to win the Finn Cup together with the Andrea



Menoni Trophy for the best Italian. This year the Lucio Nodari Trophy was also assigned for the first time, in memory of the great Dutch Master who recently passed away and was very attached to Malcesine. The Trophy went to Michael Maier as the top Master.

1	ITA 117	Giorgio Poggi	10
2	CZE 1	Michael Maier (M)	11
3	ITA 101	Riccardo Cordovani	16
4	ITA 123	Filippo Baldassari	23
5	GRE 8	Alexandros Dragoutsis	27
6	CZE 3	Rudolf Lidarik	28
7	ITA 40	Marko Kolic	29
8	GER 21	Anian Schreiber	39
9	HUN 8	Marton Beliczay	41
10	GER 174	Matthias Bohn	43

Coppa Italia

Malcesine Finn Cup was also the final event of the tenth edition of Coppa Italia Finn. 36 races were run over nine weekends from March to October, with 91 Italian sailors participating and several others from abroad.

Before Malcesine another event was held in September in Scarlino, which was won by Filippo Baldassari ahead of Riccardo Cordovani and Simone Mancini.

The Coppa Italia went for the fifth time to Riccardo Cordovani, second was the Junior Filippo Baldassari at his first year on the Finn, and third was Marco Buglielli, followed by Simone Mancini and Francesco Lubrano.

The supporting sponsors of Coppa Italia are: North Sails Italia, HiTech Sailing, Bertacca Sail Equipment, Grappa Bertagnolli, Devoti Sailing, Essemarine, Harken, Lizard Footwear, Nordstudio and Residence Ca' del Lago.

Vrijbuiter

Siebe Ekels: It was a typical Loosdrecht weekend, starting with little wind and shifting a lot. In the first race Erik Bakker, Thierry van Viersen, Jan-Jaap Lamme, Luuk Kuijper and Albert Kroon managed to skip the gaps in the wind that grounded a large portion of the fleet. Too bad Erik had an OCS. So Luuk took first. The second race was the same; light winds, only a little bit of hiking and a lot of shifts. Erik came in first again, Thierry, Albert and Fred Richter close on his tail. The final day was a nice race until the first mark. On the reach the wind collapsed and for a lot of people this was too much, so they retired.

1	NED 747	Thierry Vierssen	6
2	NED 777	Albert Kroon	14
3	NED 66	Ewout Meijer	14
4	NED 77	Jan-jaap Lamme	17
5	NED 888	Luuk Kuijper	19
6	NED 701	Fred Richter	26
7	NED 770	Maarten Ten holter	34
8	NED 703	Eric Bakker	36
9	NED 918	Machiel de groot	36
10	NED 722	Siebe Ekels	36

ONK Masters/Randmeerrace

Joos Bos: A lot is possible with limited resources, again proven by WV Randmeer. Weather conditions were excellent, south-westerly wind 10-12 kts. On the first day Karel van Hellemond and Timo Hagoort each won a race. The second day was just as nice. Ewout Meijer took two first places and a fourth. However Cees Scheurwater was just ahead. On the final day the first beat was decision time. Cees went right and Ewout left. The wind shifted left giving Ewout the advantage. Cees finished 13th, Ewout was 4th. In the final race Ewout again finished



ahead of Cees and secured the title (left). Karel took the overall event with Wouter Molenaar winning the Grand Master and Henk de Jager as best Grand Master.

1	NED 41	Karel van Hellemond	14
2	NED 839	Timo Hagoort	14
3	NED 66	Ewout Meijer (M)	27
4	NED 787	Nanno Schuttrups	29
5	NED 904	Cees Scheurwater (M)	32
6	NED 29	Bas de Waal (M)	41
7	NED 81	Gerko Visser (M)	59

John Duff writes: Finn sailing is on the increase in New Zealand with 18 Finns sailing in the North Island at the Waiuku Yacht Club and 10 Finns sailing in the South Island.



1	ITA 101	Riccardo Cordovani	837
2	ITA 123	Filippo Baldassari	814
3	ITA 2	Marco Buglielli	723
4	ITA 19	Simone Mancini	669
5	ITA 70	Francesco Lubrano	604

8	NED 2	Wouter Molenaar (M)	65
9	NED 25	Arwin Karssemeijer (M)	67
10	NED 54	Joos Bos (M)	69

Loosdrecht Week

Lucas-Jan Groenhout: 23 boats on the line and light winds heading for the first mark. After a short tack left almost everyone behind, except Pieter de Gooijer. I stayed in that position till the last run when Henk de Jager passed me. I tried everything to get him back, but it didn't work. The rest of the series I sailed at my comfortable place, but it was great to be in front. Second race more wind, Bas de Waal won this one. Saturday was strong wind and a long race with Bas de Waal again in the lead and Albert Kroon second. In race 4 Cees Scheurwater was first with Bas de Waal second. Eric Bakker had great speed on the run and managed to take five boats at the mark. Wind increased and rain started, hard conditions but great sailing. Bas de Waal won this one again. Although I didn't reach the podium, I sailed my best race ever.

1	NED 29	Bas de Waal	5
2	NED 904	Cees Scheurwater	11
3	NED 777	Albert Kroon	17
4	NED 41	Jack van Hellemond	25
5	NED 2	Wouter Molenaar	28
6	NED 77	Jan Jaap Lamme	29
7	NED 47	Auke Woerdeman	31
8	NED 860	Loek Kruijer	33
9	NED 11	Henk de Jager	37
10	NED 72	Lucas-Jan Groenhout	38

Naajaarsweekend, Loosdrecht

Wouter Molenaar: With 25 competitors, the first member of HWH becomes the club champion. The first start I was late, but, Albert Kroon won. In the second race the wind dropped. Hennie van de Brink, Pieter Risseeuw and I competed for the first three places. Hennie won. Christiaan Scheen rounded the mark first in race 3, but he dropped back. The lead went between Bas Proper, Jan Jaap Lamme, Albert Kroon and me. I rounded the final mark first, but this wasn't enough as Jan Jaap got me on the final run. In race four Albert Kroon and Jan Jaap took the lead, but they got passed by Leo Meiaard with Hennie van de Brink just behind him. Hennie rounded the final mark first with Leo just behind him. During a 3km long run in force 7, strange things

6	ITA 97	Carlo Recchi	565
7	ITA 40	Marko Kolic	564
8	ITA 67	Gino Bucciarelli	560
9	ITA 981	Enrico Voltolini	483
10	ITA 96	Alessandro Turchetto	450



happened and Lamme finished first, Hennie second and Albert third.

1	77	Jan Jaap Lamme	4
2	777	Albert Kroon	7
3	820	Hennie v d Brink	8
4	2	Wouter Molenaar	9
5	902	Pieter Risseeuw	15
6	900	Leo Meijaard	15
7	88	Chiel Barends	17
8	35	Bas Proper	21
9	47	Auke Woerdeman	26
10	101	Christiaan Scheen	28

Benelux regatta

Paul Goossens: The postponement of the deepening of the Westerschelde (a delicate issue over the last years between the Dutch and Belgians) by the Dutch led to a call for boycott by the Antwerp people for the Zeeuwse mussel. This is probably the reason why only three Belgians had the guts to show on Dutch soil. Even Frankske Van Looy, who can hardly cover his Antwerp accent, was brave enough to show up. Fear was unnecessary as the welcome was warm as always. Sander Willems won with ease all races from Paul Kamphorst.

1	NED 80	Sander Willems	5
2	NED 27	Paul Kamphorst	10
3	NED 912	Peter Versevelt	16
4	NED 724	Stefan Marechal	20
5	NED 895	Jan Tjeerd V D Meulen	23
6	NED 896	Ad Hermus	29
7	NED 835	Jaap Goede	37
8	BEL 5	Yves Verhofstede	37
9	NED 749	Dick Hooijer	42
10	NED 51	Maarten Oberman	44



Above: National champion Roger Hall (right) and Alan Dawson 2nd (left)

Left: Sailors at 2009 NZ National Championship



Russian Open Championship

The 2009 Russian open championship took place in Moscow at the end of September. The promotion efforts taken by the Russian Finn Association and the Moscow Finn Association led to an unprecedented 60 entries.

The hospitality of the Moscow Sailing School, and its generous offer to charter its modern Finn made it possible to bring many famous Finnners back to the class: Andrei Balashov (Silver at 1976 and Bronze at the 1980 Olympic Games), Henry Sprague, USA (Gold in 1974 Gold Cup), Nickolay Koryachkin, Estonia (1977 USSR Champion), Valeriy Zakovorotny (3-times bronze at USSR championships), Victor Kozlov (twice USSR Champion) and many others. The strong Masters fleet was supported by talented young sportsmen – Eduard Skorniyakov (2007 European Champion), Egor Larionov (Silver in 2009 Silver Cup), and by several newcomers. The youngest participant was 14 year old Denis Kotlyarov, while Victor Kozlov celebrated his 75th birthday right after the regatta.

On the first day, Eduard Skorniyakov immediately took the lead winning all three races. The second day brought stronger wind, and Henry Sprague was the hero of the day, giving his younger competitors an impressive masterclass with a third and then a first, though he capsized just before the start of the third race.



The third day brought a shifty, light and unpredictable wind. Even the top sailors got caught: Henry Sprague picked up a BFD, Skorniyakov failed to find his luck, and retired, but Andrei Balashov showed some form of old with a third place finish. The wind returned on day four, allowing for two interesting races, both won by Eduard Skorniyakov. Andrei Balashov and Henry Sprague demonstrated their evergreen spirit and skills again, finishing among the top ten.

On the last day the final regular race was followed by the medal race for the top ten. It took place in front of the Moscow Sailing School, to the amusement of numerous regatta guests. Igor Khoroshilov caught a good shift and some breeze to win while Skorniyakov struggled mid-fleet, but finally finished second, followed by Dmitry Petrov, who took silver.

The closing ceremony turned into the Finn Anniversary festival. A lively 4-hour event was packed with entertainment, live music, food and drinks. The Association gave many awards including a new sail to the best junior. Everybody was happy to see the IFA president Balazs Hajdu, and welcomed his speech, translated perfectly by his wife Erika. With participants from USA, Lithuania, and Estonia, the Russia Open became a truly international event, giving a very powerful incentive for further development of the Finn class – both in Russia and in other countries of the region. Everybody is welcome to take part in the 2010 Russian Open.



1	RUS 9	Eduard Skorniyakov (below)	13
2	RUS 141	Dmitrij Petrov	45
3	RUS 14	Dmitrij Tereshkin	46
4	RUS 77	Igor Horoshilov	54
5	RUS 707	Egor Larionov	60
6	RUS 1	Aleksej Selivanov	71
7	RUS 777	Viktor Filippov	80
8	RUS 496	Ivan Izmet'ev	86
9	RUS 16	Oleg Hudiyakov	103
10	RUS 91	Vyacheslav Sivenkov	105
11	USA 74	Henry Sprague	95
12	RUS 892	Konstantin Besputin	103
13	RUS 21	Vladimir Butenko	112
14	RUS 41	Feliks Denikaev	121
15	RUS 57	Egor Terpigorev	126
16	RUS 17	Vasilij Kravchenko	131
17	RUS 34	Aleksandr Ban'ko	141
18	RUS 12	Aleksandr Nikolaev	160
19	RUS 171	Aleksandr Kravchenko	165
20	RUS 8	Aleksej Marchevskij	169.3
21	RUS 23	Vadim Cvetkov	172
22	RUS 3	Aleksej Borovyak	181
23	RUS 5	Sergej Zabolin	184
24	RUS 81	Evgenij Morozov	194
25	RUS 6	Arkadij Kistanov	195
26	RUS 51	Mihail Petriga	221
27	RUS b-n	Aleksandr Kravchenko	222
28	RUS 10	Anatolij Kudrickij	226
29	RUS 2	Andrei Balashov	233
30	RUS 4	Yakov Potapov	233
31	RUS 701	Andrei Yanickij	239
32	RUS 96	Nikolaj Laktionov	240
33	RUS 55	Maksim Gurin	247
34	RUS 71	Leonid Klyajman	251
35	EST 151	Nikolaj Koryachkin	262
36	RUS 111	Vadim Mehanikov	283
37	RUS 35	Konstantin Klyackin	290
38	RUS 27	Denis Kotlyarov	293
39	RUS 333	Viktor Potapov	302
40	RUS 44	Igor' Rozhkov	306
41	RUS 101	Arkadij Chirkov	315
42	LTU 1411	Valerij Ovchinnikov	322
43	RUS 1111	Nikolaj Kovalev	325
44	RUS 7	Aleksandr Novikov	332
45	RUS 18	Yan Mahanek	343
46	RUS 58	Aleksandr Shutovskij	346
47	RUS 28	Viktor Kozlov (middle)	370
48	RUS 22	Viktor Maksimov	371
49	RUS 90	Aleksej Najmushin	377
50	RUS 72	Roman Kotlyarov	382
51	RUS 3333	Mihail Korchagin	391
52	RUS 95	Vladimir Udarcev	392
53	RUS 69	Denis Haritonov	399
54	RUS 19	Ivan Svyatov	406
55	RUS 117	Valerij Bajdakov	410
56	RUS 15	Valerij Zakovorotnyj	416
57	RUS 63	Aleksandr Maruk	417
58	RUS 11	Valentin Danilov	433
59	RUS 67	Evgenij Ivanov	477
60	RUS 68	Dmitrij Malyshev	549



Photos: Masha Novoselova

Spanish National Championship & Masters

Victor Serrano writes: It has taken him five years, but Diego Fructuoso is again the Spanish Champion after last winning the title in 2004. The fight for the title was marked by the absence of last year's champion Rafa Trujillo who was coaching some sailors.

The fight was then among five sailors, Alejandro Muscat, Ero Pons, Jano Toro,

Miguel Fernandez and Diego Fructuoso. Six races were run through the three days of the Championship, with very light winds and a very complicated race area because of the continuous change of wind pressure and direction.

With these difficult conditions, the places constantly changed, but Diego used his exceptional knowledge of the area to finish first of the 18 competitors.



Although the race was the same, the Masters were involved in a parallel fight where Emilio Plagaro took the opportunity to brilliantly win, followed by Victor Serrano and Antonio Candela. It wasn't until the last race that the final ranking was decided, with Emilio finishing fourth and teaching some sailors how to run in light winds.

During the prizegiving ceremony, the Spanish Finn Class presented the organising



club, Club Nautico Islas Menores, with a class flag signed by all the sailors.

- 1 Diego Fructuoso Pérez
- 2 Ero Pons Penín
- 3 Miguel Fernández Vasco
- 4 Alejandro Muscat Díaz
- 5 Federico Pinheiro De Mélo
- 6 Jano Toro Prieto-Puga
- 7 Orotz Iturralde
- 8 Mauricio Luque Díaz
- 9 Emilio Plagado Pérez (Master)
- 10 Miguel Jimenez Galeote (Master)
- 11 Victor Serrano Conesa (Master)
- 12 Antonio Candela Domingo (Master)
- 13 Jorge Pinheiro De Mélo (Master)
- 14 Javier García Miúra (Master)
- 15 José Manuel Lorenzo Viejo (Master)
- 16 José Juan Jimenez Buendia (Master)
- 17 Pablo López Baldán (Master)
- 18 Antonio Gallardo Fernández (Master)



SPAIN (cont)



Torsten Jarnstam writes: On 26-27 September the last race of the season for the Sweden Cup, was sailed at Karlstad Kanotförening and attracted 28 Finns.

After three races on Saturday in the sunshine, about 16° and a moderate westerly wind KKF's Christofer Finnsgård was leading. On Sunday, there was a lot more wind, at 10-15 m/s. There was fierce fighting between Christofer Finnsgård, Olof Lundqvist, Johan Wijk and Mikael Brandt. Christofer was victorious and won the regatta with 10 points. Olof Lundqvist was

second, Johan Wijk third, Mikael Brand was fourth and Håkan Olsson was fifth.

The Sweden Cup for this year included GKSS Olympic Regatta in May, Forsberg Memorial in Uppsala in June, Danish championships in Naestved in August, Swedish championship in Uppsala in August, and the Sweden Cup final in Karlstad. In total there were 43 participants in the 2009 Sweden Cup, which was won by Sverker Hard.

At the Saturday night social the Swedish Finn class thanked Johan Wijk, who had been class chairman since 2001. Johan was presented with a photo – an image of him sailing at Uppsala with a clear lead.

Right top: Christofer Finnsgård, Mikael Brandt, Torsten Jarnstam, Ulf Bjuréus, Sverker Hård, Johan Wijk and Olof Lundqvist.

Right bottom: Torsten Jarnstam wins race five at the Swedish Championship in Uppsala



SWEDEN

Swiss Championship 2009

September 2-6, Lake of Neuchâtel

The 2009 Swiss Championship was sailed from September 2-6 on the Lake of Neuchâtel with 28 sailors from Switzerland, Germany, Austria and France.

Already during the skipper's meeting on Thursday a strong westerly wind was blowing and the waves on the lake were impressive. While most boats were about to leave the harbour, the wind got stronger and stronger forcing the first boats to return while others enjoyed a bath. Only about ten boats made it finally to the starting line and took off in a gusting force 6-7. The race committee ended the survival mode on the second beat as security became a problem. Sooner or later everybody made it back to shore.

Friday again had a strong westerly wind and there was even a storm warning. The race committee decided to send the boats out to sail a morning race. The wind increased



during the race and everybody was immediately sent back in after crossing the finishing line. The winner was Peter Theurer

followed by Swiss laser sailor Silvan Hofer who sailed the Swiss Finn Association boat for the championship. Later in the day the

SWITZERLAND

storm came in with force and a gust of about 50 knots blew some boats right from their trolleys damaging some of them.

Saturday, 'the day after', brought light southerly winds with holes and shifts. Three races were sailed and Silvan Hofer showed to all the Finn specialists that he had very quickly adapted to the new boat. Thanks to his ongoing campaign in the Laser for the 2012 Olympics he showed a great feeling for speed and sailed tactically better than anybody else.

A fourth race was sailed in the later afternoon in a medium 'Joran', a northerly wind which was blowing down from the mountains. Silvan Hofer also won this race and established himself as the intermediate leader after five races.

On Sunday three more races were sailed in a light to medium easterly wind. A score

of 1-2-1 for Silvan Hofer made it clear and secured his second national title of the year – after the Laser now also the Finn. Defending champion Christoph Christen had to settle for second place followed by Peter Theurer in third place.

1	SUI 11	Silvan Hofer	10
2	SUI 5	Christoph Christen	19
3	SUI 67	Peter Theurer	28
4	GER 146	Friedrich Müller	47
5	SUI 17	Frederik Huck	50
6	SUI 496	Thomas Gautschi	52
7	SUI 13	Peter Kilchenmann	54
8	GER 121	Thomas Finke	67
9	SUI 94	Andreas Friderich	71
10	SUI 18	Christof Wilke	73
11	GER 19	Andreas Bollongino	76
12	SUI 70	Andreas Fuerer	79
13	SUI 1	Christoph Burger	82
14	GER 137	Karl Schmid	87
15	SUI 57	Rudolf Baumann	91
16	FRA 40	Joseph Rochet	91



17	SUI 3	Carlo Lazzari	104
18	SUI 7	Jiri Huracek	114
19	FRA 72	Philippe Le Frapper	114
20	SUI 12	Franz Buergi	118
21	SUI 21	Bernhard Krienbühl	120
22	SUI 29	Hans Althaus	133
23	SUI 10	Roland Schneider	161
24	SUI 2	Helmut Klammer	162
25	SUI 64	Hans-Rudolf Osterwalder	177
26	FRA 7	Stéphane Alexis	179
27	SUI 27	Michel Herni	182
28	AUT 292	Fredy Wachter	194

US Finn Nationals 2009

2-4 October, Southern Yacht Club, New Orleans

After Bryan Boyd took the opening two races on Lake Pontchartrain, Olympic silver medalist Zach Railey hit back with a string of six bullets to take the title. In third overall, Andy Kern took the prize for first master, ahead of Jeremy Pape in fifth and John Dane in sixth overall. On Friday it was light and fluky, rising to 12-15 knots on Saturday with lumpy seas. Then on the final day, the wind increased into the high teens with a lot of gusts and rain coming through.

1	USA 4	Zach Railey	8	17	USA 75	Ash Beatty	107
2	USA 1140	Bryan Boyd	19	18	USA 13	Macho Slavich	114
3	USA 78	Andy Kern	27.30	19	USA 52	Austin Sperry	129
4	USA 619	Caleb Paine	28	20	USA 117	Michael Mark	133
5	USA 1211	Jeremy Pape	42	21	USA 37	Joey Stokes	134
6	USA 95	John Dane	50	22	USA 23	Jim Hunter	142
7	USA 808	R Philip Ramming	63	23	USA 777	Peter Aschwanden	153
8	USA 3	Karl Kleinschrodt	64	24	USA 32	Charles Heimler	155
9	USA 8	Scott Mason	67	25	FRA 126	Fabien Capeilleres	156
10	USA 30	Forrest Gay	75	26	USA 1213	Andras Nady	166
11	USA 21	Andrew Eagan	77	27	USA 1142	Bill Culberson	168
12	USA 505	Erik Lidecis	80	28	USA 18	Dall Kammer	175
13	USA 5	Andy Casey	80	29	USA 1225	Jay Williams	187
14	USA 150	Louie Nady	86	30	USA 26	David Herrera	192
15	USA 100	Jose Oti	91	31	GBR 16	Michael Woodhead	195
16	USA 57	Guy Brierre	91	32	USA 22	Terry Greenfield	205

Major Finn regattas 2009-12

26-29/11/2009	Sail Brisbane	Australia	27/08-4/09/2010	Finn Gold Cup	San Francisco, USA
4-8/12/2009	Canarian Sailing Olympic Week	Spain	2-5/09/2010	Lipno Regatta	Czech Republic
5-9/12/2009	Sydney International Regatta	Australia	14-19/09/2010	Hungarian Championship	Balatonelle, Hungary
14-19/12/2009	Sail Melbourne (SWC)	Australia	17-19/09/2010	Open Dutch Championships	Medemblik, Netherlands
17-22/12/2009	Christmas Race	Spain	1-3/10/2010	International Finn Cup	Malcesine, Italy
			2-3/10/2010	KSSS Olympic Regatta	Saltsjobaden, Sweden
24-30/01/2010	Rolex Miami OCR (SWC)	USA	19-21/11/2010	Cup Opatija	Opatija, Croatia
5-7/02/2010	Finn Midwinter Championship	Ft. Lauderdale, USA	14-19/12/2010	Sail Melbourne (SWC)	Australia
13-15/02/2010	International Carnival Sailing Week	Portugal	17-22/12/2010	Palamós Christmas Race	Spain
16-19/02/2010	Semaine Internationale Cannes	France			
22-28/02/2010	Andalusian Olympic Week	Cadiz, Spain			
10-14/03/2010	Athens Eurolymp Week	Greece			
17-20/03/2010	Split Olympic Sailing Week	Croatia			
27/03-2/04/2010	Trofeo SAR Princess Sofia (SWC)	Palma, Spain			
23-30/04/2010	Semaine Olympique Francaise (SWC)	Hyères, France			
5-9/05/2010	Regatta Port Bourgas	Bulgaria			
8-16/05/2010	Finn European Championship	Split, Croatia			
12-16/05/2010	Expert Olympic Garda - Eurolymp	Italy			
23-28/05/2010	Finn World Masters Championship	Split, Croatia			
24-25/05/2010	Goldacher Jollen Regatta	Switzerland			
26-30/05/2010	Delta Lloyd Regatta (SWC)	Medemblik, Netherlands			
19-23/06/2010	Kieler Woche (SWC)	Germany			
23-27/06/2010	International Swiss Championship	Thunersee			
3-11/07/2010	Warnemunder Woche	Germany			
7-10/07/2010	Intervela	Riva del Garda, Italy			
16-18/07/2010	North American Championship	San Francisco, USA			
23/07-1/08/2010	Travemunder Woche	Germany			
9-14/08/2010	Sail For Gold Regatta (SWC)	Weymouth, UK			
14-21/8/2010	Finn Silver Cup	San Francisco, USA			

SWC = ISAF Sailing World Cup event

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

Future Championships

2011		
12-17/6	Finn World Masters	Punta Ala, Italy
30/6-17/7	Europeans	Helsinki, Finland
August	Silver Cup	Moscow, Russia
3-18/12	Finn Gold Cup	Perth, Australia
2012		
27/5-1/6	Finn World Masters	to be decided in 2010
May	Finn Gold Cup	Falmouth, UK
tbc	Europeans	Scarlino, Italy
28/7-11/08	Olympic Games	Weymouth, UK

Editorial: It is great when events overtake you and the reality becomes so much better than the intention. It had been my intention to use this issue as a celebration of 60 years of Finn sailing. However, so much material

was received that even this brief editorial had to be drastically cut to fit it into a packed and extended issue. I always try to use everything that is sent in, but even so the reports here are all briefer than they

should really be. However it does highlight the clear fact that the Finn class is active and healthy worldwide and it's great to read everyone's enthusiasm for the class and the sport. Long may it continue. Robert

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Delta Lloyd **1st**

Miami OCR **1st**

UK Nationals **1st**

New Zealand Nationals **1st**

French Nationals **1st**

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