

Choppy Water GmbH
- Division Eventmanagement –
Preetzer Str. 300
24147 Kiel
Telefon: +49 (0) 431 / 971 98 98
FAX: +49 (0) 431 / 971 98 99

CHOPPY WATER

Kiel, May 1st 2007

Press Release:



Perfect Start for the Formula Windsurfing Grand Prix Portimao 2007: World Champion Steve Allen dominates all four races

+++ Portimao / Kiel, May 1st 2007.

The Formula Windsurfing Grand Prix Portimao had a perfect start today: 10 to 17 knots of sideshore wind transformed Alvor beach into a perfect formula Arena. In the best possible conditions the maximum of four races was run by Claudio Alessandrello, the race director from Italy. The current Formula Windsurfing Worldchampion Steve Allen (AUS-0, Tabou, Gaastra) from Australia fully dominated the day and won all four races. After day one he is leading the regatta with the optimum of 3,00 points.

The Argentinean Gonzalo Costa Hoevel (ARG-3, F2, Neil Pryde) had a bad start into the regatta. In the first race his mast extension broke so that he was forced to retire from this race. But than he had a strong come back. With three second places he managed to work his way up in the ranking race by race to finish in the second position with a total of 6,00 points at the end of the first day.

Fabio Melo from Brasil surprised the spectators and experts with his strong performance. Nobody had the young guy on his list of the favourites but with a second, a third and two fourth places he drew the attention on himself and forced the people to modify their opinion. He is currently save in the third position with a total of 9,00 points.

On the following positions the fight is very close between Alberto Menegatti (ITA-456, F2, Gaastra) from Italy on the fourth place with a total of 13,00 points, Michal Polanowski (POL-16, Starboard, Gaastra) from Poland on the fifth place with 15,00 points, Wilhelm Schurmann (BRA-999, Starboard, Neil Pryde) from Brasil currently sixth with 16,00 points and Hubert Mokrzycki (POL-25, Starboard, Gaastra) from Poland seventh with 17,00 points. All these racers are well in striking distance to attack the podium positions tomorrow.

As the racers achieved the maximum of the allowed four races today and the forecast for the next days is again excellent, the race crew decided to give the racers some time to recover. Therefore for tomorrow the Skippers Meeting is set for 12:00 with the first possible start at 13:00. The forecasts predict even stronger wind than today so the spectators at Alvor beach can again expect a great Formula Windsurfing show. The Formula Windsurfing Grand Prix Portimao will last until Saturday, May 5th.

The official website of the series with more information is www.euro-cup.org. The events are also covered on www.formulawindsurfing.org and www.internationalwindsurfing.com. Besides the reports and the results you will also find a live ticker on www.euro-cup.org. So check out the internet!

Contacts and further Information:

	<p>Bruno De Wannemaeker (Chairman) International Funboard Class Association (IFCA) URL: www.ifca.internationalwindsurfing.com E-Mail: IFCA@internationalwindsurfing.com</p>
	<p>Ceri Williams (Chairman) International Formula Windsurfing Class (IFWC) URL: www.formulawindsurfing.org E-Mail: FW@internationalwindsurfing.com</p>
	<p>Matthias Regber (Director of the Windsurfing Office) Choppy Water GmbH Preetzer Str. 300, 24147 Kiel, GERMANY URL: www.euro-cup.org E-Mail: info@choppywater.de</p>