

Württembergischer Yacht-Club wins SAILING Champions League Qualifier on Lake Starnberg in Germany

Tutzing, 23 August 2020: After four sailing days of the SAILING Champions League (SCL) qualifier on Lake Starnberg, the Württembergischer Yacht-Club was able to prevail against its 22 competitors. Second place went to the Norddeutsche Regatta Verein, third place was taken by the team from Bordée de Tribord from Switzerland. In addition to the respective reigning champions of the 19 national leagues who have already been determined as finalists, the twelve best clubs of the Tutzing Qualifier have now qualified for the SCL Final in Porto Cervo, Italy, from 15 to 18 October.

Under ever-changing conditions on Lake Starnberg, four clubs, the Norddeutsche Regatta Verein, Bordée de Tribord, the Regattaclub Oberhofen and the Württembergische Yacht-Club, went through to compete in the four-boat final. At first the Norddeutsche Regatta Verein dominated, but the Württembergische Yacht-Club was the first to win the two races necessary for overall victory.

"We are totally overwhelmed," cheered Conrad Rebholz, helmsman of the winning club. "We always wanted to keep the freedom to make our own decisions, to concentrate only on ourselves and not be distracted. We didn't expect it to work out so well in the end, but we're all the more pleased."

The German teams had their home competition in Tutzing: Of nine participating clubs from Germany, eight secured a place in the final in Porto Cervo.

The following teams have qualified for the SCL final in Porto Cervo:

1. Württembergischer Yacht-Club, Germany
2. Norddeutscher Regatta Verein, Germany
3. Bordée de Tribord, Switzerland
4. Regatta Club Oberhofen, Switzerland
5. Deutscher Touring Yacht-Club, Germany
6. Wassersport-Verein Hemelingen, Germany
7. Bocholter Yachtclub, Germany
8. Segel- und Motorboot Club Überlingen, Germany
9. Segelclub TWV Achensee, Austria
10. Münchner Yacht-Club, Germany
11. Mühlenberger Segel-Club, Germany
12. Hjuviks Båtklubb, Sweden

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Background information

FORMER WINNERS OF THE SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

2019: Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Australia

2019: Youth SCL: Bodensee-Yacht-Club Überlingen, Germany

2018: Circolo della Vela Bari, Italy

2018: Youth SCL: Bodensee-Yacht-Club Überlingen, Germany

2018: Women's SCL: Kongelig Dansk Yachtklub, Denmark

2017: Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, Italy

2016: Deutscher Touring Yacht-Club, Germany

2015: Kongelig Norsk Seilforening, Norway

2014: Kongelig Dansk Yachtklub, Denmark

THE SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

The most successful clubs in the national sailing leagues compete in qualifying regattas and one final. Short races, one-design boats, a standardised course and competition between the world's most renowned sailing clubs - all these ingredients guarantee sailing at the highest level.

THE IDEA BEHIND THE SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

It is a format that has worked well in football for years. Now we have clear proof that it also works in sailing: An international club competition with high media interest and a competition that clubs, sailors and fans can identify with.

The idea behind the SAILING Champions League is simple: It is the championship of national champions. The most successful clubs of the countries of the National Sailing Leagues compete against each other to become the winner of the SAILING Champions League.

SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUE – ASIA PACIFIC

In the seventh year of the SAILING Champions League series with over 20 national sailing leagues in Central Europe, the USA and Australia, the format expanded into the Asia-Pacific region in 2020. The best sailing clubs in the Asia-Pacific region can qualify for the SAILING Champions League - Asia Pacific Final in a separate qualification series. The Asia Pacific region comprises the countries of the country groups I, J, K and L defined by World Sailing. An overview can be found at www.sailing.org/mna. The three best clubs of the SAILING Champions League - Asia Pacific Final qualify for the SAILING Champions League Final in Europe.

WHY NATIONAL SAILING LEAGUES?

The SAILING Champions League is based on the same format of the National Sailing League. It all started with the foundation of the German Sailing League in 2013. The format was developed by the consulting and investment company "Konzeptwerft" in cooperation with some of the leading German sailing clubs and the German Sailing Association.

In 2014 Denmark was the first European country to adopt the format of a national sailing league based on the German model. By 2019, 21 countries in Europe and Oceania operated their own national sailing leagues. The logical conclusion from this trend? An international league for the national champions and the best of the national sailing leagues - the SAILING Champions League.

YOUTH AND WOMEN'S SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUES

After the strong growth of the league format, leagues for youth and women's competitions were established. In 2018, for example, sailors competed in the Youth SAILING Champions League and Women's SAILING Champions League for the first time. The aim is to make league sailing as accessible and attractive as possible for a larger group of sailors and to make it more attractive for sponsors and business partners.

THE HISTORY OF THE SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

The Hamburg-based consulting and investment company "Konzeptwerft" has revolutionized sailing in Germany in 2013. For the first time the clubs competed directly against each other in a friendly competition called National Sailing League. The concept took up the centuries-old tradition of "club against club" and turned this friendly rivalry into a competition that immediately attracted the interest of sailors throughout the country. It ignited a passion for inter-club competition that had never been seen before. This enthusiasm not only attracted the attention of the national sailing community, but also the regional and national media.

Via livestream as well as a detailed race analysis by SAP Sailing Analytics, fans and all those interested in sailing can follow the races of the SAILING Champions League in real time on YouTube, Facebook, sportdeutschland.tv and www.sailing-championsleague.com.