AUGUST 2013

DINGHY ACADEMY INITIATIVE

DUTCH TRAINING

ZARIF WINS SILVER CUP

FIFTH MASTERS FOR MAIER
Wilke masts congratulates, Giles, Ben and all other Finn champions for their wins and successes at Miami, Palma, Hyères Weymouth, test event, Europaans and Finn Gold Cup during 2011.

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Opening shot: Peter McCoy goes mining in Medemblik

President’s Letter

Dear Finn Sailors,

I am glad to reflect on the events of the last months since the last edition of Finnfare and the forthcoming Finn events of the season.

The ISAF Mid-Year Meeting was held early May in Copenhagen with the 2013-16 ISAF Council and major committees having their first full meetings since the ISAF elections in November 2012. For the first time, the ISAF Council meeting was streamed live on the internet and thus allowed a wider public to follow the debate and decisions of ISAF’s main decision making body. Beside the items on the meeting agenda there was plenty of thought devoted to the reform of the ISAF Sailing World Cup which is one of the main points of President Croce’s agenda. Since Copenhagen the President’s Sailing World Cup Forum has met several times to discuss and define strategy and implementation for a revised regatta circuit which shall become the top event for Olympic classes besides the Olympics. A unified organisational structure, support services offered to attending sailors, appropriate media exposure and the introduction of a prize money scheme are planned to make the new series attractive to sailors, coaches, MNAs, sponsor, media and the wider public. I shall give you further details on the work in progress in due time.

Back to the water, IFA celebrated another highly successful Finn World Master this time in La Rochelle with 285 entries. Special thanks go to the organisers and IFA Master Vice President Fons van Gent. As regards to Fons we also thank him for the tremendous and successful work he invested in reforming the organisational structure of the Finn Masters Worlds and the administration of the Masters department of our association. At the same time we welcome Andy Denison from the UK to whom Fons has now handed over the presidency.

This year saw a novelty on our regatta calendar. When sailing as a sport was not included in the programme for the 2013 World University Summer Games in Kazan, the Russian Finn Association seized the opportunity to create a new sailing event for students – the International University Sailing Cup (Finn). This was held in Moscow and attracted 16 sailors from seven nations. We now plan to hold the International University Sailing Cup in the Finn class every year and thank at the same time Vasiliy Kravchenko, the Russian Finn Association, and the Moscow Sailing School for the devoted work put into the event and FISU President Mr. Gallien (a Finn sailor himself and Olympian) for supporting the initiative.

Looking ahead, as I am writing these lines our Junior Worlds the Finn Silver Cup – Jorg Bruder Trophy – is about the begin at Lake Garda which will then soon followed by the 2013 Finn Open & Junior European Championship in Warnemünde (with already 110+ entries) and the 2013 Finn Gold Cup in Tallinn, at the venue for the 1980 Olympic Sailing Regatta.

On behalf of the IFA Executive may I wish you all the best for the sailing season and especially the above major regattas ahead and wish you fair winds.

Kind regards,

Dr. Balazs Hajdu
HUN-1
IFA President

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Articles, race results, photographs and reports from countries are always welcome. Please include FINNFARE in your mailing for newsletters, bulletins, press releases and race reports.

All advertisement enquiries should also be addressed to the Editor. A media pack is available on www.finnclass.org

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Cover photo: Mark Andrews on his way to a win in Medemblik. (photo Sander van der Borch) Insels: Vasili Zbogar (photo Pavlina Soukopova); Jan Bart (photo Daan bart); Jorge Zarif.

Next issue: November 2013

Back issues: Back issues are available through the Finnshop on the IFA website from GBP 5 each including postage.

IFA WEB SITE
www.finnclass.org

FINN SHOP
www.finnclass.org/shop

FINN MASTERS
www.finnworldmaster.com

THE FINN CHANNEL
www.youtube.com/thefinnchannel

IFA AGM 2013
The 2013 IFA AGM is scheduled for the 24th of August in Tallinn during the Finn Gold Cup. The agenda will be published on www.finnclass.org as soon as it has been finalised.

All current bids for 2015 and 2016 events have already been posted on the IFA website.

ISAF Worlds 2014
The 2013 FGc in Tallinn will be used as qualification for the 2014 ISAF Worlds in Santander. As such, this event’s entries will be strictly following the quota.

European Finn Masters 2013
This year the event is being held at Tihany, Lake Balaton in Hungary from 12-15 September. The organising authority is Tihanyi Hajós Egylet (THE) www.thesail.hu and the event website is at http://finnmastersec.org.

Helen Coolidge
Gus Miller writes: Helen Coolidge died on June 26, 2013 in Marblehead, MA at 4am, about when she usually got up – before anyone else. Many Finn sailors from all over the world stayed at her home during Finn regattas in Marblehead. She also arranged much housing for others including the 2001 Finn Gold Cup in Marblehead. Some will remember the sailing parties at her home.

Open Russian 2013
The Organising Committee of Open Russian invites you to the international regatta Open Russian 2013, which includes also Open Russian Finn Association Championship 2013 and Open Russian Finn Masters Championship, National Russian Junior Championship and the Championship of Russian Students Sport Union.

The event will be held on Klyazma and Pirogovo Lakes in Moscow on September 3-9, from the Moscow Sailing School. It is expected to have fleet of over 70 boats at the start, including sailors from Russia, Italia, Estonia, Ukraine, Finland, Belarus, Litvania. Kyrgyzstan.

Juniors have free entry and charter boats are available for EUR 40 a day.

The sailing world paused in disbelief, horror and then grief on May 9, 2013 as one of the sport’s most popular characters and greatest competitors lost his life in San Francisco Bay while doing something he loved. Andrew Simpson leaves a wife and young family behind but also a sailing community that showed their affection for him with an amazing number of personal tributes and reflections. The level of esteem and respect that a person invokes sometimes only becomes apparent after their passing, and this was especially true in Bart’s case.

Bart joined the Finn class in 2000 and immediately made his mark with a win at the 2000 UK National Championships in Weymouth, which was the training event for the 2000 Finn Gold Cup. His best friend Iain Percy won Olympic gold in Sydney later that year and left Bart as the leading UK contender going towards the 2004 Olympics, where he probably would have medalled. However with Ben Ainslie joining the fleet in 2001, Bart was left in the capacity of training partner to Ben and had to wait until 2008 for his Olympic moment, of course with Iain in the Star.

Bart’s greatest success in the Finn was a bronze medal at the 2003 Finn Gold Cup/ISAF Worlds in Cadiz behind Ben and Rafa Trujillo. He was part of the group of British Finn sailors who transformed the UK Finn fleet into the strongest Finn nation in the world. He inspired many and his legacy is ongoing, with many victories this year dedicated to Bart’s memory for the inspiration he provided.

He will be missed by many and his passing leaves a huge void in many people’s lives,

New Finn Masters President

At the Annual Masters Meeting during the 2013 Finn World Masters in La Rochelle, Fons van Gent stepped down as Masters President. He was replaced by Andy Denison (right) from Great Britain, the former President of the British Finn Association. Fons was presented with a Finn half model and received a very long standing ovation for his work over the past five years.

From all Master Finn sailors, thanks you Fons for your professionalism and commitment to the Finn class and welcome Andy.

ISAF Silver Medal for Richard Hart

Congratulations to Richard Hart, the Chairman of the Finn Class Technical Committee, who received an ISAF Silver Medal for his contribution to ISAF and to sailing. An ISAF silver medal is awarded to individuals who have contributed, in a significant way, to the success of the Federation.

Richard has sailed Finns for over half a century and the 2013 Finn Gold Cup will mark the 50th anniversary of his first Finn Gold Cup. He became Chairman of the Technical Committee in 1989.

International Classes Committee (ICC) Chairman Jeff Martin said, “It was my pleasure to nominate Richard for an ISAF silver medal. Richard is an individual who has contributed to the success of the Federation by his tireless and ongoing work in technical matters in the Finn class and working within and alongside ISAF technical committees. He pioneered the use of the ISAF standard class rules format by leading the Finn class through a lengthy conversion process a project that took over a year of his time.”

Richard said, “For many years submissions about Class Rule amendments were made at the ISAF Annual November Meeting, so when I was appointed Chairman of the Technical Committee I had to attend – we seem to need alterations most years.”

“In 2004 I was appointed to represent the ICC on the Equipment Control Sub Committee, and vice-versa. I am very proud to have been one of very few people nominated by a Committee, not by a Member National Authority. However, being without MNA support I could not have accepted the posts without the full financial support of the Finn Class. In 2012 I stood down on age grounds.”

“Over the years, many Finn sailors and ex-Finn sailors have put something back into our sport through service with ISAF, and I am delighted to be associated with that distinguished group by the award of a medal.”
**Editorial**

FINNFARE has served many purposes over its more than 50 years of existence, bringing the news and latest developments to Finn sailors across the world. These days news is only really news for 24 hours and then it becomes history. We can now find out results, read reports and look at photos from Finn regattas almost in real time. A lot of people prefer to get their news in this way and some even prefer to read FINNFARE on their tablets rather than receive the hard copy. This is fine, but the printed page will still be around for the foreseeable future.

There have been several suggestions in recent years that FINNFARE should move to a purely electronic version. While electronic data can disappear with a flick of a switch, the printed version is an actual material entity. It is something you can give to a friend or potential sailor and will survive the test of time independent of technological advances.

Since 1961 there have been 144 issued published. Physical distribution peaked in the 1960s and today the print run is about half what it was in those years, even though it is at its highest level for 20 years; in addition each issue is read another 1,000 times per year on our online ebook platform. Over the past 52 years nearly half a million copies of FINNFARE have been printed and distributed all over the world. Many of these still exist in archives and sailors libraries worldwide, and are cherished.

Thus the printed version is not just a communication and marketing tool for the class, it is a real physical archive of the history of the class. That’s why the editorial is principally focussed on recording the activities and regattas of the class in as complete a manner as the space available allows. The move to full colour three years ago was the result of technological advances that would have been unthinkable, and unaffordable, even 10 years ago. We try to move with the times even though we remain entrenched in the ancient tradition of the printed page.

Advancing technology also provides us with other options for publishing. An ongoing project for the class is the digitalisation of back issues of FINNFARE, starting with the first issues in 1961. If anyone has originals of the first issues please get in touch. This is a time consuming and hard disc hogging exercise, but how we finally offer this work is still to be decided. Watch this space.

**The best seat in the house**

Sometimes it is just better to sit and watch the racing than take part. This ‘famous’ Dutch Finn sailor picks the prime seat at the windward mark. The best caption, naming the sailor, gets included in the next Finnfare. Photo thanks to Daan Bart. For more of his work see page 29.
RYA launches two eBooks

The UK’s Royal Yachting Association has released two new eBooks; Rules and Cases 2013-16 and the Handy Guide to Racing Rules.

The Rules and Cases eBook is a revolutionary tool that brings together rules and cases in one location for the first time. It will also help individuals present their case in the protest room as well as providing judges with easy access to the relevant case information.

Within the eBook readers will find a Rules Index and a Cases Index including details of the rules that affect all competitors, appendices that apply to particular kinds of racing and rules affecting only a small number of competitors or officials. The Cases Index has a detailed database that can accessed by year or case number, as well as a text search facility. There is a video at http://youtu.be/P52kM0TsxBE

The Handy Guide eBook extends the hard copy version with video animation and commentary to bring the rules to life. Chris Watts, RYA Race Officials Education Officer (and regular jury member at the Finn World Masters) is the voice of the new eBook. He said, “Turning the handy guide into an eBook means we can bring a bit of action to the text and help explain the complexities of the rules and an easy to follow fashion. Again there is a video at http://youtu.be/JVauH1F6dBk

Both eBooks are available to download via the RYA Books app from both the App Store and Google Play.

US Sailing Olympic Scholarship

At a celebration in New York, NY on June 4, the US Olympic Committee presented the Jacques Rogge Olympic Pathways Scholarship, which will be administered by US Sailing. Named for International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge, a three-time Olympian in the Finn class, the scholarship will award one young American sailor a full racing course in 2014 at Oakcliff Sailing, a USA Sailing Team Training Center in Oyster Bay, NY. The sailor will be selected by US Sailing’s Olympic Sailing Committee at the 2013 US Youth Sailing Championships in Corpus Christi, Texas, scheduled for August 12-16.

“During Mr. Rogge’s tenure at the International Olympic Committee, he has worked tirelessly for athletes and the ideals of fair sport around the world,” said Josh Adams, Managing Director of US Olympic Sailing. “We are proud to support the USOC and pay tribute with this scholarship, which honours his accomplishments as a sailor and an Olympian, and inspire the next generation of sailors with a dream to one day stand on the podium and represent the USA.”

The Jacques Rogge Olympic Pathways Scholarship will provide complete tuition at Oakcliff Sailing for one full course, funding that young athlete’s development in competitive sailing in a high-standard sailing curriculum. The scholarship winner will be announced September 1, 2013.

Rogge was granted honorary membership in US Sailing and with it, official team gear from the US Sailing Team, the national sailing team comprised of 42 men and women who are campaigning for a berth on the 2016 US Olympic and Paralympic Sailing Teams.

An Olympic Finn dinghy was present at the celebration to symbolise athleticism and competition in the Olympic Games, and was adorned in the colours of the US Sailing Team.

Half models

Over the last few years there have been Finn half models available through the Finnshop on the IFA website (www. finnclass.org/shop). These models have now all but sold out, but the Finnshop is now offering a smaller, cheaper version of the same half model.

These new models are 340 mm by 170 mm in size (the hull itself is 260 mm long). The hulls are now a solid resin construction on a mahogany backing board. Other sizes and configurations available on request. They are in stock now and are priced at £70 plus shipping at cost.

They also make idea prizes (see NA Championship) and bulk orders are welcome with discounts available.

Polish Finn History

‘Klasa Finn - An important chapter in the history of Polish sailing’ was published in October 2012 by the Polish Yachting Association and was authored and compiled by Apolinary Pastuszko, who also contributed a chapter to ‘Photo FINNish’ on the history of Finn sailing in Poland.

His book is a truly remarkable and wonderful history of the class in Poland and spans some 460 pages and includes more than 1,000 photographs, hundreds of which are from the 1950s and 1960s and have rarely been seen.

The book is written all in Polish but holds a great deal of interest for Finn sailors worldwide. There are more details and ordering information on the Polish Finn Class page at http://www.finnclass.pl/ksiazka_finn_apastuszko.html
The fifth edition of the ISAF Sailing World Cup brings many changes to the format. There were just four events this time, in Melbourne, Miami, Palma and Hyères. At each event a different scoring format was used to trial various ideas for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

### 3. ISAF Sailing World Cup Palma

#### Final results - Palma 2013

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q=qualification series; c/f=carry forward score; f=finals series; mr=medal race

11 USA 6 Caleb Paine | 73 | 26 | POR 5 | Frederico Melo | 148 |
12 ESP 7 Alejandro Muscat | 79 | 27 | EST 11 | Lauri Vainsalu | 154 |
13 SWE 6 Bjorn Allansson | 76 | 28 | RUS 57 | Egor Terpigorev | 150 |
14 ITA 146 Michele Paolletti | 92 | 29 | ESP 669 | Pablo Guitian | 160 |
15 ITA 11 Giorgio Poggi | 93 | 30 | CZE 1 | Michael Maior | 160 |
16 SWE 33 Max Salminen | 103 | 31 | AUS 41 | Jake Lilley | 160 |
17 TUR 21 Alicant Kaynar | 123 | 32 | ESP 161 | Miguel Fernandez Vasco | 164 |
18 HUN 40 Zsombor Berecz | 126 | 33 | ITA 117 | Enrico Voltolini | 171 |
19 UKR 5 A Gusenko | 119 | 34 | GBR 29 | Peter McCoy | 175 |
20 RUS 9 Eduard Skornyakov | 132 | 35 | NED 83 | Timo Haagoort | 185 |
21 CZE 85 Tomas Vika | 136 | 36 | BRA 109 | Jorge Zarin | 216 |
22 RUS 1 Alexey Selivanov | 136 | 37 | POL 1 | Milosz Wojewski | 39 |
23 CRO 69 Milan Vujasinovic | 135 | 38 | BRA 18 | James Hadden | 30 |
24 UKR 1 Oleksiy Borysov | 135 | 39 | RUS 111 | Anrei Ianitski | 41 |
25 BRA 1 Bruno Prada | 138 | 40 | RUS 5 | Viktor Filippov | 44 |

### Giles Scott

Giles Scott took a narrow victory over Pieter-Jan Postma in the double medal race finale to the Trofeo S.A.R. Princesa Sofia MAPFRE in Palma de Mallorca as ISAF trialled another new scoring and race format for the week. An opening series of six races was only really relevant to the few that performed well as many used the carry forward score as their discard. The there was a five race finals series with gold and silver fleets before the two double-points medal races.

Scott dominated early on only to have Postma close the gap in the final two races, having discarded his opening series score. In the end Scott outscored Postma in the medal races to take the win while his teammates Andrew Mills and Mark Andrews won a medal race apiece.

In general the sailors were unhappy with the scoring format as they felt it placed more emphasis on conditions than consistency.
**Final results - Hyeres 2013**

|   | GBR  | 85 | Andrew Mills | 7 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 23 |
|---|------|----|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|    |
| 2 | GBR  | 41 | Giles Scott  | 2 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 35 |
| 3 | NZL  | 24 | Josh Junior  | 4 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 25 | 3 | 4 | 49 |
| 4 | NED  | 842| Pieter Jan Postma | 3 | 2 | 7 | 6 | bdf | 16 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 56 |
| 5 | FRA  | 29 | Thomas Le Breton | 15 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 59 |
| 6 | FRA  | 112| Jonathan Lobert | 13 | 1 | 2 | 9 | bdf | 7 | 12 | 4 | 8 | 67 |
| 7 | GBR  | 11 | Edward Wright | 10 | 13 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 14 | 14 | 5 | 7 | 72 |
| 8 | SLO  | 573| Vasilij Zbogar | 1 | 12 | 6 | 12 | bdf | 6 | 7 | 9 | 74 |
| 9 | GBR  | 88 | Mark Andrews | 28 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 86 |
| 10 | AUS  | 261| Oliver Tweedell | 8 | 11 | 31 | 10 | 19 | 4 | 7 | 10 | 6 | 91 |

**c/f=carry forward from opening series; mr=medal race**

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**A similar scoring system to Palma was used in Hyeres except that the two day opening series carry forward position became a non-discardable race score in the seven race final series.**

Vasilij Zbogar sailed the best opening series in generally light winds but his 10 point lead evaporated to just 1 point as the final series began. Then the wind increased and the others made their gains as he fell down the table.

Giles Scott took a six point lead into the medal race from Andrew Mills, but with 40 points on offer, anyone in the top eight could theoretically have taken the win. That was more than the total points they had amassed over the first 10 races.

A mixed week of conditions ended with light wind and light rain, with two tricky races to decide the title. It was always going to be a day of two battles on the water. Scott and Mills were always going to be fighting for the top spot while the rest of the fleet could theoretically take bronze.

Mills took first blood in the opening race with a confidence boosting win from Scott and Josh Junior. Thomas Le Breton won the final race and while Mills won his first ever major ever with a third, Scott got it all wrong to slip to 10th and had to settle for the silver. A consistent week for Junior left him with the bronze.

The scoring format was again unpopular with the sailors, though some who sailed a poor opening series benefited from the two part regatta. Meanwhile, Mills’ victory earned him a nomination for Seahorse Magazine Sailor of the Month award for June, which he ended up winning as well.
EUROSAF Champions Sailing Cup 2013

1. Fraglia Vela Garda, Italy

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The scoring experiments continued into the new Eurosaf series, with the first event at Garda, where the top six sailors took their place in the 12 race opening series into the final race.

The final race lasted around 20 minutes with winds from the south from 9-10 knots. Ed Wright went into the race having amassed a 15 point lead over Deniss Karpak, but with the new scoring only had a one point advantage. Karpak, meanwhile had a 49 point lead over Piotr Kula, but with Kula winning the final race and Karpak in fifth, Kula moved up from sixth overall to third. Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic also benefited from this and moved up one place to second after the final race. Needless to say, the scoring system was not very popular with most of the sailors.
2. Delta Lloyd Regatta, Medemblik, Netherlands

Final results - Delta Lloyd Regatta 2013

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IRS = Initial race score, MR = Medal race

The second Eurosaf event took place in Medemblik with again the top six going into the final race with their opening series points advantage reduced to their finishing place in the series. Pieter-Jan Postma was clearly the best sailor of the opening series, winning seven out of the 12 races to lead Mark Andrews by 17 points.

However after a heart breaking medal race where the overall lead changed hands several times, Andrews took his first ever major event. He said, “It was down to the wire. I was able to make up some places and in the end it turned my way.” Postma said, “I was not aggressive enough in this race. I should have followed my own line without worrying about the other sailors.” Andrew Mills won the medal race with an impressive lead and narrowly took bronze after going into the race in sixth, in spite of counting a black flag disqualification score.

3. Sail for Gold, Weymouth, UK

Final Results - Sail for Gold 2013

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Mark Andrews took his second gold in a row at the Sail for Gold Regatta in Weymouth in a very small all British fleet. The battle went right down to the wire between Andrews and Andrew Mills with two points between them. With Mills capsizing within the first 30 seconds of the medal race, Andrews sailed to an easy victory.

He said, “It’s been close between me and Andrew all week and it was just down to whoever did the best today in the final medal race. It was a bit disappointing to see him capsize early on in the race as it would have been good to have a good ‘ding dong’ battle all the way down to the final pump on the last wave but a win is a win.”

“The key has just been consistency and to just keep chipping away. I keep on talking about Bart being an inspiration but that was what he always said, to just keep chipping away and to never let your head drop, and to just continue to go for it which is what I have been doing.”
The fourth event of the Eurosaf Champions Cup was another former ISAF World Cup venue. Kiel Week attracted the second largest attendance out of the Eurosaf events so far, but with many of the big names still missing. The high point of the week was undoubtedly 27 year old Mark Andrews winning his third gold medal in a row. This time he did it in style, winning the first four races to lead from start to finish. He wrapped up a great week with a medal race win. Having not won a major event before this year, he has now taken three and while there will be much harder competition at the Europeans and Finn Gold Cup later in the year, the confidence that winning an event produces must have some knock on effect in the bigger events.

He said, “We had good breeze all week with 10-20 knots. It’s been quite shifty which means the fleet has been up and down all week so it has been really good to keep consistent and to be in the top three all but one race. The key has definitely been my boat speed, I have been sailing really quick which is nice to see. The medal race was the windiest day of the regatta and I would always back myself in the breeze. It was quite shifty though and a very short course, so quite tough but I was happy to cap off the regatta with a win and the gold medal.’

He admitted that the boost in confidence from winning regattas has been a fundamental factor in his recent run of success. “I think that has been the key really over the past few regattas, you win one or two events and your confidence is sky high, you’re going quick in the boat and you don’t necessarily take notice of the other sailors as you’re happy knowing that you’re fast and therefore you start to believe in yourself. You start to concentrate on the sailing rather than watching everyone else and start extending at the front – it’s then pretty easy from there on in really.”

“I’m definitely getting better and better as the year goes on and it’s nice to be peaking just in time for the two key events of the year - the Europeans and Worlds. There have been a few people missing from the events so I wouldn’t count my chickens too much at the moment, but you can only beat the people who turn up to the regattas and to win three golds in a row is pretty good.”

The Eurosaf series concludes with the Semaine Olympique Français at La Rochelle in October. In spite of three regatta wins, Andrews only holds a one point series advantage over Andrew Mills, who is the only sailor to have picked up points in every regatta so far. Piotr Kula is third, eight points behind Mills.
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The 2013 Finn World Masters in La Rochelle, France attracted the largest entry ever for a Finn event. There were 285 registered Finns entered with the massive fleet split into two starts of around 140 boats each. The other major factor of the week was the bad weather. The sunshine of the training days disappeared in strong winds, low temperatures and continuous rain for most of the week. However the racing was fantastic with most sailors enjoying the great sailing conditions off La Rochelle.

Day one
The wind was 12-14 knots and a big swing in the wind on the first upwind for yellow fleet came back just in time for Erik Lidecis to lead round the top mark and extend to win. He was followed across the finish by Lars Hall and defending champion Michael Maier. Lidecis then led the second race from start to finish again, this time with Marc Allain des Beauvais in second and Maier again in third.

Both races in the Blue fleet were won by Budzien, though he had a harder time than Lidecis. In the first race Tauras Rymonis led at the first mark with Budzien in third. Budzien pulled through downwind to take the win. In the second race he rounded the top mark in 30th but with Oscar up for free pumping, he surged through to the lead. He lost two on the next upwind but retook the lead on the final downwind to win his second race of the day.

After the first two races, three times champion Andre Budzien shared the lead with Erik Lidecis, who was sailing his first Masters. Karl Purdie, also in his first year in the Finn, was in third after a 4, 2. It was a big bay for the black flag with 39 disqualifications across both fleets in the second race.

Day two
Tuesday opened bleak in with strong winds, rain and low temperatures. By race time, things were marginally better. The rain had stopped and the breeze had stabilised at 10-12 knots. The sun almost showed its face between races, but then the wind kicked back in for the windiest race so far. In spite of all this it was another great day’s sailing, ending with a fantastic reach back to La Rochelle as the wind peaked at 15-16 knots.

The groups were decided using Monday’s overall results. Regatta leaders Budzien and Lidecis were split, with Budzien having a slightly better day to stay at the top, while Lidecis slipped one place, but just one point behind. Four times champion Michael Maier moved up to third, just four points off the lead, but with a win in race four, he matched Budzien’s points for the day.

The yellow group got away first with the left side proving favoured. The leading group included Ray Hall and Rymonis who crossed in second and third, but it was Budzien who took the win. Towards the end the wind...
**Final Results - Finn World Masters 2013**

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**Legends:**
1. Friedrich Muller (GER), 2. [missing] Minski Fabris (CRO), 3. Howard Sellars (GBR)

Really faded away and it almost warmed up, but then a solid and increasing 10-12 knots kicked in for the fourth race which started at the third attempt under black flag. After a big left shift just before the start, which left a lot struggling on the right, Rymonis was again up front, this time with Uli Breuer ahead and Maier chasing hard. Maier worked his way through to take the lead for his first win with Breuer second and Rymonis third. Between them Breuer and Rymonis had the best day across both fleets.

In the blue fleet a lot of the favourites were struggling in the first race, but Paul Blowers took a great win after rounding the top mark in fifth. He crossed the finish just ahead of Svend Vogt Andersen with Marco Buglieli in third. Lidecis crossed in seventh to lose the overall lead. The fourth blue fleet race also had problems getting away. With the wind increasing Purdie found his way to the front to take the win from Karel van Hellemond and Lidecis. However it was not to be Purdie’s day as he picked up a DNE in the first race of the day after failing to retire from the race following a second yellow flag Rule 42 penalty.

**Day three**
The third day was moving day with many changes at the top and several favourites picking up high scores after only one race was sailed. The day had started with the Annual Masters Meeting where Andy Denison replaced Fons van Gent as

**Legends:**

The top 10 getting ready for the medal race.
Masters President and Kavala in Greece was chosen as the venue for 2015.

Maier sailed a flawless race to claim his second race win and take the overall lead. Budzien sailed one he would probably prefer to forget and dropped to second, while Lidecis placed seventh to end the day on equal points with Budzien.

The forecast for the day was not good. The weather chart showed just 4-6 knots of wind, though as the sun was trying to break through the grey cloud and for the first time in the week it was starting to feel warm. The sailors set out for the race area in just a few knots of wind and it looked like a different place from the last few days.

However as it got closer to the start the wind picked up to 8-10 knots with complete cloud cover and a distinct drop in temperature. The races were characterised by a gradual shift in the breeze to the right with those who chose the right side looking very pleased with themselves at the top mark.

In the Yellow fleet, Rainer Wolff was first round the top mark from Thomas Schmidt, the 1998 Finn Gold Cup winner. Schmidt had taken the lead by the next leg and extended on the fleet for a nice win. Wolff maintained second place, while Allen Burrell moved through to take third at the bottom of the second downwind and held it until the finish.

Maier dominated Blue fleet, leading from start to finish after also starting on the right and benefiting from a sizeable right shift that left those further right footing off to lay the mark. Second placed Neil Robinson rounded the top mark about fifth and worked through the boats while the French battle for third was won by Laurent Hay from Marc Allain des Beauvais. Lidecis lost some places on the final downwind to cross in seventh, leaving Maier in the overall lead from Budzien (who finished 29th in Yellow fleet) and Lidecis.

Day four

Too much wind spoilt the show on Thursday. With the wind whistling through the rigging all morning the sailors waited ashore under postponement for a final announcement at 14.30. By this time the wind afloat had moderated to 14-16 knots and the first fleet was sent out. However by the time they got there it was a solid 24-26 knots and the fleet was turned around and sent straight back in.

Day five

The final day of the was made more difficult by the strong winds and early rain showers that swept through the area. The day began with the first final colour grouping races for all but the top 10. A much reduced fleet headed out into a solid 15-16 knot very cold breeze and were met by an approaching rainstorm.

The medal race was held much later at 15.30 after one general recall in well in excess of 20 knots. Sailed in the narrow channel just off the marina it was a gusty, shifty race that generally favoured the right side under the town. Maier escaped from a poor start on the first attempt but made the best of the second start to lead round the entire race.

Karel van Hellemont was flagged out of the start for infringing another boat’s water and started last. However he was back in contention at the top mark and moved into a comfortable second place on the second upwind. Third place in the race finally went to Budzien after a close battle with the chasing pack.

This all meant no overall change in the leading three boats with Maier taking a well deserved and record equalling fifth World Masters title after undoubtedly the toughest of all his five Masters titles. Budzien, the three times champion, took the silver while newcomer Lidecis took the bronze.

And as if the sailors had not had enough of the bad weather, the rain returned briefly during the prizegiving ceremony outside the Société des Régates Rochelaises. It was a fitting ending to the regatta. Next year the Finn World Masters heads to Sopot in Poland.
Egor Terpigorev wins first International University Sailing Cup

Moscow hosted first the International University Sailing Cup, which was held under endorsement of the International University Sports Federation (FISU) prior to the World University Summer Games - Universiade “Kazan 2013” – from May 28 to June 2. The event was organised by Russian Finn Association and Russian Sports Students Union.

Sixteen sailors (including two women) from seven nations (Great Britain, France, Italy, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine and Russia) were fighting for the first International Cup for students in the Finn class.

The Race Committee was headed by experienced PRO Pierluidgi De Luise, and the jury was international: with representatives from Italy, Greece, Romania and Russia; Thanks to their competence, but also to their friendly attitude, the regatta was a great sailing event.

The regatta started with light winds so the race committee only managed to carry out only two races on the first day. Peter McCoy, a British student from Plymouth University, England, won the first race, while the second race was won by Egor Terpigorev from the Moscow sailing school Khlevnikovo.

After the first race Peter McCoy commented, “Today was a difficult start to the regatta. We had two light and shifty races. The first race was good for me. I managed to stay in phase with the shifts upwind and had good speed downwind. This enabled me to win the first race. The second race was again shifty and difficult. Unfortunately, I sailed into a wind hole on the last downwind and lost a few places. But overall I’m happy with the first day, and tomorrow is another day. All the competitors are very competitive and welcoming. It’s a good first experience in Moscow.”

The next two days passed without any races taking place. Making the most of the time, the head of the International Jury Piero Occhetto carried out mini Rule 42 seminar for the sailors.

On June 1, the wind came back to Moscow and another two races were held. Actually there were three races, but the last one was abandoned due to very shifty conditions. Victor Filippov won both races that day and took the lead of the regatta, followed by Egor Terpigorev, the previous regatta, and Ilya Ignatiev.

On the last day, it was planned to carry out one medal race and one final race in the front of the Moscow Sailing School. But the good wind conditions of that day and strong desire of all sailors to continue the battle on the water moved organisers to keep the racing area at the same place as before and to carry out another two fleet races before the medal race.

The Principal Race Officer commented, “The last day of the races has wiped out the impression of Moscow as of the lake without wind. Moscow can really have good winds and we are able to make the good races.”

The first race of the last day was won by Arkadiy Kistanov with Terpigorev in second. The second race of that day went to Terpigorev. He approached on the leader, Filippov, both on equal points before the medal race, while Kistanov was in third with Ignatiev and Konstantin Lashuk very close behind.

| RUS 57 | Egor Terpigorev | 4 1 2 (6) | 1 2 | 1 | 2 | 11 |
| RUS 5  | Viktor Filippov  | 2 3 1 1 (4) | 3 2 | 12 |
| RUS 6  | Arkadiy Kistanov | (10) 2 6 7 3 1 5 | 24 |
| KGZ 5  | Iliya Ignatiev   | 3 (11) 3 2 6 7 3 | 24 |
| BLR 18 | Konstantin Lashuk | (7) 4 7 3 2 5 4 | 25 |
| GBR 29 | Peter McCoy     | 1 (10) 10 5 4 6 | 31 |

Final Results - University Cup 2013
The medal race decided the final order of the leaders. Terpigorev managed to win the duel with Filippov, while Kistanov saved his third place, although it was done with zero margin right to the end.

The prizegiving ceremony was held in very warm and friendly atmosphere - each participant received a diploma of the regatta. The Russian Finn Association prepared special gifts for foreign guests (sailors and judges) - unique copies of the Finn boat, which were made in Gzhel style (the famous Russian national handicraft).

The famous Russian Finn sailors Oleg Khoperskiy and Victor Potapov awarded top three young sailors. It was more pleasant for Khoperskiy since all three top sailors were coached by him during last year.

The guest of the regatta – the executive director of the Russian Students Sport Union Oleg Khramtsov spoke of the high level of the regatta. He said, “We see growing interest in the students sailing sport and the good organisation skills of the Russian Finn Association as well as the perfect venue of the Moscow Sailing School for the events of such level. It is very important to continue carrying out this regatta annually and to make it traditional.”

The president of Russian Finn Association Vasily Kravchenko commented, “There is an idea to hold the International University Sailing Cup (Finn) annually at the end of August, since that time is always windy in Moscow as well as that time is more convenient for students. We congratulate all students and Finn sailors with a good international event as well as first international event for students in the Finn class and hope to see you in Moscow again at Open Russian (September 2-9).”

All photos (c) Anna Geroeva
Top: Winner of race 1 Peter McCoy
Far left: Viktor Filippov
Top left: (l-r): Oleg Khopersky, Viktor Filippov, Vasily Kravchenko (kneeling), Egor Terpigorev, Arkady Kistanov, Stanislav Oreshkin Victor Potapov, and Anton Khramtsov (Executive Director of Russian Students Sport Union)
Earlier this year the Finn class announced a co-operation agreement with the Dinghy Academy in Valencia to fund and train aspiring Olympians from developing Finn nations. The class committed to part fund the training of four sailors at the Dinghy Academy in 2013, with the intention this will continue through to 2016. The hope is that at least some of the recipients will qualify for the 2016 Olympic sailing regatta.

As well as providing coaching, boats, logistics and a training base, the agreement includes the opportunity for sailors who are considering joining the toughest of all Olympics classes to have five days free use of the equipment and facilities in Valencia. Interested sailors should contact the class and those from new countries to the class would be especially welcome.

This new scheme comes under the auspices of the FIDeS programme (Finn International Development Support), created in 2006 as a way to channel funds and expertise within the class towards sailors from nations trying to develop Finn sailing.

The Dinghy Academy is the brainchild of Luca Devoti, the 2000 Olympic silver medalist and long-term builder of the Finn through Devoti Sailing. He explained the concept of the Academy. “We have put together a well-assorted team of Olympic champions from various countries in one high-level training centre under the guidance of some of the world’s top specialists.”

“We offer top coaching, charter Finns and a team of dedicated sailors led by Vasilij Zbogar showing how to get better at Finn sailing and how to get to know your inner being to master it and to have a real chance at winning.”

“The joint venture with the Finn class is working at further internationalising the sport, attracting new countries to the ultimate sailing challenge, the Finn.”

Valencia

Valencia has proved a popular training venue for Finn sailors for many years because of its excellent conditions afloat and great facilities ashore. This began in the lead up to the 2007 America’s Cup where sailors from various teams sailed Finns in their spare time, so it was a natural choice for the Academy.

A large number of sailors have already used the Academy for their winter training, while the first two recipients of the Finn class grants were Alejandro Foglia, and Agustín Zabalua. Foglia is a three-time Olympian in the Laser class, while Zabalua is a highly experienced dinghy and keelboat sailor.

All Finn sailors are welcome to join the programme. Historically Finn sailors have always been a strong community, a group of friends sharing the same passion. The vision for the Academy is to become a centre to meet, exchange experiences and get better at the game. In return, the sailors receiving grants are expected to commit to specified training and a limited event programme.

If recipients of the grants do not have their own boats, the Dinghy Academy can also help. Devoti said, “We provide them with boats, as we are doing for Zabalua and Foglia, and we can also take their boats to regattas.”

International Finn Association (IFA) president Balazs Hajdu explains how this programme fits in with the Finn class development policy. “Sailors from nations that are developing Finn sailing mostly experience a lack of technical knowledge, such as tuning and boat handling skills. The Dinghy Academy and its coaches provides this know-how in addition to providing a training camp opportunity and regatta logistics, as well as of course the camaraderie among sailors. There is also an economies of scale factor in the project which is vital for sailors with low funding.”

“IFA is keen on further globalising Finn sailing and therefore supports projects which enable sailors to experience these advantages. The project is run in the framework of FIDeS which has been in operation for the last seven years and enabled Finn sailors from India, Venezuela and Cyprus to sail in the Olympics.”

If you are an aspiring Finn sailor from a developing Finn nation and wish to take advantage of the opportunities of this programme then please email Finn class executive director Corinne McKenzie at corinne.mckenzie@orange.fr.

www.dinghyacademy.com
Reflection

On his way to the Finn World Masters in La Rochelle Gus Miller spent a few days at the Dinghy Academy training and preparing. Here are his reflections of the experience.

There is a new professional sailing school for racing in Valencia, Spain called the Dinghy Academy. Based on the seven training sessions I took part in, Luca Devoti has something powerful going with this Dinghy Academy he has created. In the next couple of years, the potential is that this Academy is going to raise the level in the Finn Class yet further.

Air, rail and road transportation to Valencia is easy. The fast train from Madrid to Valencia goes faster than a jet airliner at takeoff rotation. The happy logistics master of the Academy is Gabriele Uboldi who ran the logistics for the five year +39 America’s Cup campaign. Gabriele can solve almost any problem as if by magic as I found out during two weeks of travelling Valencia - La Rochelle and campaigning with him.

While I was there, the levels went from lowest - me, who aspired to complete all races at the Masters to medium - Karim from Tunisia, who aspires to qualify for Rio to highest - Vasilij Zbogar from Slovenia who aspires to improve on his Laser Bronze and Silver medals, to Gold in Rio. There was refinement and improvement going on at all these levels.

There have been a few exceptional coaches I have worked with during my eight Olympics coaching career including David Howlett (United Kingdom), Victor Kovalenko (Ukraine), Mike Fletcher (Australia) and Andrzej Zawieja (Poland). While each has multiple medalsists in multiple classes, it is their unique human qualities that set them apart as anyone who knows them will agree. Luca has the potential to join this group. He has the extensive technical knowledge, the eye for seeing tiny detail, the ability to explain something simply and to the point and most importantly the ability to make a very high standard be fun for those he is working with. Additionally, Luca can coach fluently in Italian, Spanish, French, Portuguese, German, English and is presently adding Russian.

It is also a good deal because the Academy is complete for a reasonable fee. For 120 Euro a day the Academy provides a boat, rig, lodging, physical training in a gym and pool with an excellent trainer, physio support including an outside masseuse, close up video of each training session, and the psychological support of like minded people - a group serious about helping each other improve. You also have the option of bringing your own familiar boats, rigs and gear for evaluation and refinement as you train.

First level is the entry level - the group of sailors who aspires to complete all races. Secondly there is a group of sailors who aspires to qualify for Rio. For these groups would really enjoy and benefit from repeated sessions at the Academy. One additional attraction is that Valencia is a fascinating global city with a mixture of old and modern. One can spend an enjoyable day exploring the Santiago Calatrava and Félix Candela designed City of Arts and Sciences which is close to the Dinghy Academy. It is a fascinating park and science/entertainment centre that occupies the old river bed left when the river was diverted to prevent serious flooding of low lying human habitation centres.

For decades, multi national groups of Finn sailors have set up training camps that lasted from a week to a few months in many parts of the world. With the professionalisation of the top level it was time for the kind of professional academy Luca has created. Sailors who are on extended campaigns can effectively use the Academy as a training base for a World Cup / Olympic effort.

The Academy fits perfectly with the IFA’s Finn International Development Support (FIDeS) programme. FIDes sailors at the Academy should be supported by ISAF Olympic Solidarity money so that deserving sailors from developing nations have a good chance to qualify. Whether or not they do qualify in the end would then depend on their character and effort and not by the financial, knowledge and logistical barriers that now exist. This is a tradition that has been part of the IFA since the late 1970s.

It is strongly recommend that teams spend time at the Academy. One would also recommend the Academy to groups of Masters as many are serious competitors with first class gear. These groups would really enjoy and benefit from sessions at the Academy.

An additional attraction is that Valencia is a fascinating global city with a mixture of old and modern. One can spend an enjoyable day exploring the Santiago Calatrava and Félix Candela designed City of Arts and Sciences which is close to the Dinghy Academy. It is a fascinating park and science/entertainment centre that occupies the old river bed left when the river was diverted to prevent serious flooding of low lying human habitation centres.
The 2013 Finn Silver Cup for the Jorg Bruder Trophy, the Finn class Junior World Championship was held at Fraglia Vela Malcesine, on Lake Garda in Italy. There were 28 entries from 13 countries and four continents making it one of the most international Junior Finn fleets ever.

Sunday
The sailors went out to race but the wind wasn’t ready for them just yet and the fleet had to wait another day to begin their championship.

Monday
A beautiful breeze welcomed the sailors for two early morning races. The young Finn sailors were on the water and ready at 7.30 am. The northerly breeze had reached 14 knots when the start of the first race was given at 8 am. The course and the building wind was favouring the left side of the lake with a clear start at the crowded pin end.

The lead was quickly taken by Norwegian Anders Pedersen who was hard to catch on the water. However Jorge Zarif didn’t leave any opportunity unturned and finally stole the lead on the last run. Not far behind, Jake Lilley, Arkadiy Kistanov and Peter McCoy enjoyed the free pumping. McCoy who was among the leaders at the first top mark sailed the wrong course around the gybe mark, but didn’t lose any positions, catching up on the downwind legs. Defending Champion Martin Robitaille didn’t race at his best, missing the pressure under the cliffs but still finished in seventh place.

The second race had less wind and the Oscar flag was removed. Lilley secured a good start down from the committee boat.

Tuesday
At 7.00 am the boat park was already buzzing with sailors, coaches and race committee getting ready for the third day of racing. When the gun for race 3 went at 8.00 am the wind was as strong as ever with a 24 knots northerly breeze and waves.

2013 Finn Silver Cup - Final results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>BRA</td>
<td>Jorge Zarif</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>Jake Lilley</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>Martin Robitaille</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>GBR</td>
<td>Peter McCoy</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>RUS</td>
<td>Arkady Kistanov</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>NOR</td>
<td>Anders Pedersen</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>POL</td>
<td>Jakub Marcinak</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Riccardo Bevilacqua</td>
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<td>GER</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
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<td>Tijmen Van Rootselaar</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Felix Pic</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>RUS</td>
<td>Alexander Ananyev</td>
<td>64</td>
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</table>

2013 Silver Cup – Malcesine, Italy
With free pumping on the downwind legs and a triangle course, the morning was survival of the fittest. Racing was more physical than tactical with the course a one way track close to the cliff. The fastest sailors secured a place at the top and often despite an average start. In the day’s first race, Zarif and Lilley got bad starts with the Brazilian starting in the third row while the Australian touched the pin end mark. The pair showed their great speed but it was not enough though to catch up with Robitaille who took an early lead, and was untouchable in the strong breeze.

Zarif took a good start in the two last races to take the overall lead. He took the bullet in race 4 after a dual with Lilley. In the last race Lilley crossed the line just ahead of the Brazilian, however, an earlier starboard incident between the two was settled in the Jury room with a disqualification for Lilley and another race win for Zarif.

Wednesday
It was a day of snakes and ladders on Wednesday with another early start in the same solid north wind. The difference was that light rain greeted the sailors.

The first race started with 15 knots of wind and the usual pin end favoured line and the race to the cliffs on the left was popular. So popular that several boats started early and three boats were scored as OCS, while one other disqualified for touching the pin mark. Robitaille and McCoy had the best starts and were first to the cliffs and first at mark 1. They sailed well to hold their positions and take first and second respectively.

Race 6 began much the usual way, but had a few more twists and turns. After starting in 10 to 12 knots the wind died gradually on the first run and on the second beat temporarily stopped on the far left, before filling in again from the north. This was the first time the right side of the course paid all week, but the sailors that returned left further up the course gained the most. Zarif and Jakub Marciniak mastered the conditions best and moved through the fleet to finish first and second, with Robitaille in third.

Race 7 was the most difficult of all. The wind had dropped to under 5 knots for the start and a big left windshift made starting on starboard difficult. The boats that started at the committee boat had much more wind and took a big advantage immediately.

This group of 12 boats managed to stay in pressure for the first beat and eventually the pressure returned evenly over the race course. From this group Zarif, Ondrey Teply and Kistanov emerged to finish top three.

With a 3, 1, 1 Jorge Zarif took a solid 13 point lead while Robitaille moved into second, five points ahead of Lilley.

Thursday
As usual, racing started at 8 am. The leaders gathered in the middle of the starting line and sailed upwind to the cliff. McCoy after a great start and a good speed up the beat, rounded the top mark in first place, trailed by Lilley and Zarif. The Australian passed the British on the run and remained in the lead until the finish. The start of the second race was evenly spread on the line but it took three attempts to have a clear start. The wind was stable and around 14 knots, providing another great race. Lilley took a good start and was first at the cliff followed by most of the fleet. Closely followed by 2009 Junior World Champion Zarif, Lilley increased his lead steadily to win a second race.

Zarif had now made sure of his second Junior world title while the final race would decide silver and bronze.

Friday
The morning start was again scheduled early at 8.00 am, with the race committee expecting the north wind but the lake was glassy with not a breath of wind. After a couple of hours, the Bora filled the lake and provided a beautiful final race. With a south wind around 8 to 12 knots, the racing was more tactical even if the left side along the beach was the favoured option of most of the fleet. Zarif followed his plan, starting at the left of the fleet and aiming straight for the left side. With a comfortable lead at the top mark, Zarif was never troubled and added a sixth victory to his impressive score.

Lilley was fast again around the course conserving his second place after finishing in fifth while Robitaille’s last race didn’t go according to plan. The defending World Champion couldn’t make his way around the top mark, losing many places. With no pumping allowed on the downwind, it was harder to catch up places and the Canadian crossed the line in 11th but kept third place overall and the Bronze.

The Finn Junior World Championship was a real display of athleticism and endurance for these young sailors who raced nearly every day from 8 am in a very fresh breeze. With four continents represented with the top four sailors and nine countries in the top ten, it was a well disputed regatta of the highest level. The future Finn stars were in Malcesine.
Dear Finn Master Friends,

As announced earlier, I resigned during the Annual Masters Meeting on last May 22nd in La Rochelle and Andy Denison has been elected as the New Masters President.

In the Annual Masters Meeting 2012, in Pwllheli, I announced I would resign in 2014, in Sopot, Poland, but I have a recalcitrant left shoulder with arthritis and even after surgery it keeps me from sailing my Finn in stronger winds than 3 Bf. And now the other shoulder has started as well. This could keep me from being a competitor in the Masters in the coming years. I always stated that, for me, it is not a good idea to be the Masters President without competing. So I decided to resign earlier. Andy Denison already was the candidate to succeed me in 2014 and I asked him if he was willing to step in one year earlier and so he was.

I was really touched by the standing ovation, the Finn half model and the kind words from many Masters during the rest of the event. Guys, it was only a five years period. But I understand that many Finn Masters found that the mission I had when I was appointed in 2008, was accomplished. The plan to bring structure to this big event has been successful and I am honoured at having been chosen to lead this process.

I thank the members of the Masters Committee for their support during the past years and I would like to write a special word of thanks to the webmaster of www.finnworldmaster.com, Jan Kingma, for his tremendous work and support. Thank you all very much!

In the AMM 2013 I announced that, in the next AGM, Andy Denison will be proposed to be the new Vice-President Masters in the IFA Executive Committee. I am sure Andy is the right person as Masters President and I wish him a pleasant and constructive period in this position. I will support him during the next months as far as necessary for him.

Last but not least I thank all members of the IFA Executive Committee for the good discussions we had about several subjects. It has been a great pleasure working with all of you.

The Finn will always be in my heart, whatever happens to my sailing career.

I wish all of you happy sailing in good winds, in good health and I hope I will meet you again, somewhere and whenever.

Fons van Gent
NED 748

On New Years Eve 2012, I received an email from Fons asking if I would consider taking over the presidency of the Finn World Masters. There was a part of me that was apprehensive, but equally a part of me that was looking forward to the role, so after a few early ones, I gladly accepted.

Like most people I woke up on New Year’s Day with a thick head, but thankfully not regretting my actions the night before.

The Masters Gold Cup came and went very quickly this year, sadly not the best year for weather, together with a few issues on the running of the event, which may have been highlighted, by the fact that we were wet and cold. That said it has enabled me to focus on a number of areas where I feel we could be leaving ourselves open and these are my first port of call to address.

It’s early in the day for me to comment much more, however I would like to thank Fons again, for an admirable job in bringing order and structure to the Masters fleet, which will enable me to take this association forward for the foreseeable future.

If you are a Finn master reading this then keep your eyes on the website and make sure you ‘like’ us on Facebook.

My thoughts are already with Sopot Poland 2014 and Kavala Greece 2015.

Andy Denison
President Finn World Masters
Finn sailing from across the world

CANADA

Jean Levac writes: The Canadian Finn Association (CFA) has seen a resurgence in the last couple of years. We now have a website www.finncanada.org and our Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/CanadianFinnClass) is active.

Greg Douglas, Martin Robitaille, Jeff Roney and Rob Hemming are members of the Canadian Sailing Team led by popular Finnster Chris Cook. On the local scene, Jean Levac is the new Canadian President and will be trying to get the non-Olympic hopefuls out to regattas.

DENMARK

The 2013 season started very well, with four regattas sailed so far.

Polyester Cup

The last weekend of April, 20 Finns and 11 Wayfarers raced in the Polyester Cup arranged by Kastrup Sejlklub. The regatta was dominated by sunshine and light and extremely shifty winds, spiced with a nice current. The ones who make could make the most of whatever wind was present, would very soon find themselves in the lead, only to realise that moments later the other side of the course was favoured by a new header or lift.

The good part was that everybody got to lead at one point. The bad part was that it was once again proven that the same handful of sailors is always lucky and winning the races. Added to the shifty wind, the current made rounding the marks in dying and shifty conditions into real win or lose situations.

Despite the tricky conditions we had a great weekend with seven races in the bag. The winner was one of our young newcomers, Jacob Stachelhaus. Here is our 2013 Fall regatta list.

CORK – Kingston, August 17-21
Fall Cork – Kingston, September 21-22

CORK – Kingston, August 17-21
Fall Cork – Kingston, September 21-22

Coaches Regatta – TS&CC Toronto, Oct 11-13
Canadians – RCYC Toronto, October 25-27

CROATIA

Split Olympic Week

Local favourite Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic again won Split Olympic Week in a smaller than usual fleet. He took three races with the two race wins going to Josip Olujic and one to Deniss Karpak. Only six races were possible in the shortened series.

9 Flemming Bender Jensen
10 Jan Verner Nielsen

Stark VSK Grand Prix

The third regatta was the Stark VSK Grand Prix 2013, held in the same location as the 2009 Gold Cup, Vallensbæk, 9 May 2013. Optis, Teras, Europas, OKs and Finns were invited to this regatta, where the Finns were the second largest fleet with 12 boats on the line, only triumphed by the OK fleet with 13 boats, including good old Jørgen Lindhardtsen, who has unfortunately sold his Finn.

As always when the venue is set in Vallensbæk everything is under control and nothing left to circumstances, so the sailors can enjoy some hassle free racing. This author was not racing, so the in-depth report is missing.

FINNFARE AUGUST 2013
Helly Hansen Cup

Fourth regatta was the Helly Hansen Cup hosted by Royal Danish Yacht Club in Rungsted, 8-9 June 2013.

This regatta was held together with 470s, 505s, Hobie 16s, Lasers and OKs. This time the Finn fleet was by far the largest with 21 boats on the line. The races were conducted very close to land, with the weather mark less than 100 meters from land. In sunny conditions and light to medium strength off-shore winds, combined with a light current not being equally present all over the course, the grounds were laid for some exciting racing. This proved to be the type of regatta, where even the best starting plan or the control of the fleet could shatter in an instant. At times boats going almost half wind to either side of the course could look completely lost, only to come steaming in from the sides and top of the rest of the fleet. At other times this kind of plan was utter suicide. Again, it is astonishing to see how the same handful of skippers gets all the luck.

The first day we had free pumping conditions all day, even though the actual wind speed did not justify this all day. However, if the flag is up, it is legal. Onshore this led to some friendly discussions during the free beer and sausages.

The second day was almost similar to the first, except for no-pumping. The no-pumping regime led to further discussions on land, as the interpretations of what is allowed and can be done are very different within the fleet. In the Danish fleet we have some young and promising newcomers, who have been really good in Lasers, being trained by some of the best trainers in the world. The newcomers know the rules inside out, so they will sail right to the edge without breaking the rules. This is truly a learning experience for the “old-timers” in the fleet, who have the tendency to interpret no-pumping to no-moving at all. Speaking of old-timers; no. 4 overall sailed a beaten-up 1977 Vanguard, with the right mast and sail (in this case a Concept mast made for the Olympics 2012 and a sail made for the mast). Another old Vanguard which had been restored almost to perfection by Henrik Elmer showed some very good boat speed as well. This particular boat had been the boat used by Lasse Hjortnæs for some of his Olympic campaigns.

The series was won by the current no. 1 on the OK World Ranking, Jørgen Svendsen.

1  Jørgen Svendsen (top right)  23
2  Mads Bendix (top left)  24
3  Michael Staal  28
4  Otto Strandvig  33
5  Kenneth Bøggild  34

Mads is 25 years old, 1.88 meters tall and very fit and athletic. Danish head coach, Kristian Kjærgaard, who also coached Jonas to his win in the 2009 Gold Cup and 2012 Olympic silver medal, sees a huge potential in Mads. Coming from the Laser, Mads has a pedigree racing background with several Danish championships in the Laser under his belt. He lives and trains in Århus, where he is seen training everyday with Jacob Stachelhaus.

Coppa Italia 2013

The 2013 edition of Coppa Italia Finn is now well under way and started gloriously in Scarlino in March, with two nice days in very different conditions. The first day was warm with light winds, while on the second day the wind blew up to 25 knots with rainy and cold weather. Michele Paololetti dominated the event with five bullets, followed by the newcomer Giacomo Giovanelli and from the Junior Umberto De Luca.

The second event was in Anzio at mid April and was sailed in light medium conditions and nice weather. Enrico Passoni started showing his form winning three races and the event, while Emanuele Vaccari was second and the Junior Riccardo Bevilacqua came third at his first Finn race.

At the end of April the Dr. Schaer Cup was sailed in Caldarro Lake, and this event was valid also for the Finn Alpen Cup, attracting 64 Finn sailors from six countries (Italy, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Finland and Russia). Only two races were sailed because a cold front brought rain and clouds preventing the development of the typical thermal breeze. The strong Austrian
**GERMANY**

**Pirker Finntage 2013**

Michael Kästner writes: The Pirker Finntage, was an traditional Finn event on Talsperre Pirk, a small dam in the south of Saxony. This event has a long history in our club and many different sailors were here over time. In the 1970s for example the young Jochen Schümman was here, when he started to sail the Finn. After a long break, we started this event again in 2005.

This year we had 28 sailors at the start. With great weather conditions we had four fantastic races. Thomas Fleischmann was the best sailer winning the event for the second time. Next year the Pirker Finntage will again fix a date in our club. On www.pirker-finntage.de you will find all information. Also YOU are welcome.

1. GER 255 Thomas Fleischmann 10
2. GER 811 Michael Knoll 13
3. GER 222 Ulf-Peter Pestel 16
4. GER 30 Ralf Heim 20
5. GER 171 Volker Tetzlaff 26
6. GER 42 Jürgen Kraft 29
7. GER 911 Patrick Frind 33
8. GER 25 Alexander Leidholdt 37
9. GER 31 Andreas Pfalzgraf 40
10. GER 34 Dieter Borges 44
11. GER 58 Thomas Schulz 46
12. GER 46 Peter Truhm 52
13. GER 311 Bernd Fischer 54
14. GER 3107 Jens Leuchte 57
15. GER 16 Uwe Hand 72
16. GER 109 Manfred Tomashewski 72
17. GER 4321 Jochen Egelkraut 75

Michael Gubi came first on even points with the local Peter Stuffer.

During the month of June two more events were sailed in Grado (where a large group of Austrian sailors showed up) and Forte dei Marmi. In Grado Michele Paoletti won easily the HiTechSailing Trophy followed by Enrico Passoni and in Forte dei Marmi at the Aldo Ferrari Memorial Enrico extended his lead in the provisional Coppa Italia scoreboard with a second event win.

Coppa Italia is supported by a pool of sponsors which offer their products for the final prizegiving: Grappa Bertagnolli, Quantum Sail Design Group, 3FL Saildesign, HitechSailing.com, Gill-Tomasoni Fittings, Bertacca Sail Equipment, Essemarine, Residence Ca’ del Lago, Azienda agricola Valpanera, Hotel Piccolo Malcesine.

1. ITA 6 Enrico Passoni 303
2. ITA 202 Giacomo Giovannelli 292
3. ITA 2 Marco Buglielli 288
4. ITA 4 Francesco Faggiani 281
5. ITA 214 Riccardo Bevilacqua 276
6. ITA 146 Michele Paoletti 261
7. ITA 52 Franco Martinelli 250
8. ITA 1000 Francesco Grigolon 246
9. ITA 988 Matteo Savio 243
10. ITA 90 Emanuele Vaccari 220
A sailing report from sunny Holland

Ronald Ruiter writes: From some Finn colleagues in Europe, we understood that they experienced a spring with bad weather and lots of rain. Strange, we had one of the best starts of the season ever. Wind, large lists of competitors and sometimes even some sun. Just brilliant.

It was a busy period with more than enough to report, but we will be brief. Otherwise Robert should double the pages of this edition of Finnfare. And we Dutch like to be noticed, but this year we try to achieve that on the water. So you all are warned!

International Easter Regatta

After a good start with four great training days, the serious stuff started with our traditional Easter Regatta. With ice on the water and snow in the air, we couldn’t wish for a better start of Finn sailing this season. After seven good races, Stefan de Vries proved that he can really make a great comeback. Karel van Hellemond was steady as always. He was a followed by Robert Thole who also made a great impression.

Finnale

Then it was time to pack our gear and drive to Monnickendam. The Finnale is one of the best hosted events of the year. Host and competitor Jan Zetzema and his dedicated team made the weekend memorable again. But not only onshore it was good, on the water we had great races to. With a first day with strong winds, followed by a light wind Sunday, everybody had a chance to reach his goals for this weekend. 18 year old Tijmen van Rootselaar (only 78 kg) won the Finnale and made clear that he is one of the talents to follow the coming years. He was followed by Tobias Kirchbaum, also a Junior. We are very happy with these youngsters on top of our results.
Ascension Regatta
So back to Loosdrecht for the Ascension regatta. Four days of great sailing with good winds and strong conditions. Robert Thole proved again that only a few years of Finn sailing and a lot of training is enough for him to win races. He won two of the six races and won the series. He was followed by our very experienced grand grand master Chris Frijdal, who also won a race.

Results (21 entries)
1. NED 965 Robert Thole 10
2. NED 101 Chris Frijdal 16
3. NED 777 Albert Kroon 16
4. NED 2 Wouter Molenaar 21
5. NED 88 Chiel Barends 22
6. NED 963 Paul Douze 25
7. NED 770 Hein Bloemers 36
8. NED 60 Luuk Kuijper 52
9. NED 47 Auke Woerdeman 56
10. NED 119 Steven Voorn 65

Masters
Of course we want to say something about the Masters in La Rochelle. There is much more about this in this Finnfare, so we limit ourselves to just congratulating Karel van Hellemond with his fifth place overall, but even more Henk de Jager, our new Grand Masters World Champion. We are very proud of them.

Delta Lloyd Regatta Medemblik
From 21–25 May it was time for our ISAF grade one event, The Delta Lloyd Regatta, part of the Euroaf Champions Sailing Cup. A very impressive entry list promised great competitive sailing. The organisation tried something new: The medal race counts for (more than) half of the results. Pieter-Jan Postma had already won seven races and won the series. But he was fourth in the medal race, which even cost him the victory. Mark Andrews was second in the medal race and he won the Delta Lloyd Regatta. Sometimes new is not better...

Great training in Hellevoetsluis
We would like to end this report with these great pictures of our south fleet in Hellevoetsluis. They already had proven they were the strong wind specialists, but this weekend they really outperformed themselves. With over 35 knots they had the time of their lives. Sailing as sailing was meant to be...Photos by Daan Bart

We have a lot of regattas to go and we invite you to join us. Especially our Dutch Championships in September in Medemblik and our Dutch Master Championship in Harderwijk can really be recommended. We hope to see all of you soon.
Jollenregatta was sailed by a very small fleet. No longer a national regatta, the Rietli Lake Constance, April 27 - 28, 2013

Rietli Jollenregatta
1 SUI 86 Piet Eckert 2 ahead of brother Jan and Beat Steffen. Piet Eckert finally winning with two bullets. Substituting for hard work. The Eckert brothers over the winter made it clear that there is no about some early season capsizes. The easterly wind. Internal reports even talked long races in cold weather and a 10-15 knot Tough conditions at Mammern with two Lake Constance, April 20 - 21, 2013

Mammern Frühlingscup
Lake Biel – on Thursday. The winner after from the mountains on the northern shore of Bergluft – a strong wind dropping down Wednesday and due to a extremely powerful a full week failed due to lack of wind on plan to sail one race every evening during four Wednesday evenings in June with the special format of a rabbit start followed by one beat up to the finishing line. Up to five rabbit races were sailed every evening, mostly in perfect conditions. 23 sailors participated in this year’s edition. After 15 races three sailors dominated the ranking with Peter Rösti in first place closely followed by Carlo Lazzari and Andreas Friderich. As usual the prizegiving was accompanied by a delicious rabbit dish.

Rabbit Cup
Lake Thun, June 5/12/19/26, The traditional Rabbit Cup is a must for every Finn sailor on Lake Thun. Sailed during four Wednesday evenings in June with the special format of a rabbit start followed by one beat up to the finishing line. Up to five rabbit races were sailed every evening, mostly in perfect conditions. 23 sailors participated in this year’s edition. After 15 races three sailors dominated the ranking with Peter Rösti in first place closely followed by Carlo Lazzari and Andreas Friderich. As usual the prizegiving was accompanied by a delicious rabbit dish.

Bergluftwoche
Lake Biel, June 10 - 14, 2013 The Bergluftwoche on Lake Biel attracted a record breaking fleet of 12 Finns. The plan to sail one race every evening during a full week failed due to lack of wind on Wednesday and due to a extremely powerful Bergluft – a strong wind dropping down from the mountains on the northern shore of Lake Biel – on Thursday. The winner after three races was Peter Theurer followed by Eddy Röthlisberger and Thomas Gautschi.

Segelwoche
Lake Thun, June 29 - 30, 2013 A perfect weekend on Lake Thun with six great races. A rather windy Saturday with four races in rain and fog followed by a warm Sunday with two more races in light winds. The battle was on from the beginning between Christoph Christen and Christoph Burger. Christen kept control at all times and won the regatta in style. No other sailor was able to keep up with the two top guys in front. A group of three fought for third place with Peter Kilchenmann finally making it to the podium followed by Carlo Lazzari and Franz Bürgi. A great regatta with a special race committee consisting of all the junior sailors of the club – and they did a great job.
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In April the Buccaneer Yacht Club in Mobile, Al. hosted the Seaflight RIB North Americans. Darrell Peck on a break from coaching Finn sailors from around the world sailed to a well-deserved victory. Darrell has won the NAS several times. He was followed by John Dane and Henry Sprague. Also in the hunt was young gun Josh Revkin, an up and coming Finn sailor. The regatta had a wonderful turnout with 26 sailors of all ages. Gus Miller was the oldest along with another Finn sailing legend Louie Nady. The youngest sailor was 18-year-old Adrian Pereira from Mobile. Adrian is a top Laser sailor.

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MAXX Your Performance

Congratulations to Jon Lobert for a well deserved bronze. Four sails out of ten in the Medal Race were yellow MAXX-sails from WB. Proven performance at top level combined with exceptional durability.

WB-Sails Ltd, Helsinki, Finland  www.wb-sails.fi  info@wb-sails.fi  Tel: +3589 621 5055