

IQDA European Championship

Piran, Slovenia, July 4 to 12

247 sailors from 41 countries



The city of Piran welcomed sailors from 41 countries and 5 continents to Slovenia, at a ceremony held in the beautiful city square, next to the harbour, in Piran.

This event, like the NAMs in 2008 used event tracking. 41,000 people from Alaska to Tahiti logged on to the event website to watch their sons, daughters, grandchildren and friends sailing in this championship. Coaches and team leaders used the information as teaching tools while the sailors watched to see where their friends had finished. We will surely see an increased use of tracking in the future.



Boys

Open		Euro
1.	Maximilian Hibler Germany	1
2.	Benjamin Vadnai Hungary	2
3.	Marcolm Lamphere USA	
4.	Konrad Lipski Poland	3
5.	Filip Florek Poland	4
6.	Wouter Sonnema Netherlands	5
7.	Stefano Ferrighi Italy	6
8.	Arthur Fortune France	7
9.	Mustafa S. Birincioglu Turkey	8
10.	Alexandros Magouras Greece	9
11.	Marvin Frisch Germany	10

Girls

Open		Euro
1.	Paulina Rothlauf Germany	1
2.	Sara Piasecka Poland	2
3.	Francesca Russo Italy	3
4.	Finja Cipra Germany	4
5.	Annika Matthiesen Germany	5
6.	Zeynep Yentur Turkey	6
7.	Maria Drosou Greece	7
8.	Jennifer Poret France	8
9.	Lea Janezic Slovenia	9
10.	Karianne Hammarstroem Germany	10

**Maximilian Hibler
&
Paulina Rothlauf
celebrate their victory**



While German sailors dominated this championship, there were also many other notable performances including the best ever finishing position of a Serbian sailor for Luka Tosic. This was made all the more memorable when his sister Tara, loaned him her boat after his rudder had dropped off. She limped back alone for 2 miles in his rudderless craft using only a sail, until the shore team helped her out. "Finally," she said, her face shining and without a trace of regret. "I think I really learnt a lot about sailing downwind."



The final day of the competition brought 6 knots of breeze and a smooth sea. In the second and final race of the day, Slovenia earned another bullet when Toni Vrscanj won his group race. The conditions during this championship were particularly difficult with current and wind shifts playing their part in making the correct tactical decisions.

The leaders in both fleets, Maximilian Hibler and Paulina Rothlauf sailed consistently throughout and became worthy European Champions.