

470 Worlds Stats

Men's 470 Top 10

10 nations/4 continents

Women's 470 Top 10

9 nations/4 continents

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Joe Glanfield: "I love the 470. It's a boat that incorporates every aspect of dinghy racing."

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Photo: Sander van der Borgh

470 eTIMES

Photo: Getty Images



Beijing 2008 Women's 470 bronze medallist Isabel Swan and World's best soccer player Pele support Rio de Janeiro's bid for the 2016 Olympics.

WHAT THE BEIJING MEDALLISTS DID NEXT?

ANDY RICE CAUGHT UP WITH THE 470 OLYMPIC MEDALLISTS FROM BEIJING

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470 ATHLETES

Top players in the International 470 Class. What motivates them, and why they sail the 470 class.

In this issue an interview with Juan de la Fuente (ARG) and Ai Kondo (JPN)

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470 CLASS SAILORS' SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

MORE PROGRAMMES,

INCREASING GLOBAL EXPANSION.

The International 470 Class offers more Support programmes, more knowledge transfer and more support to sailors' Olympic campaigns.

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WOMEN'S SAILING - WORLDS' FLEET TOP 20

Five 420 Ladies' World Championship medallists, two out of three girls who have ever won the overall Optimist Worlds, four Olympic medallists, too many Olympic Games competitors to mention, as well as medallists of other World and European Championships.

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KEVIN BURNHAM JOINS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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2012 OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

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THE BOAT THE WORLD SAILS

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470 eTIMES

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Stanislav Kassarov:

"The 470 Class has been changing its approach and is moving more and more from a voluntary managed organization towards a professionally managed entity."

INTERNATIONAL 470 CLASS ASSOCIATION THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2009 – A YEAR OF CHALLENGE AND SUCCESS

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT,

Dear Sailors, Coaches and Friends of the 470 Class,

We are completing an interesting and challenging year in the life of the 470 Class.

The 470 Class has shown once again its strength throughout our 2009 Championships. The sailors at the European Championships in Traunsee (AUT), the Junior World Championships in Thessaloniki (GRE), the combined 420 and 470 Junior European Championships in Balaton (HUN) and the World Championships in Rungsted (DEN) enjoyed a high level of sailing and competitiveness that continues to grow in the 470 class. Many new team combinations, known personalities from other classes and new youth sailors are joining the class. The Class was particularly pleased to welcome junior sailors from Malaysia and Qatar to our 2009 Championships.

In 2009, 470 Internationale has organized seven development and support programmes aiming to promote 470 sailing around the world and among the young sailors. Prior to the Junior World Championships in Thessaloniki (GRE), the class organised a clinic for young sailors run by Andreas Kosmatopoulos (GRE) renowned 470 sailor, Olympian and coach. The experience from this clinic will be built on to enhance the training provision provided at future clinics, with a particular focus on young sailors.

During our 2009 European and Junior World Championships the International 470 Class Management Committee held meetings with sailors and coaches. The aim was to initiate open discussion on issues affecting the sailors and coaches, to improve communication, seek feedback and generate new ideas. The open dialogue achieved was welcomed by all.

The members of the Management Committee who were elected in November 2008 in Madrid have undertaken an incredible amount of work over the last year to administer the class. I would like to thank to each of them for the time, commitment and expertise they provide to the 470 Class.

In 2009, considerable effort has gone on making the 470 Class and the 470 Championships more "media attractive". We have experimented with new course types at the 470 Spring Cup and improved our media activities. The live tracking at the 2009 470 World Championships in Rungsted, Denmark, provided by Trac Trac, hit a record of **103,083** live tracking sessions during the event and even more post-race tracking sessions.

The 470 Class has been changing its approach and is moving more and more from a voluntary managed organization towards a professionally managed entity. We also were pleased to appoint Luissa Smith (GBR) as the 470 Class Manager. The aim of this appointment is to further develop the professional administration of the class and deliver enhanced services to our sailors.

In 2010, we will be launching a new 470 website, using specialised software to manage the 470 Championships and projects, recruiting professional staff, improving PR and media platforms for our events, introducing a regular 470 eTimes and communications to our sailors, using tracking devices to deliver live races on the internet ... I strongly believe that all this will enhance the 470 Class at the leading edge of sailing.

FAIR WINDS TO ALL

Stanislav Kassarov
International 470 Class Association
President

In 2009, considerable effort has gone on making the 470 Class and the 470 Championships more "media attractive".

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- FERNANDA SESTO
- IULIA NEGOESCU

KEVIN BURNHAM JOINS 470 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Kevin Burnham (USA), renowned 470 sailor and Olympic Gold Medallist in 2004 and Silver Medallist in 1992, has been co-opted to the 470 Management Committee.

The vacancy on the Management Committee was created with the recent retirement of Marta Weores (HUN) after ten years as a volunteer for the International 470 Class, a member of the 470 Management Committee and past First Vice-President. Marta and her partner Iain Ainslie (RSA) are expecting their first child in January 2010.

Kevin's primary remit on the Management Committee is to build the relationship with the 470 coaches – and work with the class to develop the coaching clinics.

Stanislav Kassarov, President of the International 470 Class said, *"Kevin will bring another dynamic to the Management Committee team. With his many years of experience as an elite competitor, a coach and a sailing administrator – Kevin will be able to make many valuable contributions to the class as we continue to grow the class over the next Olympic quadrennium."*

With no more personal Olympic campaigns in the pipeline, Kevin has turned his focus to coaching and mentoring the next generation of 470 sailors to Olympic success.

Speaking on his new role, Kevin commented *"I look forward to continuing my involvement in the 470 class as a member of the Management Committee. The challenges that lie ahead will be welcomed as I serve as a voice for all coaches in making the 470 class the best class in the Olympic Games."*

Kevin still has time for personal sailing, although nowadays mainly in keelboats, from Melges 24's to Swan 45's to J-Class racing. Kevin has also logged thousands of offshore racing miles, competing in premier offshore sailing events as the Rolex Sydney-Hobart Race, Newport to Bermuda Race and the Rolex Fastnet Race. Kevin is at home guiding any boat around the race course – whether round the cans or across the ocean.

Back at the 2004 Olympics, Kevin BURNHAM with helm Paul FOERSTER were the old timers of the men's two person dinghy fleet in Athens, with a combined age of 87 years. They clinched the gold medal after a nerve racking final race – the ultimate prize for the pair who had two silver medals and many years of campaigning between them.

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420

420 World Championships :
Winning Gold in Men and Women

420 Europeans : Winning Gold

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- 2009 470 World Womens Champion



470

470 World Championships :
Winning Gold in Men and Women

470 Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta :
Winning Gold in Men and Women



Faster by Design



Photo: Dave Bell

BELJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES

WHAT THE MEDALLISTS DID NEXT?

BY ANDY RICE

RENOWNED SAILING JOURNALIST ANDY RICE CAUGHT UP WITH THE 470 OLYMPIC MEDALLISTS FROM BEIJING

Winning an Olympic medal is a life-changing experience. Since the 2008 Games in Qingdao, the dozen 470 sailors who won medals have experienced extraordinary years, in many different ways. Some have moved on from 470 sailing to scale new summits in life, others are aiming to cement success in China with another medal in Weymouth 2012. 470 E-Times caught up with some of the heroes and heroines of Qingdao to find out just how much life has changed for these exceptional athletes.

Isabel Swan, who won the bronze medal for Brazil with her helm Fernanda Oliveira, was part of her home town Rio de Janeiro's winning bid to host the Olympic Games in 2016. Swan was there alongside sporting legends such as the great footballer Pele. *"It was a great opportunity for me to represent my city and my country,"* she says. *"They gave me a chance to show Rio to the world. I grew up in Rio, I live in Rio, and I learned to sail in Niteroi, on the other side of Guanabara Bay."*

Despite their bronze success in China, Oliveira and Swan have gone their separate ways and are now training with new partners in the 470. Swan has teamed up with the teenager Martine Graef, who won gold at the Volvo ISAF Youth Worlds earlier this summer in Buzios, Brazil. If the surname sounds familiar, it's because Martine is the daughter of five-time Olympic medallist Torben Graef, who also skippered the winning Ericsson entry in the Volvo Ocean Race a few months ago.



Swan, who has done some professional modelling from time to time, is soon to be back in full-time training with her new helm. *"It's going to be hard, and we are thinking a lot about London, sailing every day that we can, five times a week, sometimes more. Next year we start doing World Cup events and we will be racing a lot."*

Olympic Champions from Australia, Elise Rechichi and Tessa Parkinson, haven't competed much since Qingdao. They were 5th in the Worlds in Copenhagen and took part in Skandia Sail for Gold at Weymouth before a back injury to Rechichi meant they took an early plane home to Perth. Parkinson says winning gold has been a life-changing experience. *"It hasn't completely sunk in, the grade of what we've actually achieved,"* she says. *"The first few months after China we were busy with lots of public functions and social events, but then I got started on studying physiotherapy full-time."*

Rechichi has also been in full-time education, taking an arts/science degree to qualify her for further years of study in medicine. She's even earned her pilot's licence to fly small planes. *"We've done things the opposite way round to most people,"* says Parkinson. *"We've both been sailing full time since leaving school, so now we both want to get on with our studies when we can. It's been good to focus on things other than sailing for a while, but it was quite refreshing getting back in the boat again. The skills seemed to come back quite quickly."*

MARCELIEN DE KONING:

"If you can sail the 470 you can sail any big boat, because you understand the racing, all the tactics involved. It is a superb boat to learn how to sail tactically and strategically."

Perhaps the skills would come back quickly for Marcelien de Koning too, although the Olympic silver medallist from the Netherlands says she has retired from 470 racing. Not that she's retired from Olympic competition, however, as de Koning has embarked on an ambitious campaign to race the RS:X windsurfer at Weymouth 2012. For someone with little prior background in windsurfing, de Koning has given herself a mountain to climb, not least in attaining the high level of cardiovascular fitness required for all that light-air wind-whacking. Then again, de Koning is a glutton for punishment, having run in the New York Marathon in a time of 3 hours 50 minutes, just a few weeks after winning silver in Qingdao.



"The first few months after the Games was a lot of partying, a lot of ceremonies, but I still did some training for the marathon," says de Koning. *"During the games I dreamed of a Christmas at my place with my all friends, because I hadn't celebrated Christmas for a long time. So my dream came true, because that's what we did!"*

In January she went on a four-and-a-half month trip travelling around South America with her boyfriend. It was during that time away that she decided to embark on the RS:X campaign. Having got back to the Netherlands in mid-May, she set about learning the basics of windsurfing, but her training was cut short when she suffered an abrupt appendix, which put her out of action for three months. Now though she is back in training and looking forward to emulating the kind of success she enjoyed in the 470. *"I had a great time in the 470,"* she says. *"If you can sail the 470 you can sail any big boat, because you understand the racing, all the tactics involved. It is a superb boat to learn how to sail tactically and strategically. Unfortunately there isn't much relevance to the RS:X, because until I know how to go fast, my tactical experience isn't going to help much."* To cap off a busy year, de Koning recently became engaged to her boyfriend.

Meanwhile de Koning's crew, Lobke Berkhout, continues her winning ways in the 470, having added yet another World title this year with new helm Lisa Westerhof to the three that she won with de Koning.





CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE <<

None of the Men's teams that won medals in Qingdao will be competing in the same partnerships for the campaign towards Weymouth 2012. Gold medal winner Nathan Wilmot has been big-boat racing this year, including winning the Melges 32 World Championships, and while he was contemplating a Star campaign, his recent announcement that he is to become a father next year might have changed his priorities. Joe Glanfield has retired after 11 years sailing the 470 with Nick Rogers, a partnership that yielded two Olympic silver medals and numerous Grade 1 successes. Like Rogers, bronze medal winner Nicolas Charbonnier continues his 470 campaign with a new crew, Baptiste Meyer, who was Charbonnier's coach in Qingdao.

After winning bronze with Charbonnier, Olivier Bausset has retired from 470 competition to focus on his career as a biologist, working at a hospital in Marseille. He became a father in February, and according to Charbonnier is very happy in his new family role.



The new campaign with Meyer has started well, with victory at Princess Sofia and a number of top 10 finishes during the 2009 season. *"Baptiste hadn't sailed a 470 for 12 years, so that was a good start, although I had an arm injury at the Worlds and we were disappointed to finish 17th there. At the beginning of this year, though, we had no idea about what we could achieve, no goals, we just wanted to try to improve and check where we were in the fleet."*

Nick Rogers finds himself in a similar position, having teamed up with old school friend Pom Green who hadn't done much competitive racing since winning the ISAF Youth Worlds with Rogers in 1995. Green has been busy building boats out in the Far East, so getting back into a boat and making it go fast has forced him to reawaken skills that were long dormant.

Joe Glanfield: *"I have to admit I'm missing the competition. I love the 470."..... "It's a boat that incorporates every aspect of dinghy racing."*

Joe Glanfield, meanwhile, has gone in the other direction, getting himself some work in the 'real world', although not losing touch with the sport altogether. *"I work part time as a performance lifestyle adviser for the RYA, and I've been doing a lot of work with schools sport over the past year,"* says Glanfield. *"I wanted a complete change from campaigning, although I have to admit I'm missing the competition. I love the 470. It's a very well-rounded class. The knowledge you need to be successful - you need everything - the tactical element, the technical side and the technique is all challenging. It's a boat that incorporates every aspect of dinghy racing."*



NICK ROGERS: LIFE IS GOOD!

Aside from getting used to sailing with a new crew, it's the technical aspect of the boat that has kept Nick Rogers engaged this year. *"One of the reasons I stopped sailing with Joe was I wanted to do a lot of projects, and keep sailing hard. We have done a lot of technical work, which has been to the detriment of our performance, because it hasn't given Pom a clear run at getting used to just doing the mechanics of his job. Since Qingdao I've changed the mainsail, jib and spinnaker, and the mast and centreboard. These are things I really wanted to do for a long time. It means Pom and I have got rid of a lot of unknown variables, but we've paid a heavy price in terms of poorer results. I'm not worried though, the future is bright."*

After the high point of getting silver in Qingdao, life has had many high points since for Rogers. *"I've got married, had my first son, and had some of the most fantastic experiences of my life, all in the last year. Next year I'm looking forward to a great year of racing. Life is good."*

Malcolm Page: *"At this year's Worlds, the top 15 came from 14 nations. That's a lot of talent spread around the world, and that's something the 470 class can be proud of."*

Life has been good to Malcolm Page, one of Australia's gold-medal winning Men's 470 duo, although it has created unforeseen problems too. *"One thing I've noticed is around the yacht clubs, when people know my name and I don't know theirs,"* he laughs. With various social and corporate engagements, along with running a professional Farr 40 campaign, Page has been busy the moment he came back from China, and it hasn't really stopped. *"I gave myself a few weeks after Qingdao before I considered whether to come back for another 470 campaign, because I wanted all the euphoria to die down and make sure I was making the decision for the right reasons."*

It was late November last year that he eventually announced his new campaign with Matt Belcher, already a successful 470 helmsman in his own right. Together they finished 5th in the Worlds and are showing signs of being one of the hottest teams of the new Olympic cycle. Page just can't resist the level of the competition in the 470. *"The 470 offers the best all-round racing that's possible. They're very technical and tactical boats, and that's because of the quality of sailors in the fleet. At this year's Worlds, the top 15 came from 14 nations. That's a lot of talent spread around the world, and that's something the 470 class can be proud of."*



470 SAILORS' SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

2009 470 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

THE INTERNATIONAL 470 CLASS RUNS A BROAD RANGE OF DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT PROGRAMMES, STRUCTURED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE GRASS ROOTS AND ELITE LEVEL. 2009 HAS BEEN AN INCREDIBLE YEAR IN DELIVERY OF PROGRAMMES, PARTICULARLY AS THE CLASS HAS REACHED OUT TO FOCUS ON NEW REGIONS AND SUPPORT NEW NATIONS.

Many sailors face difficulties in competing due to lack of funds, national regattas, coaches and equipment, alongside other challenges. For 2009, the 470 Class developed programmes which would help solve some of these difficulties and set out a clear pathway of support as sailors prepare for the coming four years leading up to the 2012 Olympic Games.



YOU CAN HELP!

RECYCLING OF EQUIPMENT

2009 saw the launch of the "YOU can HELP" Programme, based on the concept of recycling second hand equipment which still has many hours of sailing life left and giving it to emerging countries and winners of the International Solidarity Programme.

The International 470 Class and Olympic Sails kick-started the programme by donating two complete sets of very good condition sails to sailors from Cyprus and South Africa.

Many of the leading sailors in the fleet have also committed to recycle their used equipment, including Malcolm Page (AUS) who opened his donation with the provision of two rash shirts.

You can join the International 470 Class by donating some of your used equipment and help other sailors to improve their sailing level.

ANDRÉ CORNU GRANT

In tribute to the designer of the 470, the André Cornu grant is dedicated to youth.

A grant of EUR 1000 is awarded to the winners of the boys' and girls' two person dinghy event at the Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship if they participate in the following year's 470 Class Junior World Championships or 470 Class World Championships.

This year the two person dinghy winners were:

- GREAT BRITAIN PHILIP SPARKS AND BEN GRATTON
420 MEN
- BRAZIL MARTINE SOFFIRATTI GRAEL AND KAHENA KUNZE
420 WOMEN

470 INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY PROGRAMME (ISP)

This programme provides financial support for sailors who want to compete at the 470 World and European Championships. In addition, in partnership with our sponsor Olympic Sails, the 470 Class provides two sets of brand new sails.

24 applications from 15 nations (Chile, Brazil, Canada, South Africa, Hong Kong, Philippine, Malaysia, India, New Zealand, Cyprus, Ireland, Republic of Moldavia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania) were received and the following 11 crews representing 10 nations were selected to the programme:

- BRAZIL - THOMAS SUMMER AND FELIPE BRITO
- BULGARIA - YANA MARKOVA AND INA ILIEVA
- CANADA - FRASER McMILLAN AND ERIK VAN DER POL
- CHILE - AURELIA ZULUETA AND JOSEFINA ELUCHANS
- HONG KONG - CATHERINE JING YI CARROLL AND CHI HAN YAU
- HONG KONG - PING SHUN TONG AND KING CHI LEUNG
- INDIA - PALLAVI NAIK AND ROHNI RAU
- IRELAND - BARRY MCCARTIN AND FINBAR BRADLEY
- NEW ZEALAND - SARAH BERRY AND EMMA BERRY
- ROMANIA - MIHAI RADU AND LAURENTIU MATACHE
- SERBIA - ANDJELIJA MILOSAVLJEVIC AND MILENA MILOSAVLJEVIC

The two sets of brand new sails were awarded to the sailors from New Zealand and Serbia.

(photo left: A set of Olympic Sails handed over by Stanislav Kassarov to the crew from Serbia, at the start of the Junior Worlds in Thessaloniki.)

JUNIOR SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The Junior Support Prize, consists of a cash prize of EUR 900 which is awarded to each of the two youngest female crews and the youngest male crew competing at the 470 Junior World Championship each year. For 2009, the crews with the youngest combined ages were all from Greece:

MEN

- VASILIS PAPOUTSOGLU AND AKYLAS DROUGKAS 33 YEARS AND 6 MONTHS

WOMEN

- GLIKERIA AND DIMITRIA ZISI 31 YEARS AND 10 MONTHS
- DANAI SIAYLOU AND NATALIA SIAYLOU 34 YEARS AND 7 MONTHS

GO SAIL! OLYMPIC PATHWAY SOLIDARITY GRANT (OPSG)

The Go Sail programme is targeted at 470 sailors from countries where Olympic sailing is less active to support them to take part in the 470 Class World Championships, a critical step in the pathway to support sailors as they campaign for the Olympic Games. The sailors awarded the grant to cover the entry fee costs were:

- HONG KONG CATHERINE JING YI CARROLL AND CHI HAN YAU
- ESTONIA MARJALIISA UMB AND ELISE UMB



TRAINING CLINICS

470 SAILORS' SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

THE 470 CLASS TRAINING CLINICS PROVIDE AN INTENSIVE AND FOCUSED TRAINING SESSION, LED BY ELITE COACHES. FOR 2009 TWO CLINICS WERE HELD, ONE BEFORE THE 2009 470 JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN THESSALONIKI, GREECE AND THE OTHER PRIOR TO THE BALKAN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SERBIA.

PRE-JUNIOR WORLDS TRAINING CLINIC



KOSMATOPOULOS:

"The key point is to transfer the philosophy and the method of learning and thinking about the 470, not just to teach how to tack or gybe."

The week long Training Clinic prior to the Junior Worlds was led by five-time Olympian, multiple 470 World and European Champion Andreas Kosmatopoulos (GRE), whose approach was clear, *"The key point is to transfer the philosophy and the method of learning and thinking about the 470, not just to teach how to tack or gybe. I will support the sailors in finding methods of solving problems and finding solutions. I don't want to give the sailors 'out of the box' solutions - that would be easy to do. I want to encourage them to think for themselves. We are not looking for an instant success but an evolving, step by step development of skills, technique and mental approach to the sport."*

Whilst the clinic was a group programme, the dynamics of the participants also enabled time to be spent on individual team training. The primary focus was to prepare the crews for the Junior World Championships, including familiarity with the racing area and weather conditions.

With 19 teams taking part in the clinic, the first clinic of 2009 was a huge challenge and also a huge success. The International 470 Class covered all costs, including meals for the participants each day.

The popularity of the clinic was evident with an additional 14 crews turning up to join the end of clinic regatta.

Thanks to the Nautical Club of Thessaloniki for hosting the clinic and the Greek coaches - George Giabourglou, Andreas Paleras, Nick Malis and Nick Drougas - who joined Andreas particularly to run the racing and regatta.



THE EASTERN EUROPEAN CLINIC

The second clinic of 2009, the Eastern European Clinic, was led by Karlo Hmeljak (SLO) a well known and successful 470 sailor and Olympian, who most recently competed in the 470 at the 2008 Olympic Sailing Competition in Qingdao.

The clinic took place from 31 August-2 September, scheduled immediately before the Open Balkan Sailing Championships which were held on the Danube River in Serbia. The clinic was specifically aimed at sailors from countries with the Balkan region, where the 470 Class wanted to support the increasing participation and interest in the class.

Participating crews at the Open Balkan Sailing Championship were from Bulgaria, FYRO Macedonia, Greece, Romania and Serbia. With the exception of Greece, which has a strong 470 fleet, the rest are nations where the 470 Class has been recently developing. Crews from Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania and for the first time FYRO Macedonia participated in the clinic.

Seven crews took part in the coaching sessions prior to the Balkan Championships, with nine teams joining the coaching support during the Championships. The pre-Championship coaching were intensive days. Many of the crews own coaches also took the opportunity to observe Karlo's instruction and improve their own knowledge.

The focus of the three day clinic included boat preparation, on the water manoeuvres and techniques, goal setting, teamwork and communication. Practice races were held and Karlo also held individual debrief meetings with each crew.

"This clinic has been the best thing that has happened in this area in the last few years."

last few years." Over and above the expertise which was shared by the Instructor, the new bonds that the 470 Class has created in this region of the world were dear.

Thanks to the Serbian Sailing Federation and the host Sailing Club AJK Beograd for hosting the clinic and special thanks to Karlo Hmeljak whose contribution to the clinic was really something extraordinary.





OPEN 470 CLASS EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

FOR MEN/MIXED AND WOMEN
5-14 JUNE, LAKE TRAUNSEE, AUSTRIA

BY RICK VAN WIJNGAARDEN

The Open 470 Class Europeans held in June this year on Lake Traunsee in Austria, may be mentioned as one of the most complex events ever. Not only for the sailors, struggling to deal with the unpredictable shifts and wind holes, but as well for the race committee, challenged by the wind conditions to squeeze out a minimum number of races to have a valid Championship. Nothing but compliments came their way from sailors and coaches for their efforts and achievements for doing such a good job.



MEN/MIXED 470

Sime Fantela and Igor Marenic (CRO) ruled the event all the way and finally climbed the podium for their first gold medal in a senior 470 Championship. Overall however, they remained in the shadow of Harada Ryunosaka and Yoshida Yugo (JPN) winning the Open European event.



WOMEN'S 470

Giulia Conti and Giovanna Micol (ITA) finally fetch their first Gold medal in a women's 470 Class Championship after four years of high performance 470 sailing.

Ai Kondo presented her new team at the Delta Lloyd Regatta, about two weeks before the 470 Europeans. In Medemblik she shows up with Wakako Tabata.

The fresh crew picks up the gold medal, and take silver in their second act at the Open Europeans.

"It was an interesting, challenging event, and successful in general. We had difficult conditions, but in the end the best sailors show on top. If there would have been more races, the results would not have been different." said Australian Sailing team coach Victor Kovalenko.

The Australian team arrived in Europe a few days before the Delta Lloyd Regatta, and raced their second event in the new Olympic quadrennium. Matt Belcher joined Beijing 2008 gold medallist Malcolm Page, and form new hopes for Olympic Gold in 2012 in the men's two person dinghy.

Australia's women's 470 Beijing 2008 gold medallists, Rechichi and Parkinson, were still catching up with obligations in their private lives, but their coach, "medal maker" Victor Kovalenko, had already set his mind to pave the path to London 2012 with gold.

"For us, it was a good learning school. We had complex light winds, thermal winds, cold and sweet water, all types of conditions that we don't have in Australia. In the end, we are very happy with our results." Kovalenko concluded at the end of the event.

INTERNATIONAL 470 CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN/MIXED 470 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

GOLD	CRO 83	SIME FANTELA AND IGOR MARENIC
SILVER	GER 49	LUCAS ZELLMER AND HEIKO SEELIG
BRONZE	ITA 2	GABRIO ZANDONA AND EDUARDO MANCINELLI SCOTTI

WOMEN'S 470 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

GOLD	ITA 23	GIULIA CONTI AND GIOVANNA MICOL
SILVER	ESP 696	TARA PACHECO TARA AND BERTA BETANZOS
BRONZE	GRE 887	ANTHI ECONOMOU AND OLGA TSIGARIDI

MEN/MIXED OPEN 470 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. JPN 4340 HARADA RYUNOSUKE AND YOSHIDA YUGO
2. CRO 83 SIME FANTELA AND IGOR MARENIC
3. GER 49 LUCAS ZELLMER AND HEIKO SEELIG

WOMEN'S OPEN 470 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. ITA 23 GIULIA CONTI AND GIOVANNA MICOL
2. JPN 4151 AI KONDO AND WAKAKO TABATA
3. NZL 75 JO ALEH AND OLIVIA POWRIE

470 CLASS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

FOR MEN AND WOMEN
20-29 AUGUST 2009, RUNGSTED, DENMARK

BY RICK VAN WIJNGAARDEN

A fierce battle for the title took place in the men's 470. After the first day of the final series, it looked like the Dutch Coster brothers were heading for the title, leading the fleet for three days in a row. However, the consistency of European Champions Sime Fantela and Igor Marenic (CRO), and the winners of the Open Europeans, Ryunosuke Harada and Yugo Yoshida (JPN) seemed to be stronger. The Dutch saw their leading position floating away as the event unfolded.

Fantela and Marenic increased their overall lead, and started the final medal race in a convenient position; 16 points ahead of the Japanese and 17 on the Dutch to finally also win the medal race.

"A SEASON OF DREAMS"

"This is a season of dreams" the new World Champions commented. Fantela and Marenic are one of the youngest crews within the very experienced men's 470 top players, and currently the most successful. After winning the European title in June, they won the ISAF World Cup Kieler Woche event, and now claim the World title to their names.

PATIENCE PAYS OFF

Luke Patience and Stuart Bithell (GBR) cashed their opportunities in the medal race and left the men from Japan with bronze.

Patience has been doing very well in the 470 juniors the last few years, but has struggled to find his way in the seniors. After ending the Europeans in the middle of the silver fleet earlier this year, Patience's efforts and patience has led to a series of successes after teaming up with Tornado sailor Stuart Bithell.

Together they shone on the podium with a silver medal. Just a few days later, they repeated their magic to receive another silver medal at the Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta.





Photo: Sander van der Borgh

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MEN'S 470 MEDAL RACE: 10 NATIONS FROM 4 CONTINENTS

In the early phase of the Olympic Quadrennium, 95 men's crews from 29 nations and 5 continents traveled to Denmark. After 6 qualifying races and 5 races in the finals, the event concluded with the final medal race with 10 nations from 4 continents at the start.

One could say: The situation for an Olympic sport can hardly get any better.

WOMEN'S MEDAL RACE: 9 NATIONS FROM 4 CONTINENTS

Similar figures were registered at the women's event.

A first World Championship after the Olympics gives an impression about the participation for the next four years. Which crews come back, who is stepping in, who changes crew.

Looking into the women's 470 Worlds top 20, the situation looks promising. A healthy mix of experience and young talents who have managed to connect with the top.

WOMEN'S 470 WORLDS TOP 20: WEALTH OF OLYMPIC, WORLD AND EUROPEAN MEDALLISTS

Within the women's top 20 we find five 420 Ladies' World Championship medallists, two out of three girls who have ever won the overall Optimist Worlds, four Olympic medallists, too many Olympic Games competitors to mention, as well as medallists of other World and European Championships.

Good luck to those crews who want to step in half way through the Olympic Quadrennium!



Lisa Westerhof and Lobke Berkhout won the women's 470 world title, which is the fourth for Berkhout.

Westerhof is not at all new in 470s. With 1999 ISAF Rolex World Sailor of the year, Margriet Mathijse, she won silver at the women's 470 Worlds in 2002, and participated in 470s at the Athens 2004 Olympic Sailing Competition. The Dutch women teamed up earlier this year and started sailing in May. In total they participated in three events, including the 470 Worlds, playing a cat & mouse game.



MEN'S 470 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

GOLD CRO 83 SIME FAN TELLA AND IGOR MARENIC
SILVER GBR 834 LUKE PATIENCE AND STUART BITHELL
BRONZE JPN 4340 HARADA RYUNOSUKE AND YOSHIDA YUGO

WOMEN'S 470 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

GOLD NED 11 LISA WESTERHOF AND LOBKE BERKHOUT
SILVER ESP 696 TARA PACHECO AND BERTA BETANZOS
BRONZE FRA 4 INGRID PETITJEAN AND NADÉGE DOURoux

470 CLASS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

TARA PACHECO AND BERTA BETANZOS (ESP)

HIGH PERFORMANCE AND HUGE PROGRESSION

Looking at age, progression, and recent performance, especially at this World's event, there is no doubt that the performance of Tara Pacheco and Berta Betanzos (ESP) is most remarkable. One can have excellent results at major events, but to win a medal at a World Championship takes a lot more.

Tara Pacheco has been very successful in the 420 class, and won silver at the 420 Ladies' Worlds in 2006, taking place in her home environment; the Canary Islands.

After trying 470s with a few crews, she was introduced to Berta Betanzos from Santander, the utmost North of Spain.

Betanzos started sailing 470s in 2004 and debuted in a 470 Class World Championship in 2005 with Marina Gallego. She witnessed the first victory of Dutch duo De Koning and Berkhout, who she still today deeply and openly admires for their efforts. She continued sailing 470s in other team formations, however, after a short period in 29ers, she turned her back on sailing and set her sports ambitions to field hockey.

When she had almost forgotten about sailing, she received a phone call from the Spanish Sailing Federation with a proposal to form a team with Pacheco.

Although she changed sports, and the team would have to deal with a huge distance between the Canary Islands and Santander, she decided to accept the privileged invitation.

And results came fast. Pacheco and Betanzos won silver at the 470 women's Junior Worlds in 2007, and in 2008 they did the same. Pacheco was again in a close battle with her 2006 420 Ladies' Worlds rival Hannah Mills (GBR), who won the Gold medal, and in 2008 took a title away again in a very close competition.

But the Spanish girls made progression fast. In 2008 they won the Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta and continued to form a serious threat to the usual women's 470 leaders in the 2009 ISAF World Cup events. In July this year they won the 470 Class Women's Junior World title, and finally climbed the podium in between the World's most experienced women's two person dinghy sailors; Westerhof and Berkhout (NED), and Petitjean and Douroux (FRA).

STATISTICS 470 CLASS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009

	CREWS	NATIONS	CONTINENTS
MEN-TOP 10	10	10	4
MEN-TOP 25	25	17	5
MEN-ALL	95	29	5
WOMEN-TOP 10	10	9	4
WOMEN-TOP 25	25	17	5
WOMEN-ALL	57	24	5





470 CHAMPIONSHIPS

470 CLASS JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 10-18 JULY, THESSALONIKI, GREECE

BY RICK VAN WIJNGAARDEN

WONDERFUL, DELICIOUS, GREAT AND NERVE RACKING

The organizers put a lot of energy and efforts to create an event characterized by high performance sailing and social entertainment for the "under 22 years old" sailors, who had travelled from all over the world to Thessaloniki.

A wonderful environment around the club, delicious regional food from the barbeque with great performance of a DJ in the boat park when the sailors came off the water from a nerve racking day in light winds.

The conditions during the practice race looked promising for heavy air specialists. However, when deep dark clouds covered the sky, boats had to escape from the water, to stay there till the scheduled second day of racing, when the Championship finally got underway.

It was going to be the only day of racing in strong winds, the rest of the Championship saw light, but challenging conditions.

Sofian Bouvet and Jeremy Mion (FRA) won the Junior's World title with the medal race to spare. In the women's 470, Tara Pacheco and Berta Betanzos (ESP) fulfilled their mission to bring the gold medal and Women's Junior Worlds title to Spain, revenging their last year's silver medal, and as a last chance to participate in a Junior event. Next year they will exceed the junior's age limit.

INTERNATIONAL 470 CLASS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS, ENORMOUS VALUE FOR YOUNG TALENTS

Junior events have an enormous value for the individual development of talented sailors. So also says Andreas Kosmatopoulos, who represented Greece at the Olympic Games in the two person dinghy for five times. Kosmatopoulos supported the young sailors with a training clinic prior to the Junior Worlds.

"A Junior World Championship has an enormous value for young sailors with Olympic aspirations. Of course one can participate at a young age at regional and international regattas, but a Junior Worlds or Europeans is the first event where you represent your country. The performance level of sailing is high, because all countries around the world send their best under 22 years old sailors to this event. Young sailors that participate in Junior Events, will meet over again, again, and again. Those who have the talent, discipline and strength to go on, will finally meet at the Olympics." Kosmatopoulos said.



THE 470 IS SAILED AT A HIGH LEVEL IN MORE THAN 60 NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

The 470 is sailed on 6 continents, in an ever increasing number of over 60 nations. Most of these nations have talented 470 sailors, but financial support and sufficient knowledge of 470 sailing is not always available for these sailors, and in many cases, the sailing sport in general. Therefore, the International 470 Class Association establishes and maintains Sailors' Support Programmes to give such talented sailors a chance to learn, to measure strength in a global competition, and more.

QATAR HOSTS 2010 JUNIOR WORLDS

For the 470 Class, it was an honor to see Qatar returning back to the Junior Worlds' fleet. Qatar has been a very active 470 sailing nation for decennia, and annually organises the Sail the Gulf Regatta with an ISAF Grade 2 status. In December 2010, Qatar hosts the 470 Class Junior World Championships.

GO SAIL THE GULF

Maybe a lot of sailors do not even know this, but you can go out there for the fun of racing or learn about the local conditions and participate in the Qatar International Regatta (Sail the Gulf), from 16 – 20 February 2010.

The organisers offer 470 charters for only 200 USD!

Read all about it in the Notice of Race on their website:
www.qatarsailing.org

MEN/MIXED 470 CLASS JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

GOLD FRA 27 SOFIAN BOUVET AND JÉREMY MION
SILVER GER 4988 FERDINAND GERZ AND TOBIAS BOLDUAN
BRONZE ITA 4 LUCA DUBBINI AND ROBERTO DUBBINI

WOMEN'S 470 CLASS JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

GOLD ESP 696 TARA PACHECO AND BERTA BETANZOS
SILVER ISR 311 GIL COHEN AND DANA MAMREIV
BRONZE GER 4983 ANNIKA BOCHMANN AND ANIKA LORENZ



OPEN 470 CLASS JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 8-16 AUGUST 2009, LAKE BALATON, HUNGARY

BY ANDY RICE

Lake Balaton provided a huge test of mental strength for the 92 teams who came to compete at the 2009 470 Junior European Championships. As newly crowned 470 Junior World Champions, Sofian Bouvet and Jérémie Mion (FRA) came from Thessaloniki in northern Greece to Hungary as hot favourites for the Men/Mixed title. The French team led after day one of the regatta, and although they slipped to third midway through the championship, Bouvet and Mion had won the Junior Europeans by 13 points. Their World and European titles make them the undisputed kings of the 470 in the under-22 category. No doubt they will go on to become one of the leading forces in the senior 470 fleet too.

Victoria Jurczok and Josephine Bach (GER) needed a good result in Balaton to make amends for a mistake in the 470 Junior World Championships that cost them a silver medal. The German girls were leading the final Medal Race in Thessaloniki by a long way, and in their excitement rounded the leeward mark in the wrong direction. By the time they realised their error the rest of the fleet had passed the mark the correct way and that navigational blip dropped them from a certain silver to a forgettable 4th overall in the Worlds.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



Photo: Andy Halycon

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OPEN 470 JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS



In Balaton Jurczok and Bach kept their heads to take a commanding lead in the 21-boat Women's fleet, and won the Women's 470 Junior European title with a race to spare. This went some way to making up for that missing silver from Greece.

The regatta began with three days of qualifying heats, with the 92 teams split three ways into Yellow, Blue and Pink fleets. For those aspiring to qualify into the

top Gold Fleet finals, these three days offer a chance to rack up low scores to carry through to the tougher final series. One team in particular, the Germans Ferdinand Gerz and Tobias Bolduan, made the most of a windy day 2 in qualifying to win all three of their races that day. This team took Silver behind the French at the Junior 470 Worlds and they were determined to beat Bouvet and Mion on this occasion. *"You never expect to win every race, especially not in a European Championships,"* said Bolduan. *"We took the shifts well, we had a bit of luck, and we were fast. I think this championship will be a nice fight."*

While not quite enjoying the perfect day of their German rivals, the French were still very consistent and within two points of the lead, lying in 3rd place overall behind the Germans and an Argentinean team, Sebastián Peri Brusa and Santiago Masseroni, just a point off the lead after a near-perfect day of 1,1,3.

The race committee at Balatonfured had made the most of the unusually breeze conditions to get ahead of schedule, leaving just one qualifying race to be contested the following day, before the fleet was divided into Gold, Silver and Bronze.

With day 3 dawning to good breeze, the first flight of boats got away in good, strong conditions but minute by minute the wind started to soften as the thermal effects of the surrounding land started to kill the gradient breeze. What had started as a brisk, trapezing race finished with a drifter. The first flight all managed to cross the line, but in the second flight, only a handful of boats crossed the line before the breeze disappeared completely, leaving the majority of that flight outside the 20-minutes-after-the-leader time limit. The last fleet were struggling to get anywhere near the finish so their race was abandoned to be restarted later in the day, when the breeze returned with a vengeance, the sailors enjoying classic Force 4 conditions.

There were some high-profile casualties from the DNF scenario, notably Tina Lutz and Susann Beucke who had been lying in 9th in the overall standings, and leading the women's championship. Having already used up their discard with an OCS on the first day, the DNF sent them plummeting down the rankings to 33rd place, just one point and one place outside the cut for gold fleet. *"We are really disappointed,"* said Lutz. *"We were sailing well this week. We argued for an hour with the jury but nothing changed. That is the end of our championship. Now we look forward to the 470 World Championships in Denmark."*

The first day of Gold Fleet finals brought light and shifty conditions, and some high scores for many of the leading contenders. It didn't start well for the French Junior World Champions, as they rounded the first windward mark with just a few boats behind them. However by the finish Bouvet and Mion had worked their way through to 5th place, salvaging a very useful finish from a potential disaster. This race was the sign of some champions in the making, and indeed they followed this up with two race wins in spite of the softening and increasingly unpredictable breeze.

Meanwhile, another German Women's team picked up where Lutz and Beucke had left off, with Victoria Jurczok and Josephine Bach moving into a commanding 20-point lead.

As the week drew to a close the wind became increasingly light and unsailable. The following day brought just one race in the afternoon, and in both the Men's and Women's fleets most of the frontrunners suffered a bad outing with the exception of the series leaders who moved even further ahead in the rankings. With no further fleet races able to be sailed, Jurczok and Bach wrapped up the Women's title with a day to spare, while the Greek team Maria Voulgaraki and Danai Paschou took Silver by a single point from last year's Junior European Champions from Germany, Annika Bochmann and Anika Lorenz.

On the final day the race committee attempted to start a Medal Race for the 10 top team in the 92-boat fleet, but the light wind never settled sufficiently in strength or direction to be able to hold a satisfactory finale. So when the abandonment flag went up on the committee boat, the series leaders Bouvet and Mion celebrated by diving into the turquoise waters of Hungary's famous lake.

"We have had a very good year," said Mion. *"It's very difficult to win two major championships in one year."* Bouvet put their success down to *"good concentration and being able to hold steady and sail the same way even when the conditions are very shifty. It's difficult to do well in every race. We didn't have any really bad races this week, we came back well from bad positions by the time we reached the finish."*



Gerz and Bolduan added a Junior European Silver to the Junior World Silver they had won a few weeks earlier, while Italy's Simon Sivitz Kosuta and Jas Farneti took the Bronze.

In the Silver fleet, top dogs were the Italians Paolo Cattaneo and Vittorio Zaoli who finished a point ahead of Hungarian team Botond Szigethi and Kristof Joo.

In Bronze, the Hungarian women's team of Réka Vigh and Kinga Szabó won the battle for sibling rivalry, Réka beating her brother Tamás and his crew Máté Kovács by six points.

At the prizegiving the winners celebrated receiving their medals in front of hundreds of their fellow sailors, both from the Junior 470 and 420 fleets. And then the new 470 Junior European Champions were thrown in Lake Balaton, their medals around their necks.

Next year the 470 Junior European Championships takes place in La Rochelle, France.

MEN/MIXED JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP & MEN/MIXED OPEN JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

GOLD	FRA 27	SOFIAN BOUVET AND JÉRÉMIE MION
SILVER	GER 4988	GERZ FERDINAND AND TOBIAS BOLDUAN
BRONZE	ITA 4429	SIMON SIVITZ KOSUTA AND JAS FARNETI

WOMEN'S JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP & WOMEN'S OPEN JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

GOLD	GER 12	VICKTORIA JURCZOK AND JOSEPHINE BACH
SILVER	GRE 8	MARIA VOULGARAKI AND DANAI PASCHOU
BRONZE	GER 4983	ANNIKA BOCHMANN AND ANIKA LORENZ



TRACK & TRACE AT 470 WORLDS IN DENMARK

COULD SAILING BE BIGGER THAN FOOTBALL?
470 WORLDS ACHIEVES 103,083 VIEWING SESSIONS.
 SOURCE: PRESS RELEASE DANISH SAILING FEDERATION

It's often said that sailing will never be a spectator sport, but after the output from the World and European Championships held this year in Denmark, many sailing fans would beg to differ. Track and Trace technology was used at two World Championships and two European Championships – with the online take up by sailing fans breaking records.

Secretary General of the Danish Sailing Association, Dan Ibsen, explains. "New technology is making it easier to convey the excitement of sailing competition in a way that has never been possible before," says Ibsen. "This year we wanted to see what was possible by bringing in live GPS tracking of boats and combining it with top quality event reporting at some of the big regattas taking place in Denmark this summer."

The Danish Sailing Association focused on promoting four major sailing events in Denmark over the summer:

- FINN GOLD CUP
- LASER RADIAL EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP
- EUROSAF EUROPEAN MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP
- 470 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

In 2008, with the backing of insurance company CODAN (part of Sun Alliance Group), the Danish Sailing Association bought 150 GPS tracking devices and signed up GPS tracking specialists TracTrac to cover the ISAF Youth World Championships in Aarhus. "With friends, family and sailing fans logging in from around the world, we had nearly 30,000 viewing sessions from 69 countries all over the world. We've already seen the huge appetite for live tracking of round-the-world sailing events like the Volvo Ocean Race and the Vendée Globe, and it seems there is just as much enthusiasm for following inshore racing events too."

Some of this year's world championship events eclipsed the 2008 Youth Worlds figures, with the Finn Gold Cup attracting 48,226 viewing sessions and the 470 World Championships a whopping 103,083 views. Even Ibsen is surprised at the level of interest from these events. "We thought the ISAF Youth Worlds figures were big, but this year's numbers are incredible. I think it's probably the result of an ongoing publicity programme that we ran throughout the summer with international press releases before and every day during all the regattas, and the combined effect of supporting a number of events across the season. This proves that there is a big potential in this for sailing, and I believe we are still only scratching the surface of what's possible in future."

Although the tracking has value in itself, Ibsen believes it should be integrated into a wider media output from a sailing event. "Having a well-organised press function around an international event is also extremely important, and for this we brought in some very experienced specialist sailing journalists from British company Sailing Intelligence. They have reported on every major sailing event from the America's Cup, the Volvo Ocean Race, to the Olympics, and they bring colour and life to the GPS tracking data from TracTrac," says Ibsen. "Combining press reporting with the live tracking worked very well, and brings added value to being a sponsor of a sailing event. The potential is even bigger using modern media platforms for web TV and live streaming of sailing, as well as using new social media platforms like Facebook and YouTube."

Below is a list of the full viewing figures from each of the six events in Denmark this summer:

Event	Number of Viewing Sessions
• 470 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP	103,083
• FINN GOLD CUP	48,226
• DRAGON GOLD CUP	39,570
• LASER RADIAL EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP	23,045
• DANISH OPEN MATCH RACE	20,636
• CONTENDER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP	17,958
• EUROSAF EUROPEAN MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP	10,919

The total number of viewing sessions across these six events amounts to 263,437, with the average viewing session last 15 minutes.

Ibsen says these figures start to have real impact with a sponsor, and compare very favourably to other sports, even football. "If you multiply the 263,437 viewing sessions by 15 minutes, you end up with 65,859 hours, or 2,744 days, almost 7.5 years of total exposure. Another way of looking at this would be to think of 43,906 spectators watching a 90-minute football match. So when you start to look at the level of exposure sailing can offer a sponsor, it is becoming very good value for money."

Ibsen is proud of the innovative role that the Danish Sailing Federation together with the organising clubs in Denmark is playing in proving the commercial viability of new technology in sailing, and wants others to follow suit. "It looks as GPS tracking platform is becoming more and more interesting to a sailing audience, and we would encourage organisers of other sailing events to seriously consider implementing tracking alongside other more established forms of media. The sponsors at sailing events in Denmark are now nearly demanding that the event has tracking."

To view the tracking from the 2009 470 Worlds, go to: www.tracrac.com/?page=470worlds

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470 WORLD'S AT RUNGSTED

THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE
OF THE JURY CHAIRMAN.

A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

BY EDWARD RAMSDEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE JURY

"I had a farm in Africa, at the foot of the Ngong hills . . . ", one of the most famous opening lines in modern literature, best remembered from the film of the book, "Out of Africa", written by Karen Blixen. Using the pen name Isak Dineson, she wrote prolifically and magically in the English Language after she left Africa and she is a literary idol of mine. An almost perpetual nominee for the Nobel literature prize, twice runner-up, Karen became a lioness of writing after the bankruptcy of her coffee farm in Kenya.

So what has all this to do with the 470 World Championships? Well, plenty, so far as I am concerned!

Lying right beside the Royal Danish Yacht Club is Rungstedlund, the farmstead where Karen Blixen was born and where she returned in 1921 to rebuild her life. Previously, whilst on jury duty at Royal Danish Yacht Club, I have paid the fifty Kroner entrance fee to see the room where my tiny heroine wrote and painted, peered at her artefacts from Africa and the worn typewriter keys caressed by her very fingers. So when the email came through, inviting me to be Chairman of the International Jury for the 470 World Championships, my favourite Olympic trapeze Class, and I saw it was to be hosted by the RDYC at Rungsted, I did not hesitate.

Thus it was that in August I packed the new ISAF clothing that made me look vaguely like a water-borne football referee and departed from a sleepy wife in the wee small hours to catch the mid-morning flight from Birmingham to Copenhagen.

First job at RDYC was to find the Jury Room. I recalled the previously used room, with fine views of the sea from the first floor of the dub. But now used by Club caterers, it would only be available for overflow protests. So where was the jury room? Eventually it was discovered on the ground floor, cunningly located behind the temporary toilet blocks at the rear of the Club. Proximity of the toilets later proved useful to nervous protestors and protestees as they awaited hearings. But it was a workable room of a good size, with a large table, plenty of chairs and a wipe-board with pens.

The group I was to lead showed a wide geographic spread, including a Russian, a Korean, an attractive young Spanish woman, two Danes, a Frenchman and an Italian winemaker, who came complete with a couple of bottles of his finest *vin rosso*, as a personal gift to me. It was a particularly strong jury of eight individuals, only three of whom I already knew. Getting them to work together as a team was central to my role as chairman, the initial meeting of the jury being important in establishing relationships, so I softened them up with the Welsh Cakes and Scottish shortbread I had smuggled into Denmark. Brimming with this exotic fare, we all soon agreed our working pattern, each member of the jury readily volunteering for individual roles. No Jury Secretary being available, one of our number, Ted Graslund, a local, would look after jury administration. Another volunteer would keep an eye on the jury boats, whilst two with a good eye for detail would make sure the 'loose-ends' were attended to. There seemed plenty of willingness over our social activities, so no need to delegate that task individually; Danish pastries were to appear on a regular basis in the Jury Room during the regatta and the free drinks in the Marquee proved popular once protests were over.

Whilst not a regatta requirement, we adopted three objectives for ourselves.

- We would work together with race officials to make sure that the Championship was a success, safe and enjoyable for the sailors.
- We would ensure that it was a fair competition.
- As a jury, we would enjoy ourselves.

Next step in the process, before racing began, was to meet the Race Officers and team. Fortunately, all of the International Officials were already known to me, a number being old friends, so working with them was likely to be relaxed and confident and an initial meeting involving coaches was also positive.

Jury boats. We needed to check our boats. Often the last available and least satisfactory boats are given to the Jury. My experience has included a twenty-eight foot cruising catamaran, with twin three hundred horsepower engines, whilst at the other extreme some very odd three-metre plywood boats heavily coated with GRP and fitted with smoky ten horsepower outboards; I have not yet been offered a rowing boat, but the time may come. But this time I could relax; not a matched set, but the boats at RDYC were all RIB's of around five metres and fitted with engines that would allow us to keep up with 470's. By the start of the regatta, the Jury was well prepared, friendly but suitably dignified communications had been established with sailors, coaches and other officials and our equipment was all in place.

Two courses, Alpha and Bravo, provided racing for two women's flights on one and three men's on the other during the qualifying races, reverting to one for the gold fleet, with silver and bronze on the other in the final series. Having prayed devoutly to the sea gods, the race committee had a strong wind driven current most days, holding the fleet behind the line, thus making use of the first substitute, or even the X flag unlikely. Only two requests for redress for OCS were made early on, the Jury preferring the unbiased view of the Race Committee to the hopeful pleas from sailors, so no further OCS redress requests were made, even when the dreaded black flag made its appearance in the final series.

With Oscar flying most of the week, with the notable exception of the medal races, there was little judging under rule 42, although some competitors forgot that, Oscar or not, the class rules do not allow sculling and were penalised for their enthusiastic waggling of rudders on the start line. With pumping allowed, Jury tactics changed and after the start we concentrated on observing mark rounding, recording incidents and giving evidence in later protest hearings when necessary.

During the course of the Championships, the jury showed six yellow flags and held 25 hearings, including one on the water after the men's medal race. With one hundred and fifty-two boats from twenty-nine nations and a total of sixty-seven races, the event was a great success. Racing in gloriously sunny and windy conditions was for the first time followed 'live' on the Internet by over one hundred thousand people. The International Jury worked well together and after ten days we were all firm friends. Did we achieve our three objectives? It is probably up to others to decide, but we certainly enjoyed ourselves and worked well with other race officials, contributing to an essentially fair competition.

Highlights of the Championship?

Outstanding performances by the winners, Lisa Westerhof & Lobke Berkhout from the Netherlands and Sime Fantela & Igor Marenic from Croatia.

Emergence of some new, young stars in the 470 fleet promising new standards of performance in the approach to Weymouth in 2012.

Sadness for the Spanish sailors who forgot the Oscar was not flying, penalised for pumping in the last few metres before the end of the medal race.

Once again I experienced the disciplined good behaviour and good manners of the 470 sailors, even when disappointed by results or Jury decisions.

Individual tracking of all of the boats in the championship. 100,000 spectators cannot be wrong!

But for me the championship at Rungsted had a special highlight, it gave me the opportunity to visit Rungstedland, where Karen Blixen died in 1962 and, in the grounds, her grave, with its clear view south to the Africa she loved.



Photo: Virag Janko

"MARSEILLAISE" IN TIROL

BY HUBERT KIRRMANN

The 26th 470 Master's Cup at Lake Achensee attracted 62 boats of 10 countries. The registration of 20 French boats raised concerns of the organizers that the French could be invading Tyrol once again (last time was in 1806), but this time it was a friendly invasion. Their spoil of the French was to be rich: they won both the Master's and the Grand Master's title and were allowed to sing twice the Marseillaise at full throat, notwithstanding its obsolete lyrics. The Italians won the Apprentice Masters' title and had the opportunity to sing Fratelli d'Italia, which sounds nicer but whose lyrics are also quite bloody and unkind to Austria - who cares.

This final was preceded by five days of good competition with varying conditions and thrilling situations. All fears of a repetition of the Europeans with its lulls and storms were dissipated.

The split of the boats into a Master's fleet and a mixed Grand Master's and Apprentice's fleet as the 470 Manual prescribes gave rise to some discussion, in particular among sailors nostalgic of crowded starting lines and among eager apprentices who wanted more competitors. The race committee sent one fleet on an outer loop and the second on an inner loop, so there were few conflicts. All agreed that the competition was fair and the medals duly won in high-level races.

The first day started with a shifty north wind in misty weather that allowed two races for the masters, but only one to the Grand Masters. The tactics were evident: stay along the east coast, and take the leeward mark from the lake centre. How come that those who did it differently were rewarded?

The second day was misty, cold and rainy with a weak north wind, allowing only two races, and the most crowded place was the warm soup kettle back at the Club. A Tyrolean evening raised the spirits and hopes for better conditions. The third day, the warmer south wind came and stayed, two good races could be sailed. Here also, the tactics were evident, and those who did it contrarily were rewarded. Sailing is a luck game in which the same always win. The fourth day, the south wind persisted and allowed three races, but the last one was not convincing and was shortened on the last leg since there was no wind at all in the finishing line. So the jazz evening with Tyrolean food was appreciated.

The fifth day, the south wind came early, allowing only one race in the morning. Rather than intending a second lull race, the race committee let the fleet wait on land. The last hour to start a race was 15h00. The Masters' chairman stayed on water and desperately tried to convince the Race Committee that there was enough wind to inflate the spinnaker. But at 13h00, the north wind was detected at the far north edge of the lake. The fleet scrambled to water and waited in the lull for about one hour until the north wind established itself. Without delay the races were started under Bf 3-4. Five minutes before the official closing time, the preparation signal was again given and a last race with Bf4-5 could be sailed.

In the Masters' fleet, Frenchmen Bernard Boime & Gilles Espinasse, Germans Stefan & Ariane Schneider and Jörg Sager & Andreas Glutschke led the pack from the first day on, with a fierce inner-German fight between the second and third position.

The Master's Cup of last year, the Italians Edoardo Falco & Gianluca Montella won the fourth race, but had to leave the fourth place to the Romanian team Bujor Manciu & Nicolae Fagarasani and to the German (again) Markus Meilchen & Michael Justen.

MASTER'S CORNER

For more information, and full results of the Master's Cup, visit the master's corner on the International 470 Class web site:

<http://masters.470.org>

470 MASTER'S CUP

In the mixed Grand Master's and Apprentice's fleet, the Italian Apprentice Masters Fernando Zicarelli & Davide Gamba won practically every race and had few competitors. The Grand Masters were dominated by the French Gilles Chapelin & Frank Barthe, followed at a secure distance by the German Karlo Schmiedel & Stefan Oetken. The third place was between Martin Steiger & Hans von Moos (SUI), who managed to cap Italians Massimo Arrobbio & Carlo Coco through a bold double shifting manoeuvre at a few boat lengths of the leeward mark. The Robert Maurel & Gérard Daugey (FRA) followed with just one point behind, so there was suspense until the last leg of the last race.

The 2009 Master's Cup was a success in every respect, the wind and race conditions were fair and the Race Committee made the best out of the varying conditions. Our thanks to the organizers, the Sailing Club Achensee for this excellent event. The Austrian Tyrol and Lake Achensee is indeed a beautiful spot which can be recommended for vacations.

For next year same period, we count on a Germanic Volkswanderung of 470 sailors to Lake Biscarosse, France.

470 LEGENDS' TROPHY

BY NICOLAS GUICHET, NAUTICAL CLUB OF ABLON, FRANCE

An innovative and original event took place near Paris in September 2009, planned and managed by Gilles Chapelin, winner of the last Grand Masters' Cup.

Sailors from St-Quentin and Ablon Yachts Clubs rigged their boats ready to race and handed them to a group of former French champions of the 470 class, some of whom hadn't sailed a 470 for nearly 30 years !

More than twenty teams competed in the ten boats which were allocated by rotation drawn by lots. Each of the 16 rounds raced over two days saw epic battles at the marks. Victory finally went to Claire Fontaine (World Champion ISAF, Auckland, 1984 - crew) and Hervé Leduc (French champion, Crozon-Morgat, 1984 - helm).

All these champions found the modern boats more sophisticated, with more ropes and shockcord, but not fundamentally different from the ones they used to sail in the 1970's.

Ashore, the younger sailors found it amusing to see these past 470 legends patiently waiting for the pole to be well set before hoisting.

Laughs and smiles were on every face, as they shared memories of past decades. However, the pleasure of sailing the 470 continues.

RENDEZ-VOUS EN 2010 !

Helped, pictured and told by Nicolas Guichet, Nautical Club of Ablon, France.

Photo: Marc Laurent and Roger Surmin, World Champions, Long Island, 1975.





Photo: Thom Touw

ISAF SAILING WORLD RANKINGS

ITALY AND NETHERLANDS DOMINATE IN PENULTIMATE RANKINGS OF 2009

THE EIGHTH AND PENULTIMATE RELEASE OF THE ISAF SAILING WORLD RANKING RELEASE OF 2009 WAS PUBLISHED ON 23 SEPTEMBER, INCLUDING THE RESULTS OF THE 470 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD IN RUNGSTED, DENMARK AND THE FINAL EVENT OF THE 2008-2009 ISAF SAILING WORLD CUP, SKANDIA SAIL FOR GOLD.

WOMEN'S 470

Giulia Conti and Giovanna Micol (ITA) continue to lead the Rankings, a position they claimed on 29 July 2009, cementing their appearance in the top 4 in the world for more than two years. Securing a fourth at the 2009 470 Worlds and eleventh at Skandia Sail For Gold, consistency has kept them at the front.



Remaining in second are Japan's Ai Kondo and Wakako Tabata, who have held firm in the top 3 since 6 February 2008, taking an 8 and 4 at the Worlds and Sail For Gold respectively.

Moving up to third in the Rankings, from fourth, are Ingrid Petitjean and Nadege Douroux (FRA) after a bronze medal at the 470 Worlds and a seventh in Weymouth.

For three crews this ranking release marks career bests, as they make their first appearance in the world's top 10.

The dynamic team of Tara Pacheco and Berta Betanzos (ESP) outperformed the fleet to take victory and gold medals back to Spain at both the 470 Junior Worlds and the 470 Junior Europeans. But with neither event carrying Rankings points, it is their performance at the senior level which has shot them up to a career best of fourth on the ISAF Sailing World Rankings. A silver medal at the 2009 470 Worlds and an eighth place at Sail For Gold secured them sufficient points to leap ahead of their rivals. 2009 has certainly been their year of delivery.

Margriet FOKKEMA and Marieke JONGENS (NED) also make their first appearance in the world's top 10, climbing up to eighth. Rounding out the top 10, at number 10, another career best for Annina Wagner and Marlene Steinherr (GER).

Fernanda Sesto, 470 Management Committee member, with team mate Consuelo Monsegur (ARG), placed 11 at the Worlds and 6 at Sail For Gold which gave the team a push up to ninth in the rankings - to deliver their best position on the World Rankings for almost four years.

The winners of the 2009 Worlds and Sail For Gold, Lisa Westerhof and Lobke Berkhout find themselves propelled to up to 39 in the Worlds Rankings, from 69, but with only 3 events so far counting to their Rankings, and with crews allowed to count up to 7 events, they have lots of opportunity to improve their placing - and no doubt will!

Seven new crews are welcomed onto the 470 Women World Rankings this month, with sailors from Australia, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Japan, Netherlands and Ukraine collecting ranking points, to join the total number of 134 crews from 32 nations on the 470 Women's Rankings.

With increasing nations competing across the women's fleets at the 470 World and European Championships (junior and senior), we can look forward to many new faces in 2010.

MEN'S 470

Glory at the top of the ISAF Sailing World Rankings goes to Dutch brothers Sven Coster and Kalle Coster, who reclaim the pole position, which they had lost to Nicolas Charbonnier and Baptiste Meyer (FRA) at the Rankings release of 29 July 2009. A fourth at the 470 Worlds and fifth at Sail For Gold gave them sufficient points to leapfrog their rivals.



Close behind, and improving to second from fourth on the rankings, are Sime Fantela and Igor Marencic (CRO). Another successful season for them peaked at the 470 Worlds with gold medal victory and now a career best on the ISAF World Rankings.

One of the greatest leaps up the rankings comes from the new pairing of Matthew Belcher and multi-Olympian Malcolm Page (AUS) who have swept into the top 10 at 9, up from a previous ranking of 43. Solid results across the 470 Worlds and Europeans, together with the ISAF Sailing World Cup events, have seen this pair become the top placed Australian crew - hardly surprising given their pedigree.

Whilst the Costers knocked Nicolas Charbonnier and Baptiste Meyer (FRA) off the number one position, another French pairing of Sofian Bouvet and Jeremie Mion are snapping at their countrymen's heels. With victories at both the 470 Junior Worlds and 470 Junior Europeans, Bouvet and Mion clearly meant business in 2009; although neither of these Championships helped them up the Rankings, as they are not graded. Their success at the Junior events held up in the senior fleet, with a placing of 22 at the 2009 470 Worlds and 15 at Sail For Gold to move up the Rankings to 20 from 27, a justly deserved career best.

Another pairing of Luke Patience with new crew Stuart Bithell (GBR), made a somewhat sudden appearance towards the front of the fleets at both the Worlds and Sail For Gold after little training as a new combination. Their teamwork was rewarded with not only silver medals at each of these events, but also a climb of 10 places to sit at number 16 on the World Rankings, which for Patience matches his previous career best of 16 back in July 2008.

The 15 different nations claiming places in the top 20 of the World Rankings demonstrates the global spread of the class, with a range of countries securing Championship success this year.

10 crews from 8 nations make their first appearance on the World Rankings as of this release. The 470 Men Rankings host 251 ranked crews from 41 nations.

NEXT AND FINAL RELEASE

ISAF SAILING WORLD RANKINGS FOR 2009

The next and final release of the ISAF Sailing World Rankings for 2009 will be on 16 December 2009 for events up to and including the Sail Sydney Regatta in Australia.



ISAF SAILING WORLD CUP

FIRST YEAR CONCLUDES

The opening year of the ISAF Sailing World Cup drew to a finale with the seventh event, Skandia Sail For Gold Regatta taking place in Weymouth and Portland, Great Britain from 14-19 September 2009. For many sailors, this was their first taste of sailing on the Olympic waters. 2010 will see the Skandia Sail For Gold moving to 10-15 August, nearer the timing for the 2010 Olympic Games, as a form of "unofficial" test event.

The host nation, Great Britain, celebrated a run of successes, including two Paralympic and three World Cup titles going to Skandia Team GBR, who ended the 2008-2009 World Cup with 13 gold, 15 silver and 14 bronze medals to top the Medal Table and win the World Cup Nations Trophy.

Participation so far in the ISAF Sailing World Cup across each of the ten Olympic events matches that before the seven individual events were brought under the one event title.

However, the 470 class continues to demonstrate the spread of nations and depth of talent and quality with the significant number of nations finishing in the top 20 overall in the ISAF Sailing World Cup standings. In each of the 470 fleets across the seven World Cup events, there were 359 men's entries and 161 women's entries, with sailors from 16 nations appearing in the final standings in the men's 470 event and from 14 nations in the women's – a greater spread of nations than any of the other Olympic

ISAF SAILING WORLD CUP | MEN'S 470 TOP 3

1. ESP ONAN BARREIROS AND AARON SARMIENTO
2. USA STUART MCNAY AND GRAHAM BIEHL
3. GBR NIC ASHER AND ELLIOT WILLIS

ISAF SAILING WORLD CUP | WOMEN'S 470 TOP 3

1. DEN HENRIETTE KOCH AND LENE SOMME
2. FRA INGRID PETITJEAN AND NADÈGE DOURoux
3. ESP TARA PACHECO AND BERTA BETANZOS

NUMBER OF NATIONS IN FINAL TOP 20 STANDINGS

470 MEN	16
FINN	15
LASER STANDARD	15
RS:X	14
STAR	12
49ER	10

470 WOMEN	14
LASER RADIAL	14
RS:X	13
MATCH RACING	10

MALCOLM PAGE (AUS)

ISAF ATHLETES' COMMISSION MEMBER

Elected to the ISAF Athletes' Commission on 28 June 2009, 2008 Olympic Gold Medallist and two time 470 World Champion (2007 and 2008) Malcolm Page will represent the 470 men's event for the next four year term, through until 2013.

- THE ISAF ATHLETES' COMMISSION CONSISTS OF AN ATHLETE APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE FOR EACH OF THE TEN OLYMPIC EVENTS SELECTED FOR THE 2012 OLYMPICS AND REPORTS DIRECTLY TO THE ISAF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THEIR ROLE IS TO REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE OLYMPIC ATHLETES TO ISAF, THROUGH THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF REFERENCE:
- BE A NON-POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE BODY WHICH CAN OFFER ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO ISAF ON MATTERS AND ISSUES OF RELEVANCE TO ATHLETES AND ACT AS A LINK BETWEEN THE OLYMPIC SAILORS AND ISAF.
- ENSURE THAT THE ATHLETES' POINTS OF VIEW ARE PRESENTED TO ISAF.
- ENSURE RESPECT OF THE RIGHTS OF THE ATHLETES WITHIN THE SPORT AND DRAW UP RECOMMENDATIONS TO THAT EFFECT.
- PROMOTE HIGH STANDARDS OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL PERFORMANCE WHEN COMPETING/ PARTICIPATING.
- RELATE IMMEDIATELY TO ATHLETES COMPETING/PARTICIPATING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL AND ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIPS TO PROMOTE FEEDBACK TO ISAF ON MATTERS CONCERNING ELITE ATHLETES.
- ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR LIAISON WITH ISAF FOR ISAF EVENTS TO HELP ISAF RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF THE ATHLETES.
- MAY PUT FORWARD ITS RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSALS TO THE ISAF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION.

The first meeting of the newly elected ISAF Athletes' Commission was held at the ISAF Secretariat in October 2009 where Malcolm Page was elected as Vice-Chair by his fellow athletes. Soon after, 470 E-Times caught up with Malcolm to ask a few questions on his new role.

WHY DID YOU WANT TO STAND AS AN ISAF ATHLETES' COMMISSION MEMBER?

Obviously I love my sport. I see that sailing is holding itself back in many areas. Instead of just complaining and wishing for things to be different, I'm a big believer in getting your hands dirty and making a difference. This way you have more control of what the destination will look like.

WHAT DIFFERENCE DO YOU FEEL THE ISAF ATHLETES' COMMISSION CAN MAKE?

As I have only just started on the Athletes' Commission, I'm not so sure how much difference it will make. But the athletes are the face of our sport. We need to be heard and to drive our sport in the right direction and be part of decisions. I wish for sailing to be driven more by the what the athletes want and need.

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT THAT THE SAILORS' VOICES ARE HEARD DIRECTLY AT ISAF, WHEN THERE ARE MNAs AND CLASSES TO REPRESENT YOUR VIEWS?

I think the ISAF Athletes' Commission is an important step forward for our sport. Messages are always lost and will have noise associated with them if they have been passed down the line. This also falls in line with the ideas of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). They are encouraging all sports to have active and voting Athlete Commission members. One Athletes' Commission representative voting at ISAF would represent Athletes world wide, not a country, or region, or a class. They are also active current athletes of their era.

WHAT ARE THE KEY ISSUES THE ISAF ATHLETES' COMMISSION WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS?

I think one of the most important areas for the ISAF Athletes' Commission is to find easy and clear ways to talk to all athletes around the world. Once the ISAF Athletes' Commission has a clear position then it will be much easier to move forward. Some areas that are currently being worked on are consistency for regattas, make the top end of our sport accessible to all nations, trying to make sailing a true world sport and place more emphasis on regional events. I think making sailing more marketable will be the biggest challenge.

THANKS, MALCOLM



MALCOLM PAGE

Keep an eye on Malcolm's 2012 Olympic campaign at:
www.australiansailingteam.com.au

ISAF ATHLETES' COMMISSION

For more information on the ISAF Athletes' Commission go to:
www.sailing.org/sailors/athletes-commission-index.php

ISAF ATHLETES' COMMISSION FORUM:

www.sailorvoice.org





Photo/Victor Kovalenko

FUTURE 470 CHAMPIONSHIPS

AT THE 2009 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON 21 AUGUST 2009 DURING THE 2009 470 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN RUNGSTED, DENMARK, THE FOLLOWING VENUES FOR FUTURE 470 CHAMPIONSHIPS WERE DECIDED:

2012 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The final qualifying event for the 2012 Olympic Games attracted considerable interest with five venues bidding. The Real Club Nautico de Barcelona and Real Club Maritim de Barcelona in Spain was selected.

Venue: Barcelona, Spain

Dates: first half of May 2012



2012 JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Venue: Takapuna Yacht Club, Auckland, New Zealand

Dates: January 2012

2013 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

2013 marks the 50th Anniversary of the 470 Class and appropriately the World Championship will be held in France. The venue is yet to be confirmed, but will be at a venue on the Atlantic coast.

Venue: France

Dates: Summer 2013

EVENT	EQUIPMENT	ENTRY QUOTA	
		BOATS	ATHLETES
MEN'S ONE PERSON DINGHY	LASER	48	54
MEN'S ONE PERSON DINGHY HEAVY	FINN	25	25
MEN'S TWO PERSON DINGHY	470	27	54
MEN'S TWO PERSON DINGHY HIGH PERFORMANCE	49ER	20	40
MEN'S WINDSURFER	RS:X	38	38
MEN'S KEELBOAT	STAR	16	32
WOMEN'S ONE PERSON DINGHY	LASER RADIAL	39	39
WOMEN'S TWO PERSON DINGHY	470	20	40
WOMEN'S KEELBOAT MATCH RACING	ELLIOTT 6M	12	36
WOMEN'S WINDSURFER	RS:X	28	28

One place in each event will be granted to the host country, 75% of nation places in each event will be decided at the Perth 2011 ISAF Sailing World Championships, with the remaining 25% at the respective 2012 Class World Championships. The Events committee proposal was approved by the ISAF Council and is now subject to final approval by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). It is anticipated that the final 2012 Olympic Qualification System will be published in April 2010.

Full reports on the 2009 ISAF November Conference can be found at: www.sailing.org/meetings

2012 OLYMPIC SAILING COMPETITION

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

For all the Olympic Classes, one of the big issues on the table at this year's ISAF Annual Conference, which brings together the sport's decision makers from around the world, was the allocation of places (entries) to each event at the 2012 Olympic Games.

With the overall athlete quota for the Olympic Sailing Competition reduced to 380 for 2012 from 400 in 2008, despite the reduction of one Olympic Medal the allocation of places is still a challenging issue.

With the reduction of 11 to 10 sailing events for 2012, Chris Atkins (GBR) Chairman of the ISAF Events Committee explained there was now a requirement to redistribute some of the extra competitors (in 2008 there were 400 competitors spread across 11 events compared to 380 across 10 now). "We used the extras to do two things: firstly to increase the proportion of women competitors; and secondly to increase the number of nations competing.

"Summarizing overall, women as a percentage in 2008 were at 34.8%, this increases it to 37.6%. This is still well ahead of the 26.6% of the entries at the Sailing World Cup. So we're keeping the Olympic Sailing Competition ahead of what is happening in the reality in the sailing world."

The objectives of the IOC and ISAF within the Olympic Qualification System are broad – spread of nations, places for the world's best sailors, support women's participation, aspirational yet achievable for emerging nations to name a few.

The original proposal put to the Events Committee decreased the entries in the two-person dinghy events (470 men and 470 women) compared to 2008 and at a more significant percentage than any of the other eight events on the Olympic Programme. The 470 men was proposed to decrease from 30 to 25 entries, with the 470 women decreasing from 19 down to 18. However, with evidence based information presented to the Events Committee, a clearer picture of participation levels across the ten Olympic Events was able to be considered. The evidence highlighted that the entry proposal would prohibit many of the world's top 470 sailors from competing as very simply there were not sufficient entry places allocated as well as demonstrating that there was a disproportionate decrease in the percentage of nations being allocated entries in the two-person dinghy events (compared to those nations on the world rankings) with the outcome being that these would be the two events with the least percentage of nations able to compete; a situation clearly did not equitate alongside the other eight Olympic events.

The International 470 Class was delighted that the Events Committee reviewed the proposal and agreed to increase the number of entry places to both the two-person dinghy events, the 470 Men and the 470 Women. This proposal was then subsequently approved by the ISAF Council, ISAF's final decision making body.

Speaking on the outcome of the ISAF Council decision, President of the International 470 Class, Stanislav Kassarov commented, *"The increase in entry places for the 470 Men and 470 Women was certainly required. We recognize the need for quotas in the Olympic Sailing Competition, within the constraints of 380 athletes, but to have a situation where the world's top 470 sailors are unable to compete should not be seen at the Olympic Sailing Competition. The International 470 Class is very pleased with the outcome and we look forward to the world's best competing at the 2012 Olympic Games."*



Credit : Sander van der Borgh

470 ATHLETES



WAKAKO TABATA

RACING SINCE:
1992 in Optimist class

FIRST EVENT COMPETED IN, AND YEAR:

National: the 1993 Yokohama Optimist Regatta in Japan

International: the 1998 Optimist European Championship

SAILING 470'S SINCE:
2001

OCCUPATION:
Full time sailor (sponsored by Abeam Consultings, Inc.)

1. IF YOU CAN DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN 5 WORDS, WHAT WOULD THOSE BE?

I am always happy and cheerful.

2. WHAT MAKES YOU CHOOSE THE 470?

470 is the most suitable boat for the Japanese physique and enables us to compete equally with others around the world

3. WHAT WAS YOUR BEST REGATTA EVER AND WHY?

2009 Sail For Gold Regatta as I came 2nd.

4. WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE THE CREW?

After I lost the Olympic selection to represent Japan at the 2008 Olympics I wondered what to do next. Ai Kondo was looking for a new crew for 2012, so I could see a very bright future to establish a new team with her to use my knowledge and technique converting to a crew side.

5. WHAT IS SAILING THE 470 LIKE IN YOUR COUNTRY?

The 470 class has 40 years of history in Japan and there is expectation for a medal in the Olympic Games so the challenge is always there.

6. WHAT IS THE HARDEST PART OF AN OLYMPIC CAMPAIGN?

Just to keep sailing with a serene state of mind (without any)

7. WHAT IS YOUR BEST CHARACTERISTIC FOR SAILING AND WHY?

Having patience and self control

8. FINALLY, WHAT AIMS AND GOALS DO YOU HAVE FOR THE FUTURE?

To achieve an Olympic medal and improve myself through the sport of sailing

JUAN DE LA FUENTE

RACING SINCE:
1986 in Optimist

FIRST EVENT COMPETED IN AND YEAR:

Optimist, don't remember but many Optimist regattas at home in Argentina since 1986.

STARTED IN 470'S IN :
First 470 event was the 1996 470 World Championships in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

OCCUPATION:
I'm a lawyer by profession, but luckily working in things related to boats now.



1. IF YOU CAN DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN 5 WORDS, WHAT WOULD THOSE BE?

Extremely perseverant, never give up.

2. WHAT MAKES YOU CHOOSE THE 470?

Weight. At the time I began sailing the 470, apart from the Laser, it was the only Olympic class we had in Argentina. But always prefer 3 sails. Now that working and sailing in other boats is quite "easy", it is possible to take some breaks and come back to the class.

3. WHAT WAS YOUR BEST REGATTA EVER AND WHY?

The 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. We prepared ourselves really well for that event, and the venue was very interesting to sail. We never get bored. And of course, we secured the bronze medal.

4. WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE THE CREW?

My dream is not to be the best crew, but to sail an Olympic boat. Before I started crewing in the 470, I used to be the helm and even won a World title in a junior class as helm. But in an Olympic boat, for my height and weight, crewing the 470 was the best option. Nowadays 49er is also a good option but it is too expensive, no tradition in my country, too physical and less tactical than the 470.

5. WHAT IS SAILING THE 470 LIKE IN YOUR COUNTRY?

In Argentina, the fleet is quite small, but we always have two or three talented crews. Nowadays we have some really good young sailors that will for sure improve very quickly.

6. WHAT IS THE HARDEST PART OF AN OLYMPIC CAMPAIGN?

The hardest part is to be away from home. As an Argentinean, is impossible to make short trips to compete on the European circuit. So you are away from home for at least 45 days and can be away for as long as 90 days!

7. WHAT IS YOUR BEST CHARACTERISTIC FOR SAILING AND WHY?

I am really patient, not only in the individual races but also in the whole campaign. I love calling the tactics too.

8. FINALLY, WHAT AIMS AND GOALS DO YOU HAVE FOR THE FUTURE?

My goal is to have fun in our campaign towards London 2012.

We turn dreams to gold...



We know how strong the fire burns inside the aspiring Olympic athlete. We know because we've been there ourselves. The memory of that feeling stays with us right through every step of our meticulous production process. It drives us to produce hulls that are as perfect as humanly possible. And when the many hours of extracting every potential advantage for you are over, it's not just another boat leaving our factory. It's a dream that's now a few steps closer to coming true.



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