

## **Europe's Sailing Elite Meets at SAILING Champions League Final in Porto Cervo**

**Hamburg/Porto Cervo, 05 October 2021:** The 2021 season is coming to an end for many National Sailing Leagues, but the highlight at European level is still to come. The final of the SAILING Champions League will take place from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021 in Porto Cervo in Sardinia. The best 31 sailing clubs from 16 countries will compete for the title "Best Yacht Club of the Year" at the hosting Yacht Club Costa Smeralda. On Saturday and Sunday, *SailTracks* will broadcast the races live.

For many clubs from the National Sailing Leagues, the final of the SAILING Champions League (SCL) is the highlight of the season. To compete against the best clubs from Europe over four days off the coastline of the Costa Smeralda is in the top position on the personal wish list of the sailors.

The best 31 clubs from 16 European countries will come to the SCL Final: Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and for the first time Turkey. 13 clubs are directly qualified for the final in Porto Cervo as national champions of their National Sailing League from the previous year, 12 clubs secured their starting place at the SCL Qualifier in Kiel, Germany, in July. The remaining places were allocated by wild cards.

Up to 76 races are scheduled from Thursday to Sunday at the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda. After the qualification series starting on Thursday at 13:30hrs and ending on Sunday around noon, the best four clubs will move into the so-called "Final Four". In up to four final races, it will be decided which club will emerge as the winner of the SAILING Champions League 2021 and whose name will be engraved as the eighth winner on the silver trophy.

As usual, *SailTracks* will broadcast the races live on YouTube on Saturday and Sunday from 12:00 to 16:00hrs (CEST). The British sailing experts Andy Rice and Mark Rhodes will comment on the races from the studio, while Nynne Ammundsen from the Danish Sailing League will follow the action on the water.

The broadcasting times for the live stream:

Saturday, 9 October: 12:00 to 16:00hrs

Sunday, 10 October: 12:00 to 16:00hrs (final races: approx. 15:00 to 16:00hrs)

Follow the live stream on [YouTube](#).

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### **Online**

Facebook: @SailingCL

Instagram: @sailing\_champions\_league

YouTube: @SAILINGChampionsLeague

Website: [www.sailing-championsleague.com](http://www.sailing-championsleague.com)

Website SCL – Asia Pacific: [www.nationalsailingleague.com.au](http://www.nationalsailingleague.com.au)

### **Background Information**

#### **WINNERS OF THE SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUE**

2020: Segel- und Motorboot Club Überlingen, Germany

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 SAILING Champions League (SCL) is a format in which the best sailing clubs in the National Sailing Leagues compete against each other on an international level.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The cornerstone of the SCL was the founding of the Sailing National League in 2013 as a collaboration between the Hamburg-based consulting and investment company "Konzeptwert", the German Sailing Association and some of Germany's leading sailing clubs to create a sailing competition at club level for the first time. Within a very short time, the concept was adopted by other nations based on the German model. By 2021, 23 countries in Europe and Oceania were already operating a national sailing league.

Due to strong interest, the competition was brought up to the international level and the SCL has been held since 2014. As in other sports, the best clubs in each national league qualify. Clubs, sailors and fans can identify with this format. The enthusiasm not only attracted the attention of the international sailing community, but is also reflected in the strong media interest at the international level.

#### **FORMAT**

Clubs compete in a qualifying series consisting of several regattas spread throughout the season and a final. Each club forms a squad of the best sailors. Sailing is done in crews of four on J/70 class boats. In the races themselves, short races, one-design boats, a standardized course and sailing at the highest level characterize the SCL.

#### **LIVE BROADCAST**

The competitions will be broadcast by the SailTracks broadcasting company and can be followed live on YouTube, Facebook and [www.sailing-championsleague.com](http://www.sailing-championsleague.com). Experienced commentators will guide through the races and illustrate the action using detailed race analysis from SAP Sailing Analytics.

**YOUTH AND WOMEN'S SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUES**

Further competition series developed from the original SCL: The SCL for juniors, the Youth SCL, and a separate series for women's competitions, the Women's SCL. The establishment of both leagues is intended to make sailing more attractive and accessible to the target groups. In addition, a signal is set for the promotion of women in sailing as well as the support of young talents. The competitions of both leagues were held for the first time in 2018.

**SAILING CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - ASIA PACIFIC**

In 2020, the format expanded to the Asia Pacific region. In a separate qualifying series, the best sailing clubs can qualify for the SCL - Asia Pacific Final. The Asia Pacific region includes the countries in country groups I, J, K and L as defined by World Sailing. An overview can be found at [www.sailing.org/mna](http://www.sailing.org/mna). The three best clubs of the SCL - Asia Pacific Final qualify for the SCL Final in Europe.