



**July 2006**

## **The International 5.5 Class newsletter**

Dear friends,

The 2006 sailing season is now well underway and I haven't had much time to inform you about all the latest events but better late than never !

### **Alpen Cup: Menzi's regata**

Sailed late April in Torbole on lake Garda, the Alpen Cup event was strongly supported by **Jürg Menzi** in need for having fun guaranteed after a long winter season without sailing.

Twelve boats attended the race with a majority from Switzerland. **Menzi** showed his ability to manage his direct opponents and was able to keep **Gullichsen** at large. In third place, **Hans Nadorp** capable of the best also showed lack of consistency with a 7 and 8 th ranking.

This race will be re-sailed next year on the same premises at the same period.



*Alpen cup winners: Jürg Menzi, Jussi Gullichsen & Hans Nadorp (April 2006)*

### **Swiss Championship: 11 races !**

This was maybe "The Championship" to be remembered. The club of Estavayer put a very professional team together to organize the eleven race event ! The south-easterly winds blew constantly day after day during the four days event. Shorter courses were setup so the fleet could

increase the numbers of races per day. And again the **Menzi** team mastered the fleet right from the beginning although this time they faced a stronger competition from **Christof Burger** (SUI-207) coming very near to beating him in the last race. "This was hot!" commented **Jürg** after the race. This was his 9<sup>th</sup> Swiss champion title in a row. Despite this success for the Swiss fleet we must not disregard the catastrophic figures of the participation which shrank down to only 18 swiss boats.



*Marie-Françoise 17 rounding the lower mark of Estavayer-le-Lac (Lake Neuchâtel)*

### **Italian Championship: where are the 'tofosi'?**

In the wake of his swiss success **Menzi** won again in Verbania on lake Maggiore. But is this event still an Italian Championship or merely a Swiss regata outside Switzerland? Out of twelve boats on the starting line only three were italian, all classics, at least there was some consistency there...and **Carabella** from **Alfredo Delli** takes the prize. The existence of the Italian fleet is at stake and if the spirit of 2003 and 2004 disappear then this fleet might become history again...

### **New boats: fast but not so...**

Two boats (Sisterships) were built by **Wilke** during last winter. One for **Marazzi** (SUI-219) and the other for **Pieper** (SUI-210). The stern section has been extended in a way that the deck has a very small angle. **Jean-Claude Vuithier**, project manager for Marazzi pretends he was able to increase the dynamic water length by nearly 20 cm! On the other



hand **Seb Schmidt** had a new keel design for them. With too little training and trimming sessions they never were a threat to the 'older' boats but it is maybe just a question of time.

A third boat is now under completion by **Philippe Kolly** on the shores of lake Geneva she will be followed by a sister-ship for french sailor **Chrisitan Hauvette**.



*Nearly 400 kg of inside ballast completely embedded in the hull of Kolly's boat*

### Coming events

Our main annual gathering will be in Medemblik 60 km north of Amsterdam starting end of July. This famous spot has all the commodities for organizing a great event and the Dutch fleet has secured a big fleet to make this event an unforgettable one !

Website: <http://www.5klasse.nl/worlds.html>

### Gold Cup

Twelve nations have registered and one can bet on an all scandinavian final as **Jussi Gullischen** and **Kristian Nergaard** are competing for Finland and Norway...

### Royal Kaag Classic Cup

Six nation will be represented and from the past results, Italy represented by **Alfredo Delli** stand a good chance to take the win with the very fast (and furious?) *Carabella*.

### Dutch Open

36 boats will be on the starting line, this is a good opportunity to discover Medemblik's waters and test all the options.

### World championship

With 47 entries this will be a very open championship but considering the results from this year, **Menzi, Gullichsen, Nadorp** and **Nergaard** can all call for a win.

On the first of August the Swiss fleet is inviting all the participants and the organizing committee to celebrate the Swiss National Day !

Best regards to all of you and looking forward to meeting you all in Medemblik !

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### AGM hot topics

1. Racing calendar: selecting the WC 2007 location plus a presentation from the Bahamas for 2008.
2. Adapting the rules for organizing the EC and the WC, introduced by Stefan Zlot
3. Change the rule pertaining hiking: a proposal from Alfredo Delli
4. Information from the TC

[www.5.5class.org](http://www.5.5class.org)

**IT'S YOURS TOO !**

**Feel free to drop a line about any 5.5 related event. Whenever possible add a picture it's worth a 1000 words...so it saves you from writing long text !!!**