



WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE

press release 7th of July 2014

Dream start for regatta hanseboot Rund Bornholm

With an off-wind course the fleet of 56 ships started from Warnemünde towards the island Bornholm which is 130 sea miles away. The skippers can decide for themselves during the race if they want to sail around Bornholm to the left or to the right, so they can go straight back to Warnemünde. Consequently the by now legendary long-distance-regatta is something special for the offshore sailors because with a distance of about 270 sea miles it is the longest regatta in the German Baltic .

The sea regatta hanseboot Rund Bornholm has always made headlines. Two years ago a sailing yacht sunk due to a broken rudder. That is why the safety equipment is particularly important to the regatta management. All the participating yachts have to gather at the starting line for a check-in before the start and have to get a picture taken showing all crew members in their life-jackets.

Jens Kieser from the sea-weather-department of Hamburg already pronounced this morning that the wind will turn according to the course of the regatta.

At first there will be moderate west wind of about 10-15 knots which will push the yachts towards Bornholm. In the course of the race the wind will turn to a northeastern direction and is supposed to push the field of yachts back home. Accordingly at least in theory it is possible to completely avoid taking down the spinnaker or gennaker. Such a constellation is more than uncommon, since the last couple of years there was usually westerly wind the whole duration of the regatta. That is why the participants had to take an off-wind spinnaker course and needed to tack back.

The down side of the weather forecast is the fact that a storm front is supposed to come up right across the coast of Mecklenburg. During that time there is a good chance of heavy showers or even fog formation that could possibly cloud the yachts' views. As soon as the wind will finally turn east, it is going to become stronger and stronger and will eventually settle down at about 20-25 knots, believes Kieser. With this uniquely good prospect the skippers and helmsmen made their way back to their respective boats, so they would be on time for the start from the middle-mole at 1 pm.

They started in three groups. At first Uwe Wenzel, the race manager, let the big yachts start. At 1pm the race was started and the 56 yachts set off on a beam reach course.

Right behind the first pair of buoys the "Uiuiui" with Heiko Zimmermann of the hanseboot managed to get to windward and took the lead with an off-wind course. Some crews tried to hoist the gennaker right after leaving the Warnow-mole-head but the angle to the wind was too sharp. As a consequence some sailors fell back because of a messed up foresail-maneuver while yachts like the "One Way Ahead" did a lot better with their "conservative sail situation" using only the main and the genoa.





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While the „Bornholmer“ started their regatta today, the Flying Dutchman have already finished their stay at the Baltic Sea Resort. Three 1st places and one 5th place were sufficient for Peggy and Torsten Bahr from Berlin, who were already in the lead beforehand, to make it to the top of the podium of the Flying Dutchman on the final day. Thanks to the ideal wind conditions the dragons were able to complete 4 more races of their International German Championship. In spite of a black-flag-disqualification the team from Rostock surrounding the helmsman Michael Schmid is still in the lead. However the Bavarian team with their helmsman Stephan Link is closing in on the leading team. The H-boats with their International German Championship completed four races. The team surrounding the helmsman Lars Bähr from Berlin is in the lead. The German Open of the seascape 18 boats are being led by the team surrounding Benjamin Lorenz from Berlin, which won both races today.

New domicile –the cozy marina Hohe Düne

For more than nine years now the marina Hohe Düne has welcomed the participants of the WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE as another location alongside the middle-mole and the beach and has therefore increasingly established itself in the whole event. Location manager Jürgen Missing as well as his “boss” and wife Antje have created a cozy and domestic atmosphere. The couple has taken extra vacation time and together with their 6 person crew they are organizing everything a sailor heart could want. “On the first day it was already very busy, more than 60 boats wanted to be lifted into the water by the crane as soon as possible”, explained Missing. With all that excitement going on, it is not surprising that one sailor accidentally fell into the harbour basin and was given an unexpected cooling down. Even the broken hull of a Seascape 18 boat and a broken dragon mast were problems which could be solved quickly, thanks to the good organization.

While the regatta office is on top of everything going on at the harbour, the staff of the yachting and spa resort Hohe Düne is spoiling the sailors with culinary highlights. “I wasn` t expecting to be cared for so well, explains Antje Missing. The participants of the International German Championship of the Dragons also belong to the about 350 athletes who start their races from Hohe Düne this year.

Results of the Laser Europe Cups:

Laser Standard: 1. place: Hermann Tomaszgard (NOR)

Laser Radial men: 1. place: William De Smett (BEL)

Laser Radial women: 1. place: Veronika Kozelska Fenclova (CZE)

Laser 4.7: (results were not present yet)

results German Open of the X-99 (result were also not present yet)

FOTOS (3)

All of them: Pepe Hartmann
captions





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- © Pepe Hartmann-4716: closing in on the leading dragon sailors at the International Garmen Championship, the Bavarian team of Stephan Link
- © Pepe Hartmann-4857: dream start of the hanseboot Rund Bornholm
- © Pepe Hartmann-5165: on the second day of sailing the X-99 boats obviously had a lot of sailing fun

preview (selection) of onshore program for Tuesday, 8th of July

3-6pm Danish-German Band „Irish Coffee“, stage in front of the lighthouse
7-9.45pm „Quarter Horse“ (Country & Folk), stage in front of the lighthouse

preview (selection) of offshore program for Tuesday, 8th of July

allday arrival of the sea regatta hanseboot Rund Bornholm, harbour entrance
11am races: Laser Standard, Laser 4.7, Laser Radial, German Open Seascape 18, IDM Drachen, IDM H-Boats, GO X-99

contact during the event:

Gesine Schuer & staff

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