

International 49er Class Associations

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SEIKO 49er Worlds - Picture Perfect Day

Perfect mediterranean conditions were served up for the second day of racing for the SEIKO 49er World Championship in Zadar, Croatia. These were the kind of conditions where the sailors were able to get the most out of their boat; flat water with tight racing in 8-15 knots in 30 minute races under cloudless skies. Perfect for spectators as well as the two races courses are held just off the SC Uskok's beach and between the neighboring island.

Tobias Schadewaldt and Hannes Baumann, Germany's 2012 Olympic representatives, moved into the lead ahead of Lukasz Przybytek and Pawel Kolodzinski (POL) who are now tied with current 49er World champions Nathan Outteridge and Iain Jensen (AUS) who moved up once the discard came into play.

The top 5 positions for the Olympic qualifying countries are beginning to sort out although there's still several countries in contention. Bermuda brothers Jesse and Zander Kirkland remain at the top of the list sitting in 17th overall followed by Japan's Yukio Makino and Kenji Takahashi. Pietro and Gianfranco Sibello (ITA) are getting back in form in 20th overall. Canada's Gordon Cook and Hunter Lowden, Greek sailors Dionisis Dimou and Mihalis Pateniotis round out the top 5 countries in the hunt.

International Race Officer David Campbell James, who oversaw course A, commented "it was one of the best days sailing we've had, with 4 fantastic starts; we had 3 races for blue and 1 for red, flat water, steady wind, making target time for all the races." He continued, "we started with 7-8 knots in the first race with 12-13 for the last race and incredibly steady wind. Tomorrow we'll have a later start at 12:00."

The forecast is for 12-15 knots for tomorrow's racing with consistent wind and clear skies.

Follow the action on www.49erworlds.org with the end of the qualifying series Wednesday and the finals starting May 10. The prizegiving will be held on May 12

About Seiko

SEIKO has been the main sponsor of the International 49er Class since 2006. Through this agreement, SEIKO has assisted the growth of the sport and has supported the future development of the 49er sailing through the supply of funds and equipment to the new generation of sailors. In return, SEIKO has gained valuable insights into the needs and wishes of the top athletes in world sailing, and is incorporating this knowledge into each new generation of Velatura, its marine watch collection.