



Yacht Club de Monaco

Final Press Release

XXIIIrd PRIMO CUP - TROPHEE CREDIT SUISSE 1-2-3-4 and 9-10-11 February 2007

Winners to the wire in tightly fought contests

In total 220 boats representing 20 nations made their way to Monaco over the two weekends, demonstrating the importance and reputation of the Primo Cup – Trophée Credit Suisse. Sailors came from as far afield as the USA, Russia, Ukraine, Spain and Croatia to participate in this major regatta.

Unusual enough sea conditions greeted the participants of this XXIIIrd Primo Cup – Trophée Credit Suisse during the last race. The swell added spice to the occasion providing images that will remain in the memory. The conditions did not unsettle the race committee, chaired by Thierry Leret, nor the rankings established during races over the previous two days, proving just how high the standard was amongst competitors taking part in this weekend's series: Mumm 30, Melges 24, Platu 25, H22, First 40.7 and Smeralda 888. The format was identical for the weekend before which brought together the following series: Dragon, Star, Surprise, Laser HB3 and J/24.

The high level of competition was only matched by the atmosphere on land, where the famous *après-regatta* ambiance, so characteristic of the Primo Cup - Credit Suisse, was thoroughly appreciated by all, some of whom did not miss out on anything. It was all thanks to the support of loyal partners Credit Suisse and equipment manufacturer Slam that every evening was made so enjoyable, as was the Pasta Party hosted by Eri Monaco. The Primo Cup – Trophée Credit Suisse also presented an excellent opportunity to celebrate some key events, such as the two baptisms this week-end. We greeted the arrival of the First 40.7 *Delliantrice*, in the presence of her sponsor Gilles Panizzi, as well as that of the new Smeralda *K-zi Mo d'eau*, baptised by Princess Camilla de Bourbon-Sicules. For the Primo Cup, this new Monégasque boat was loaned by the Yacht Club de Monaco to one of the teams from the Manhattan Yacht Club, who arrived in force with a delegation of 35 people.

H22 (19 participants)

The yellow spinnakers flying the famous Warner Bros' "Titi" lit up the waters of Monaco over the three days of racing. The 19 boats in this series were here for the first time at the Primo Cup – Trophée Credit Suisse and battled it out up to the very last race before the first, second and third places could be announced. The first step of the podium was no contest with Giovanni Punteno (*Bleak*) totalling 7 points against 27 for his closest rival Nicola Polti (*Mintakino*) who squeezed in just one point ahead of Alberto Valli (*Kikkio-next people*), giving the Italians total supremacy in this series.

Melges 24 (23 participants)

The last two races did not change the rankings established the day before. For his first attempt in this series, Lorenzo Bressani at the helm of *Spider*, together with the Pavesio brothers, regulars of the Primo in the Platu 25 class, was always in the lead, winning four races and retaining eight points ahead of second placed *Big Ship-Marseille Quantum* skippered by Dimitri Deruelle and Maxime Paul. The Italian Sandro Montepusco at the helm of *Airis* took third prize. Congratulations are in order to fourth placed Benjamin Cohen, society member of YCM and skipper of *Dieppe Seine Maritime*, who was sailing for the first time with Philippe Ligot, vice world champion, and Gildas Philippe, world champion in the Mumm 30 class. They outstripped the two stars of the series: Riccardo Simoneschi (*Giacomel Audi Team*), recent winner of the Key West, who finished 4th, just ahead of Nicola Celon (*Bete Bossini*), world champion.

First 40.7 (15 participants)

The French left nothing for the Italians, bagging the first eight places. The top three went to the wire before Thierry Bouchard's *Spirit of Ad Hoc* finally won the series for the second year in a row. It was a narrow victory nevertheless as only one point separated them from Cyril Baillie's second-place in *Sayann2*, helmed by Sylvain Chtounder. *Celinou* led by Hervé Peduzzi, President of the Mediterranean class, took third place.

Mumm 30 (19 participants)

An Italian-Monégasque podium in this series where the top three rankings were closely fought. *Thule*, led by the Italian Fausto Rubbini, President of the Italian class, proved to be the most consistent in staying out front and won through with 5 points ahead of *Enfant terrible* helmed by Gianluigi Serena. *Dangerous but fun* of Michele Perris, society member of the YCM, took third place ahead of *Nouvelle Calédonie* helmed by Bernard Mallaret alongside Vincent Portugal, authors of a breathtaking recovery in the last race. It augurs well for the 2007 season and the next *Tour de France à la Voile*.

Smeralda 888 (13 participants)

This series is developing well and united 13 competitors including one Australian, proof of the recognition for this splendid boat which is so perfectly at ease in all weathers. The gap between the candidates for the podium was always extremely tight and in the end just one point separated the first *Giada* of Alderico Paganini from the second *Smeralda V*, helmed by Agostino Randazzo, who came specially from Palermo to discover more about this series. *Out of reach* belonging to Guido Miani, society member of the YCM, took third position for one point; president of the series, Prince Charles de Bourbon-Sicules finished first, with a victory in the last race. The Smeralda 888s now head off to Valencia (Spain) to take part in a series of regattas from 12 to 15 April, as a prelude to the Louis Vuitton Cup.

Bénéteau Platu 25 (9 participants)

There may have been only nine participants but suspense over who would take first and second place was maintained right to the end by the German Joachim Hellmich at the helm of *La Revoltosa* who beat his rival Savino Formentini on board *Bitipi*. Christophe Chaffardon at the helm of *Black flag* finished fourth in front of the Spanish *Bribon*.

The first three of each series received tokens to buy clothing from Slam's Advanced Technology Sportswear line, presented by Beppe Casalini, President of Slam. The gold ingot thrown into the hat by Credit Suisse (Monaco), represented by Alain Ucari, Director of Credit Suisse (Monaco), was won by Alberto Valli (*Kikkio-Next People*), in the draw.

Final rankings

Platu 25 (9 participants) – 7 legs – 6 counted to final result

1	La Revoltosa (Joachim Hellmich)	8 pts	GER
2	Bitipi (Savino Formentini)	9 pts	ITA
3	Black Flag (Christophe Chaffardon)	20 pts	FRA

First 40.7 (15 participants) - 7 legs – 6 counted

1	Spirit of Ad Hoc (Thierry Bouchard)	14 pts	FRA
2	Sayann 2 (Cyril Baillie)	18 pts	GBR
3	Celinou (Hervé Peduzzi)	22 pts	FRA

H22 (19 participants) - 7 legs – 6 counted

1	Bleak (Giovanni Punteno)	7 pts	ITA
2	Mintakino (Nicola Polti)	27 pts	ITA
3	Kikkio –Next People (Alberto Valli)	28 pts	ITA

Melges 24 (23 participants) - 7 legs – 6 counted

1	Spider (Lorenzo Bressani)	12 pts	ITA
2	Big Ship Marseille (Maxime Paul)	20 pts	FRA
3	Airis (Sandro Montepusco)	24 pts	ITA

Mumm 30 (19 participants) - 7 legs – 6 counted

1	Thule (Fausto Rubbini)	10 pts	ITA
2	Enfant Terrible (Gianluigi Serena)	15 pts	ITA
3	Dangerous But Fun (Gianluca Perris)	25 pts	MON

Smeralda 888 (13 participants) - 7 legs – 6 counted

1	Giada (Alderico Paganini)	16 pts	ITA
2	Smeralda V (Agostino Randazzo)	17 pts	ITA
3	Out of Reach (Guido Miani)	21 pts	MON

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Dragon (26 participants) – 10 legs – 8 counted to final result

1	Whisper (Michael Cotter)	26 pts	IRL
2	Gaudium (Ulli Libor)	27 pts	SUI
3	Justine (Jesper Bendix)	34 pts	DEN

Laser SB3 (26 participants) - 10 legs – 8 counted

1	Flash (Colin Galavan)	33 pts	IRL
2	Risk Premium (Mark Rushall)	38 pts	GBR
3	Marçon Yachting (Xavier Leclair)	43 pts	FRA (Martigues)

Surprise (37 participants) - 8 legs – 6 counted

1	Sky Sweeper (Olivier Legeret)	19 pts	SUI
2	Fou du Vent (Philippe Durr)	27 pts	SUI
3	St Jacques (Alain Marchand)	29 pts	SUI

J24 (18 participants) - 8 legs – 6 counted

1	Topo Too (Blandine Medecin)	8 pts	MON
2	J Di Quadri (Claudio Buiatti)	12 pts	ITA
3	Quick Step (Rydlöf Hahan)	16 pts	USA

Star (15 participants - 8 legs – 6 counted

1	Arctur (Vasil Gureyev)	8 pts	UKR
2	Etoile de Mai II (Régis Bérenguier)	14 pts	FRA (Hyères)
3	Dr Evil (Graham Bailey)	17 pts	GBR

All the results from both weekends: Website of the Yacht Club de Monaco: www.ycm.org

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