

## **ISAF WOMEN'S MATCH RACING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2012**

**25 TO 30 JUNE, ROYAL GOTHENBURG YACHT CLUB, SWE**

A report from the ISAF Technical Delegate Antonio González de la Madrid dated in August 2012.

### **Venue**

The championship was organised by Royal Gothenburg YC. The yacht club provided outstanding facilities ashore and equipment afloat for the success of this event.

### **Teams**

16 Teams representing 12 nations from took part in the event including the defending World Champion, Anna Tunnicliffe from USA. Ten out of the 12 teams selected for London 2012 attended the World Championship.

All the teams were selected following the ISAF World Match Race Ranking list.

### **Organising Committee**

Event Chairman: Peter Klock, GKSS Managing Director  
Project Manager: Anders Andrén  
PRO: Annika Ekman, IRO, SWE  
Chief Umpire: Peter Shrubbs, BER  
Deputy Chief Umpire: Mats Björklund, FIN

The organising committee had great experience in organising Match Race events and did an outstanding job. All of the competitors and race officials were very satisfied.

### **Equipment**

The boats used for the Women's Worlds were Elliot 6m to be sailed with a crew of 3. 8 boats plus were available throughout the event.

All boats were reconditioned and had new sets of spinnakers just before the event so there was equal material on all boats in fantastic conditions.

The number of breakdown flags and breakdowns was very low. Furthermore there was no major damage to any of the boats.

### **Race Committee**

The Race Committee was chaired by Annika Ekman. Annika is a very experience Race Officer, used to run match racing events. However, for a high level event where the competitor's demands are also high, the race officer must delegate some tasks to the team. This caused some mistakes the first day of competition and some teams were given a redress for RC errors. After that, the quality of race management

improved and was of a suitable standard for a World Championship event and all the Race Committee team did a great job.

### Sailing Instructions

The Sailing Instructions were based on the ISAF Standard Sailing Instructions and written by the event director. Once revised by the Chief Umpire and the PRO, there was only one minor amendment approved by the ISAF TD.

### Courses and Format

The race area was very close to the GKSS breakwater with easy access for spectators. There was also a commentator for the many spectators that came around during the week.

The format of racing consisted of a two group round robin, gold and Silver round robin, Semi Finals and Final.

### Umpire Team

Peter Shrubbs	BER	Chief Umpire
Mats Bjorklund	FIN	Deputy Chief Umpire
Alfredo Ricci	ITA	
Charlotte Greppe	SWE	
Sofia Truchanowicz	POL	
Francisco Quiñonero	ESP	
Colette Klaus	NZL	
Tina Ortendahl	SWE	
Eva Andersson	SWE	
Björn Sandell	SWE	NU

### Media

ISAF's Marketing and Media Department contacted the event organisers well in advance to find out media plans. However no response was given ahead of the regatta and the media output was poor throughout the regatta.

Press releases weren't insightful, there was no video and although some lovely images were taken they were hard to access. The website worked well throughout the event and was easy to use. Results flowed and some of the static pages were insightful and gave all the information required.

### Opening and Closing Ceremonies

The opening and closing ceremonies took place at the Pub Incontro, close to hotel and one of the event's sponsors with the presence of ISAF President Göran Petersson, the Commodore of the GKSS and the local authorities.

The opening ceremony which was organised on the evening of the practice day was split into two sections – the official speeches and the presentation of the teams. The event was opened by the ISAF President with the hoisting of the ISAF flag.

Summary

The ISAF Women's Match Race World Championship 2010 was a fantastic event. The Organising Authority – the Royal Gothenburg Yacht Club – gave all their input to make an unforgettable event for both the competitors and Race Officials. The standard of competition was very high and the competitors showed Match Racing on a true world championship level.

## Final Results:

1. Silja Lehtinen (FIN)
2. Anna Tunnicliffe (USA)
3. Sally Barkow (USA)
4. Claire Leroy (FRA)
5. Olivia Price (AUS)
6. Lucy Macgregor (GBR)
7. Ekaterina Skudina (RUS)
8. Renee Groeneveld (NED)
9. Julie Bossard (FRA)
10. Anne-Claire Leberre (FRA)
11. Mandy Mulder (NED)
12. Tamara Echegoyen (ESP)
13. Rita Goncalves (POR)
14. Anna Kjellberg (SWE)
15. Camila Ulrikkeholm (DEN)
16. Silke Hahlbrock (GER)