

Coming Up

Sails of glory in Limassol regatta

This year Cyprus plays host to the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship in Limassol.

Let's hope Poseidon is good to those taking part: may the waves be fine for sailing and the wind blow the vessels safely to the finish line.

The 350 young sailors from 61 countries are gearing up to take part in the championship, with excitement running high. Lucas Rual, the French silver medalist, will be sailing with Emile Amoros, who took the second spot in the 2012 championship. They have been sailing together since September and are eager to take part.

"We have trained really seriously and have already won Eurocups this year in Spain and Cavalaire," Amoros said.

"We are really excited as this regatta (series of boat races) is our main goal. Lucas is bringing me a lot of things because he has already done this regatta, he has told me that this is really

intense and I can't wait to discover this different regatta with a smaller fleet,"

Amoros added.

Klaus Lange, the

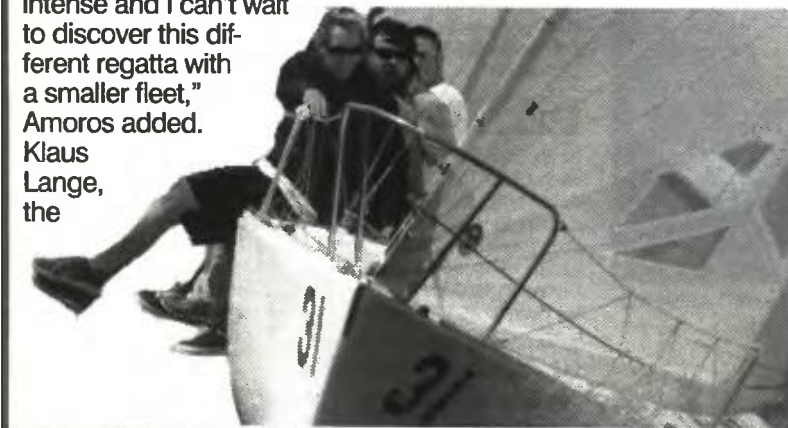
Argentinean bronze medalist is also bringing a new crew along with him to the event. He will crew up with Ignacio Varisco, which is giving the French a positive feel for sportsmanship and rivalry. The Argentineans will be tough competitors, Amoros said.

If we are to judge by what the competitors say, it seems this regatta will hit a very high level of professionalism, with sailors who take the helm with a drive to win but who also have an eye on savouring the elite competition.

Brazil's Antonio Aranha and Philipp Essle are also among the ones to watch. The pair recently won gold in the under-18 category at the South American 29er Championship in Rosario, Argentina and finished fourth in the overall championship.

The Brazilian pair hopes to improve on their participation in the championship this time around as, in 2012, they finished in twenty-second place.

"We have been training in Ilhabela in the sea and in Sao Paulo in the lake, almost every weekend since the start of the year," the Brazilian team said. Australian Paul Darmanin will be sailing into the championship as well and his winning strike at the



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A total of 350 young sailors from 61 countries will be taking part



2010 Istanbul championship will surely be something he'll want to relive.

"We know what to expect and we know how good it feels to win," Darmanin said. This is the fourth time Darmanin will be competing in the Youth World championship and he says it is his last.

"I would like to round off the Youth World saga the same way it started in Turkey. Fingers crossed," he added.

Meanwhile, Belgium's 12-year-old Henri Demesmaeker is making his way to his second participation in the championship. Even though young in years, Demesmaeker takes the opportunity to prove himself, so watch out for this sailor who could be even further on the up and up in the near future.

There are many more participants to cheer on and boats to see slicing cleanly through the blues waves of Limassol so definitely aim to be there.

The participating countries are: Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, Russia, Germany,

Switzerland, Great Britain, New Zealand, South Africa, Peru, Greece, Chile, Italy, Ecuador, Oman, Israel, Bahamas, Bermuda, Korea, Japan, Canada, Malta, Singapore, Finland, Holland, Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, Croatia, Puerto Rico, Estonia, Hungary, Brazil, Belgium, the Netherlands, Antilles, Santa Lucia, Australia, Mexico, Argentina, Norway, USA, Uruguay, Hong Kong, India, Thailand, Spain, Czech Republic, Austria, Paraguay, Ireland, Tunisia, Colombia, Serbia, Bahrain, Myanmar, and China.

ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship

Three hundred and fifty young sailors from 61 countries will be taking part in the championship being hosted in Cyprus for 2013.

July 13 until July 20. Limassol Sailing Centre, 21 Amathus Avenue, Agios Tychonas, Limassol 4532. Tel: 99-489438 Mahi Solomou. Email: herencia@primehome.com

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