

BRITISH NATIONALS (OPEN WEEK) & EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

HAYLING ISLAND - JULY 1999
A good friend of mine, who is very familiar with Hayling Island waters, told me a few months ago that "everything is possible there. Sun, rain, wind, calm..." Well, he was totally right! We got sun and rain, and also all sailing conditions, starting with a very light wind day, but also with some 20 knots races.

After a few years racing separate, the men and the women sailed again together during the British Nationals and Open Week. 151 entries, I must admit that it was really interesting! The boys had big troubles to beat the girls! I think that more than one must decided that he need to train more.

Sari Multala (FIN) won the Open Week thanks to her first place on the last race, followed by Jacek Zbierski (POL), Margriet Matthijsse (NED), Soren Johnsen (DEN) and Christiane Petzke (GER).

Everything was ready for the Europeans. 121 women sailing in 3 groups and 98 men in 2 groups. The first day with very light wind conditions, was a good test for some sailors's nerves. Sari

herself on the 3rd place and she would not move until the end.

On the men, after a bad first day, Jacek climbed day by day on the overall with the permission of Marko Visic (CRO) and Tor Theodorsen (NOR) who performed a good championship as well. The "Danish Army" - Soren Johnsen and Kristian Kjaergaard - wanted the highest places on the podium. The last day was really exciting. On the women's course, before the last race Margriet and Shirley were 1st and 2nd. We



Is it the rendition of Breda? No, just queuing for measurement masts

saw a spectacular match racing pre-start between these two competitors, sailing around 40 other sailors trying to start normally. Never seen before! But a rule 42 yellow flag immediately after the start finished the game for Shirley, and the way was free for Margriet who did not lost the opportunity and finished 4th on that race. Enough to win the Europeans.

And the men, nearly the same! Soren was very bad on the first race (33rd) but Kristian, who could take him the 1st place, only performed an 11th. Winning the last race,

Soren got the Championship, Kristian 2nd and Jacek 3rd.

Just a few words to the Organisers. Well done, correct courses, good starting lines, etc... The general feeling was very positive. Thanks to all the Race Committee and Jury teams and, of course to the Hayling Island Sailing Club staff.

Paul Depoorter - IECU VP Racing

(photos by Ian Bronicki)



(FIN) and Sarah (NZL) on the women's fleet and Jacek (POL) had to carry on the heavy weight of two very bad results until the end of the championship, no more mistakes permitted. Local sailor Shirley Robertson (GBR) and formal World Champion Margriet Matthijsse (NED) fought from the first race to be on the top. Only 1st and 2nd places during the qualification races...not too bad... From the very beginning they were 1st and 2nd, far from the rest.

Sarah Blanck (AUS), discreetly placed



Next EUROPEANS will be in MURCIA - July 2000 and YOUTH EUROPEAN in ITALY (dates to be confirmed).

BRITISH NATIONALS and OPEN WEEK RESULTS

1	SARI MULTALA	FIN 790	21
2	JACEK ZBIERSKI	POL 50	22
3	MARGRIET MATTHIJSSE	NED 6	23
4	SOREN JOHNSEN	DEN 1575	27
5	CHRISTIANE PETZKE	GER 14	36
6	ABBY MASON	NZL 122	39
7	ARIANNA BOGATEC	ITA 1129	45
8	VALERIAN LEBRUN	FRA 7	50
9	SARAH BLANCK	AUS 57	56
10	WERONIKA GLINKIEWICZ	POL 9	63.
16	JAYNE SINGLETON	GBR 352	76

24 countries were represented: AUS, AUT, BEL, CAN, CAY, CRO, DEN, ESP, FIN, FRA, GBR, GER, GRE, IRL, ITA, JPN, NED, NOR, NZL, POL, POR, SUI, SWE, and USA. 49 entries Gold group, 50 Silver group and 51 Bronze group. 17 races were sailed.

EUROPEANS WOMEN RESULTS

1	MARGRIET MATTHIJSSE	NED 6	14
2	SHIRLEY ROBERTSON	GBR 331	20
3	SARAH BLANCK	AUS 67	30
4	MELANIE DENNISON	AUS 50	39
5	KRISTINE ROUG	DEN 1	41
6	SARI MULTALA	FIN 790	44
7	SARAH MACKY	NZL 115	48
8	ABBY MASON	NZL 122	63
9	PETRA NIEMANN	GER 1434	63
10	SHARON FERRIS	NZL 114	71.

27 countries were represented: AUS, AUT, BEL, BLR, CAN, CAY, CRO, CZE, DEN, ESP, FIN, FRA, GBR, GER, GRE, HUN, ITA, IRL, JPN, NED, NOR, NZL, POL, POR, SUI, SWE and USA.

42 entries in each group Gold, Silver and Bronze. Total of entries 126. 20 races were sailed.

EUROPEANS MEN RESULTS

1	SOREN JOHNSEN	DEN 1675	28
2	KRISTIAN KJAERGAARD	DEN 11	39
3	JACEK ZBIERSKI	POL 50	48
4	TOR CHR. THEODORSEN	NOR 882	54
5	MARKO VISIC	CRO 102	51
6	WOUTER VAN CATZ	NED 723	52
7	RICHARD NILSEN	NOR 881	63
8	ALEKSANDER BREKKE	NOR 871	73
9	OLIVER XONIG	GER 1351	82
10	RODRIGUES NUMO	POR 184	87.

18 countries were represented: BEL, BRA, CRO, DEN, ESP, FIN, FRA, GBR, GER, ITA, NED, NOR, POL, POR, SLO, SUI, SWE, USA.

49 entries in each group: Gold and Silver. Total of entries: 98. 15 races were sailed.

1999: MARGRIET MATTHIJSSE and SOREN JOHNSEN'S YEAR who capped their sailing season with both titles:

WORLD AND EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS.

CONGRATULATIONS to these two great sailors.