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2016 Rottnest Festival of Sail - Overall report



'49er Thomson Bay - 2016 Rottnest Festival of Sail' Susan Ghent [Click Here to view large photo](#)

2016 Rottnest Festival of Sail - While the wind was light it was a glorious weekend for the sixth Rottnest Festival of Sail. The annual event is held to support the Rottnest Foundation and their work in conserving the essence of the island. For the first time, the 2016 event included the 49er Class WA State Championship. It took many back to the days when the 18 Footers included the island in their national circuit. Skiffs look fantastic racing in the clear waters with Thomson Bay in the background.

After a short delay waiting for wind off Port Beach in Fremantle, yachts started in two fleets, an Offshore Round the Island Race and a Transit Race to Rottnest. Both races would take the yachts across to the island to the finish line in Thomson Bay.



Transit Race start - 2016 Rottnest Festival of Sail - Susan Ghent [Click Here to view large photo](#)

For the Offshore Race, it was close contest to the first day buoy close to the beach before the yachts turned to head West to Rottnest. Dave Walling's The Next Factor was first to mark one but the Farr 40 was closely followed by Ian Clyne's Joss. It was Simon Prosser's Sante who came around the mark behind and took a more northern line, she appeared to pick up more breeze than the others. This worked in favour of the Adams 10.6 and she was the second yacht to appear for the onlookers at Rottnest. But the race was not over yet, the offshore course included a complete rounding of Rottnest Island

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course included a complete rounding of Rottneest Island.

As the offshore race fleet were rounding West End, the transit race fleet were arriving at the finish line in Thomson Bay. The fleet was a great mix of yachts in all shapes and sizes, the largest a Beneteau First 44.7 and the smallest a Spacesailer 22 owned by Gerry Murphy. The yachts enjoyed flat water, sunny conditions and a moderate southerly wind. The first yacht to arrive took just over two hours to complete the course and was Ross McLaren's French Kiss, the Beneteau. Next was a Melges, Rob Mennie's Calamari Run, and then Conrad Todd's Hanse 400, Tilt.



Offshore Fleet - 2016 Rottneest Festival of Sail - Susan Ghent [Click Here to view large photo](#)

The overall results on corrected time went in favour of the smaller vessels in the light wind conditions with first place going to the MB 24 Martello, Mary Joyce. Second was the Gerry Murphy's By Hook or By Crooke and third went to Craig Knell's Emeraude. As the transit race yachts picked up their moorings in the bay they had a great display of skiff racing with the 49er course close to shore in Thomson Bay.



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French Kiss and By Hook or By Crooke - 2016 Rottnest Festival of Sail - Susan Ghent

Brothers Lachy and Sam Gilmour with their crews Ryan Donaldson and Cameron Seagreen were having a great contest in the 49ers. After five races on the day it was Sam and Cameron who led going in to day two of the state championship. The 49erFX with slightly smaller rigs were also enjoying the location. Liam Seagreen with crew Conor Nicholas led the all-girls team of Nicola Armstrong and Lucy Syme.



The Next Factor - 2016 Rottnest Festival of Sail - Susan Ghent [Click Here to view large photo](#)

The first yacht to finish in the offshore fleet was The Next Factor in hour hours and eight minutes. Joss and then Sante followed soon after the two yachts finishing within minutes of each other. Overall it was Hugh Warner's Ocean Ranger who took the win on corrected time. Experienced helm and sailmaker Brent Fowler was on-board and thoroughly enjoyed both the sailing and social aspect of the weekend. Second on corrected time was Apo Kato, Kevin Palassis and they also placed first on AMS handicap. The Next Factor was third overall on IRC and Fastest.

After a very pleasant afternoon moored in the bay and exploring Rottnest Island, competitors, regatta officials and supporters gathered at Hotel Rottnest for the day's race results and an evening socialising. Jeff King, Chairman of the Rottnest Foundation welcomed all to the festival and thanked everyone for their support. While Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club host the sailing programme for the weekend, all funds raised from the Rottnest Festival of Sail go to the Rottnest Foundation, a positive environmental connection for the sailors to support. Barbara-Dene from the Rottnest Festival of Sail Committee commented after the weekend that the Club is "delighted to support the ongoing work of the Rottnest Foundation. We want to ensure the things we love about Rottnest are preserved for our kids to enjoy".

Sunday morning was another glorious day and Rotto certainly brought out the sunny conditions for everyone to enjoy. Sadly the wind did not behave for the yachts participating in the Cruise in Company Around the Island and most pulled out of the escorted sail to stop for a swim. At least they had toured the island and picturesque bays in very pleasant conditions.

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Martello - 2016 Rottnest Festival of Sail - Susan Ghent

Back in Thomson Bay the 49er Race Officer called an early end to the day after two races due to lack of wind. Overall winners in the 49er WA State Championship were Sam Gilmour and Cameron Seagreen with Liam Seagreen and Conor Nicholas taking the 49erFX title for 2016. The exciting skiffs are looking forward to being part of the festival again and the word has spread amongst those who missed out this time around.

Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club hosted a magnificent Rottnest Foundation Twilight sail and presentation evening to wrap up another great year for the event. Yachts and 49ers combined for the presentation evening and the winners were presented with their trophies by the Honourable Colin Barnett MLA, Premier of Western Australia. Guests were captivated by Mr Barnett's speech which included some interesting tales of his connection to WA's iconic island and its unique marsupial, the Quokka.

The 2016 Rottnest Festival of Sail was supported by sponsors, Mulberry Estate, Gage Roads Brewing Co, Hotel Rottnest, Rottnest Express, Bailey's Marine Fuel, Karma Rottnest, Rottnest Island Chamber of Commerce and Rottnest Island Authority.

The 2017 Rottnest Festival of Sail is scheduled for the weekend of 1 and 2 April. Visit [website](#) for more information.

by Susan Ghent





http://sail-world.com/index.cfm?nid=143586

3:28 PM Thu 7 Apr 2016 GMT



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VIC Junior and Youth sailors revel in the sun and spray

by Alex McKinnon, , 9:30 AM Mon GMT



Award-winning photographer, Alex McKinnon, hit the water once more on the weekend. This time it was the Club Marine Victorian Junior and Youth Championships staged out of the delightful Mornington Yacht Club in the famous seaside town, an hour South of Melbourne. It was a bit of drifter for the first day and the Huey showed up with gusto for the second day, sending in 20 knots from the West.

Commodore's Cup Day one at Sail Port Stephens proves idyllic shakedown

by Lisa Ratcliff, , 9:29 AM Mon GMT



Two divisions lined up for the islands course that began off Nelson Bay marina break wall, creating a spectacular sight for diners at the many foreshore seafood eateries, then out around three uninhabited islands in choppy conditions and more breeze than anticipated and back to the finish against the ripping tide.

470 Europeans - Australian sailors guaranteed top three finish

by Jane Gordon, , 2:56 AM Tue GMT



2016 470 European Championship - Two races for the 470 men in sublime conditions on the Bay of Palma and scores of seven, two results have guaranteed Mat Belcher/Will Ryan (AUS) a top three finish in the 470 Open European Championship.

Star Worlds - Augie Diaz leads after Day 2 in Florida

by Paul Cayard, , 3:15 AM Tue GMT



Race 2 of the 2016 Star World Championship was held today on Biscayne Bay. At start time, 11:30, the wind was in at 16 knots from 085 and stayed pretty much the same all race. Having said that, there were 15 degree oscillations and four knot changes in wind speed. It was still a very shifty race course with the wind coming over Key Biscayne once again.

The perfect end game unfolds for some at 470 Europeans

by 470 Class, , 2:30 AM Tue GMT



2016 470 European Championship - A day of pressure on the Bay of Palma as numerous teams vied for a spot in the 470 European Championship ten medal race line-up. For some today's racing marked a last shot at selection to their Olympic team. Stunning conditions with a breeze of 10-14 knots and blue sky.

America's Cup - SoftbankTeam Japan pick up Aussie multihull Olympian

by Sail-World.com NZL, , 2:17 AM Tue GMT



SoftBank Team Japan have announced that Australian Olympic multi-hull sailor Jason Waterhouse will join the sailing team after racing in the 2016 Olympics in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Waterhouse is set to make his Olympic debut competing in the Nacra 17 mixed multi-hull event, a boat in which he currently holds the #1 ISAF world ranking.

Zhik announced as Official Clothing Sponsor for 2016 Etchells Worlds

by Etchells Worlds 2016, , 2:05 PM Mon GMT



Zhik are providing clothing for each competitor at the championship, hosted by the Royal London Yacht Club in Cowes. There will also be prizes for many categories from their new shop in Cowes High Street, which is managed by Kate Palfrey, wife of America's Cup Coach and former Etchells World Champion Andrew 'Dog' Palfrey.

Clipper Race – Another day of great mileage in final push to Seattle

by The Clipper Race, , 10:33 AM Mon GMT



Following seas, good kite runs, and winds gusting 40 knots have been reported, with this expected to build and improve today as a second weather system moves in rapidly from the west.

2016 Club Marine Victorian Junior and Youth Championships overall

by Yachting Victoria Media, , 9:04 AM Mon GMT



Mornington Yacht Club played host to the 2016 Club Marine Victorian Junior and Youth Coaching Clinic and Championships. With over 150 boats, 190 competitors and more than 200 parents, volunteers and coaches this event was truly a collaborative effort from all.

49er/49erFX Europeans - Big week at Barcelona for Australian sailors

by Lisa Ratcliff, , 4:50 AM Mon GMT



Olympic class skiff sailors, including seven Australian pairings, will be on the grid for the 49er and 49erFX European Championships at Barcelona, Spain, April 11 -16, 2016. It will be the final class regatta for Australia's Olympic gold medallists (London) Nathan Outteridge and Iain Jensen before the pair relocate to Guanabara Bay in Rio for training and the last-stage run into this year's Games

Congressional Cup - Record three-time win for Canfield

by World Match Racing Tour, , 4:29 AM Mon GMT



2016 Congressional Cup - Taylor Canfield and his US One Sailing Team triumphed in the Congressional Cup, Stage Two of the World Match Racing Tour (WMRT), after five days of "unbelievable match racing" – making him the first skipper to win three Crimson Blazers back-to-back, in the 52-year history of the legendary regatta.

Hawker's Audi Hamilton Island Race Week hoodoo

by Lisa Ratcliff, , 3:20 AM Mon GMT



A collision that led to Peter Hawker's sudden departure from Audi Hamilton Island Race Week 2015 was nothing less than a "bloody disappointing finish" and the second year running the South Australian yachtsman was forced out of the annual Whitsunday regatta with damage.

470 Europeans - Packed three races on Day 4

by ICARUS, , 2:03 AM Mon GMT



Three races for all fleets at the 2016 470 European Championships on Sunday sees Lara Vadlau/ Jola Ogar (AUT) extend in the 470 Women and Mat Belcher/Will Ryan (AUS) edge into the lead in the 470 Men.

Can World Sailing learn from dear old Oz? *Feature

by John Curnow, , 12:03 AM Mon GMT



Some time ago now, Sail-World proposed that ISAF had a really good opportunity at hand when it morphed into World Sailing (WS). Why just lay the drop sheets out and tape up the edges of the windows for a splash of paint, when you could bring out the jackhammers and do a proper reno??? A call was issued for 200,000 sets of goggles and earmuffs to be supplied and for the real work to be commenced.

470 Europeans - Finishing as they mean to go on?

by Rob Kothe YachtsandYachting.com & Sail-World.com, , 7:08 PM Sun GMT



After a slow start, the red hot Rio Olympic favourites Matt Belcher and Will Ryan (Australia) have hit the lead in the 2016 470 Europeans in Palma, Mallorca Spain today.

Scene set for biggest number of entries in Sail Port Stephens Regatta

by Mark Rothfield, Newcastle, , 12:04 PM Sun GMT



In a taste of what's to come, around 35 yachts completed the Newcastle-Port Stephens feeder race today in perfect autumn conditions. Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC) timed the fleet start perfectly in Stockton Bite with a six-knot sou-westerly which gradually clocked to the east and settled at around eight knots.

Clipper Race – No respite for crew as they fight their way to Seattle

by The Clipper Race, , 9:25 AM Sun GMT



The latest depression has the most westerly boats in its grip and is moving steadily east this morning in the closing week of the Seattle Pacific Challenge.

Congressional Cup – Kiwis on losing end of tough fight for Semi-finals

by World Match Racing Tour, , 3:26 AM Sun GMT



Scott Dickson (USA), from Long Beach Yacht Club, beat the odds and booked his place in the Semi Finals of the Congressional Cup, Stage Two of the World Match Racing Tour, by knocking out on-form Kiwi Chris Steele (NZL) in a thrilling five match Quarter Final, taking the last three races back to back.

Predictwind's Offshore App supports Redport Optimiser - get a deal now

by Sail-World.com NZL, , 3:16 AM Sun GMT



Predictwind's Offshore App now supports the RedPort Optimizer. For the next seven days Predictwind have negotiated a 20% discount on the Optimizer and XGate for all PredictWind customers.

470 Europeans - Stunning racing conditions on Day 3



by ICARUS, , 2:58 AM Sun GMT

Day 3 at the 2016 470 European Championships on the Bay of Palma, Mallorca delivered a completed qualification series for the 470 Men and Women. Perfect racing under a blue sky and breeze of 12-14 knots, in complete contrast to yesterday's weather pattern of driving rain and storms.

PredictWind Offshore App integrated with Redport Optimizer and XGate



by Sail-World.com/NZL, , 2:41 AM Sun GMT

PredictWind, the world leader in weather forecasting, has just released the latest version of their Award winning Offshore app, which now allows a direct connection with the Redport Optimizer and XGate suite of satellite data services.

470 Europeans Qualification Series wraps up on blue sky day in Palma



by 470 Class, , 2:11 AM Sun GMT

2016 470 European Championship – Perfect 12-14 knots racing conditions under a blue sky on race day three at the 470 Europeans were a complete contrast to yesterday's weather pattern of driving rain and storms.

Yachting Victoria Club Marine Series - Day 7



by Yachting Victoria Media, , 6:56 PM Sat GMT

The last race was hosted by Hobsons Bay Yacht Club, and like the first and last day of semester at Uni, everyone showed up for class with 134 boats occupying the waters of Port Phillip Bay.

World Sailing Cup V3 - A Dead Rat in a Shoe or Spring Daffodils? *Feature



by Rob Kothe, YachtsandYachting.com & Sail-World.com, , 10:29 AM Sat GMT

Last night my Irish better half was sitting beside me on the sofa watching an Australian version of the popular TV Cooking Program My Kitchen Rules on a tablet with her headphones while I was watching Diehard II for the seventeenth time (it's a boy thing) on TV. She suddenly spluttered and laughed, took off her headphones and motioned for me to mute Diehard. (Seriously!!)

Marine Rescue volunteers save stranded yacht from rocky fate



by Marine Rescue NSW, , 9:25 AM Sat GMT

Volunteers from two Marine Rescue NSW units on the North Coast have worked to rescue a disabled yacht at risk of running on to rocks off Brooms Head in an overnight operation.

The Clipper Race - Race nine, Day 20 - Fleet rides Railroad to Seattle



by Clipper Round the World, , 8:58 AM Sat GMT

2015 -16 Clipper Round the World Yacht Race - The Clipper Race fleet is experiencing the 'North Pacific Railway' right now, according to race Meteorologist Simon Rowell, with a regular timetable of low/ridge/low coming through. A ridge of high pressure is whipping through the fleet from west to east today and then it will be back in the thick of another strong low system by tomorrow.

Francis Joyon to tackle the Jules Verne Trophy again



by Mer and Media, , 8:29 AM Sat GMT

It's now official: Francis Joyon will be setting off in the autumn to try to improve on the Jules Verne Trophy record time. It will once again be on his IDEC Sport 'ultime' trimaran with a crew that he will attempt to complete the voyage in under 45 days. We met up with him to find out more.

Congressional Cup - Shock exit for world champion



by World Match Racing Tour, , 4:41 AM Sat GMT

2016 Congressional Cup - Six-time Match Racing World Champion Ian Williams, GAC Pindar crashed out of the 2016 Congressional Cup, Stage Two of the World Match Racing Tour after finishing 12th and last in Qualifying. Exiting the regatta alongside Williams were Johnie Berntsson (SWE), Keith Swinton (AUS) and Sally Barkow (USA).

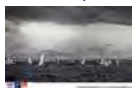
TeamVodafoneSailing nosedive and win double before heading offshore *Feature



by Richard Gladwell, Sail-World.com NZL, , 4:40 AM Sat GMT


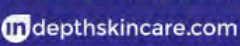

TeamVodafoneSailing has had more than their share of action over the past month, involving both high-performance multihulls in their stable.

470 Europeans - Storms bring an end to racing on Day 2 in Palma, Spain



by 470 Class, , 3:14 AM Sat GMT

Various storm systems rolled across the race course on Friday, forcing postponement on the water, as the breeze swung to the west, rain filled in, visibility dropped and the breeze kicked up. Challenging conditions by anyone's standards. A cold, damp and dreary day could not quash the spirits out on the race track on Day 2 at the 2016 470 Europeans.

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