



INTERNATIONAL 5.5 CLASS Newsletter

Dear 5.5 sailors !

The 5.5 Class Association and myself hope you had a pleasant Christmas and we are pleased to send you our best wishes for this coming year, this extends especially to your sailing activities !

Website

As you may have noticed the 5.5 website has a new address : www.5.5class.org , since it has now become technically possible to have more then one point in the address, Hans Nadorp thought this name would be more suitable and also easier to remember.



By the way it is important that our Class be noticed on the web and you can contribute by adding this address on both side of the boom. Thanks a bunch...

Your webmaster has also received a Christmas present in form of a new e-mail : webmaster@5.5class.org

The 5.5 webshop is now online
5.5 related article are now advertised on the website. The revenues generated by your orders will feed the International 5.5 Class account and help your Class improve it's marketing.

The stars of 2005

« ...and the winner is..... », in fact we have many winners ! , remember the World championship which took place in Sydney and won by Jochen Schümann with Artémis. Another star is of course Jürg Menzi, he sailed a new boat and won the European championship, the Dutch championship and the Swiss one for the eight time in a row ! hard to beat....



Jürg menzi, Daniel Stampfli, & Léo Gaume on SUI-217 pictured on lake Attersee (Credit: Linda Rijkuijter)

And of course, all of you taking part to 5.5 events are great contributors to the development of the Class and you help the stars being what they are !

What's coming

There will be a new regatta organized by the Italian fleet on lake Garda by the Circolo Vela Torbole from the 27 to the 30th of April, it seems the Swiss would like this event to become a yearly rendez-vous for starting the sailing season in Europe.

Medemblik (north of the Netherlands) will host four major events in a row :

Gold Cup	July 22-25
Classic Cup	July 22-25
Dutch Open	July 25-27
World Championship	July 29 – August 2 nd



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Medemblik regatta center

and it is our International president's wish to have a minimum of 50 entries in the world's ! Medemblik is a sailing center with a very nice regatta area open to good winds but protected by the dams. The surroundings offers pleasant accommodations at reasonable prices and the village is like any typical Dutch villages with good restaurant and bars.... As it will be high-season make your reservations soon enough.

There are some doubts about having a championship on the America Cup grounds in 2007, so the Italians are bringing the venitian proposal back to life. This will be discussed on the next AGM.



View of Venice, San-Georgio

New boats

A new Ali-Baba is being built at Wilke's. The project is supervised by Bruno Marazzi's personal sailing coach, Jean-Claude Vuithier. This new construction is based on the same hull as its predecessors but will incorporate a new keel design and major improvements will be made to the mast considering the changes brought to the sail plan.

On lake Geneva, Philippe Kolly current owner of Zen SUI-175 and boat-builder himself has just begun the construction of his new boat. She is a new Seb Schmidt design with over-stretch hull lines. She will benefit from the latest keel shape fitted under Marazzi's boat and the mast will be made by Wilke.



The keel and the frames are set for building the model which will receive the wooden layers (picture: A. Johnson)

The good news is that Christian Hauvette, the french 5.5 Class president has also order a new boat from Kolly. Final delivery should be by next fall.

Both boats will be built in a traditional fashion using plywood. Due to the new scantling rules, the construction is simplified and Philippe Kolly says : «...this reduces the amount of work, therefore they should not cost more than those I built 12 years ago. » (that was Zen & Lafayette).

So, let's see you all in good health next year, sailing well and fast...!

Yours sincerely,

Ambroise

(5.5 Class webmaster & information officer)