



WIND RETURNS TO ENGLISH BAY FOR A PERFECT FOURTH DAY OF 6MR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Report by Tara Smith

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Vancouver, British Columbia

Race report Day 4 Six Metre Class World Championship

Today was a perfect day of racing on English Bay, with wind in the upper middle teens from the west.

Race Committee set up the course off shore between Royal Van and Kits. R flag was flown for both fleets indicating the course was three times around. Wind was a lovely 12 knots from the West.

The open division started and continued on starboard toward the beach side of the course, some tacked for clear air and when shifts presented an opportunity. Some boats were over early including New Sweden.

Classic Division sailed a similar course up wind staying to the port side of the course, KC 19 was inside and higher than the other lead boats and was able to tack inside and ahead of Bribon Gallant E16, Elisabeth X N80, Saga US 73 and KC 19 were all very close.

Open division approached the weather mark for the second rounding, Saga USA 127 and Sophie SUI 132 were top rounding, followed by Junior, K 12 and FIN 78. The fleet was all very close with only 8 minutes separating all boats.

Classic fleet now heading up wind, clearly some teams had made gains at the leeward mark and found a clean lane into the beach. Bribon Gallant E 16 had an impressive lead on the second boat KC 12 and Fridolin FIN 12.

Open division was seeing different boats climb into first position today as the wind built to 18 knots. The last rounding Sophie II now had a great lead followed by Junior SUI 77 and Evalina FIN 78. The finish order was Sophie II, St Francis XI and US 127 Sting.

Classic fleet Bribon Gallant E16 easily finished first, with Saskia II crossing second followed by Fridolin FIN 12.

Race Committee moved the weather mark slightly further for the second race of the day. The wind now a solid 17-19 knots. Open division started well and sailed the starboard tack for the beach, Sting SUI 127 and Scoundrel USA 126 made the right up wind choices and rounded 1st and 2nd. The top ten boats were really tight at the mark rounding with boats approaching from the port side of the course and looking for holes to tack in and around the mark.



Classic Division approaching on port with E16 in the lead at the weather mark, followed very closely by Saga US 73. The Classic fleet all very close at the rounding.

Open division second weather mark rounding was very exciting with Sting USA 127, Scoundrel, Junior, New Sweden and Wildcat II all in the top cluster of boats.

Classic Division Saga now ahead of Bribon Gallant, Fridolin and Saskia II at the second weather mark rounding.

Open division Sting must have kept a good cover on the fleet up wind as she rounded ahead of K12 who was now in second. Scoundrel moved into 3rd. Sting crossed the line in 1st with Sophie II close second and Scoundrel in 3rd.

Classic weather mark rounding for the last time Saga US 73 tacked later on the beach side and was able to tack inside and ahead of Bribon Gallant at the mark, followed by Fridolin. This was the order held through to the finish.

Tomorrow the racing is scheduled to start at 11:00 for the fifth and final day of the Six Metre Class World Championship.

For full results and links to daily pictures visit <http://6mvancouver2017.com/>

Hosted by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club (RVYC), the Six Metre World Championship takes place from September 17 to 21 with 47 yachts from 11 countries participating. This is the first time Canada has hosted the regatta since it began in 1973.

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