



WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE

press release 13th of July 2014

650.000 visitors – The 77th edition was a milestone in the progress of the maritime festival

“It was a beautiful 77th WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE”, is the first part of the balance drawn by the managers and organizers. Ingeborg Regenthal and Astrid Voss of the “Warnemünde club” sum up: “all parts of the onshore program, starting from the “Niegen Ümgang” right up to the “traditional garb meeting” have worked out fine, the weather was on our side and the atmosphere was great.”

The second part of the balance was put in a nutshell by Roland Methling at the Mayor`s reception on Friday evening: "Upon our struggle for more quality and radiance of the WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE, this year's edition was a real milestone, partly because of new program parts that immediately had a very good standard. "Even Matthias Fromm, director of tourism for Rostock & Warnemünde, got the impression that the organizers of the summer festival "have upped the shovel" especially on the beach in comparison to previous years. This effort has found broad recognition among the visitors.

Jörg Bludau, who has been organizing the stage program in front of the lighthouse and the shopping area for 23 years now, estimates that around 650,000 visitors came to this year's WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE. The number of participants (450) who shaped those 10 days is impressive.

"We now have a very good mix in the stage program between the traditional and the latest styles of music, far from folksy."

A milestone that was set several years ago is the "media tent" of the Ostsee-Zeitung and the NDR that enriches the whole "event package" mainly by its TV coverage, explains Bludau. The marketing specialist Olaf Bourvé of the "Ostsee-Zeitung" believes that the radiance of the "media tent" is improving year by year. "The proximity of the media workers to the action pays off just as well as the close contact with the visitors, who can enjoy discussions, food tasting and information here. "We strive very hard to convey the appeal of sailing events, for instance through the daily edition of the Warnemünder Woche –Talks”.

Piotr Cichocki from Poland wins the Europe Cup of the Skippi 650 class, Spaniards sovereignly win in the 420er field

While the team of Michał Kaczmarek has always been able to secure their leading position in the European Cup in recent years, it had to admit defeat to its Polish colleagues with their skipper Piotr Cichocki by only one point this year. Bronze went to the team from Berlin surrounding Erik Witzman. At the 77th WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE, the number of junior sailors in the 420er class has doubled, the sailing area offers the perfect preparation opportunities for the World Championships in Travemünde at the end of July.





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However not all of the participants are top favourites for winning the World Cup title, there are also a lot of sailors from Mecklenburg Western Pomerania. Judging by solely first places in all their races, José Manuel Ruiz and Fernando Dávila Ponce de Leon have apparently warmed up to the Baltic Sea. "The sailing conditions here are very similar to the ones we have in the Mediterranean, only the water is too cold." reports Fernando. Following their triumph at the 77th WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE they will go back to their local sailing area in Malaga for a few days. 18 of the 60 boats starting in the 420er class are from Mecklenburg Western Pomerania. Evidently the state is strongly represented in the internationally popular junior boat class. Ole Blumenthal and Henry Hoder from Rostock were able to improve their performance compared to last year and with their 7th place they are the best team of the region. Ranked 8th are Pauline Schranck and Nele Lemcke from the sailing club in Warnemünde. The pupils of the regional coach Eckart Schulz have thus created a good foundation for the upcoming International German Championship, which will also be held in Warnemünde at the end of September.

Dragons were once again swimming on the Alter Strom

Right on time at 8.30am on Saturday the 19th Dragon Boat Festival, organized by the LT-Club and the SV Breitling e.V. Rostock, started with a "Are you ready? Attention. Go!" on the Alter Strom in Warnemünde. Surrounded by small fishing and paddle boats, two cruise ships and a huge crowd, 1.650 participants (of 76 teams from all over Germany) paddled on a 286 meter long track to win the LT-CUP. After two heat runs, the teams were divided into seven performance classes. In the most powerful class, the Dragon Club Rostock (DCR) was able to prevail. With only a hundredth of a second ahead the Bloody Hedgehogs from Berlin beat last year's winner WSAP Loveboat from Hamburg and won Silver. After the first day, regatta director Thomas Wolfram from the SV Breitling was very pleased: "The advantage in Warnemünde is the great amount of spectators passing by. We have a stadium atmosphere here, the audience can stand on both sides." Overall there were twelve dragon boats on the four tracks, each of them with a length of 12.5 meters and a weight of 250 pounds. In a boat there is space for a drummer, a helmsman and 20 paddlers, at least eight of which must be women. 22 teams signed up for the Coca-Cola Sprint Cup over a distance of 100 meters on Sunday. On the second day of the event the participants once again drummed and shouted to achieve peak performances. In the more powerful of the two performance classes the KRG-Dragons secured the victory ahead of WSAP Loveboat and the Zoo-Center-Dragons. On both days spectators were allowed to take a seat in the boats with the dragon head and have a race, the age limit ranged from 5 to 75 years.

The kites of the kitesurfers could also be seen over the Baltic again today. They once more performed impressive starts in the racing category. The reigning world champion Florian Gruber from Garmisch Partenkirchen reached the top of the podium. Darian Rubbel came in second and Erwin Gruber, father of Florian, finished in third place. Finally, the Kitesurf-Trophy will make its last appearance of this season on the island of Fehmarn in August.





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further sailing results:

2.4mR

1. Jürgen Freiheit (Berlin)
2. Uwe Volkmann (Schwerin)
3. Eberhard Bieberitz (Schwerin)

J/24

1. Ragna Thönnessen + Team (Hamburg)
2. Jan Kähler + Team (Hamburg)
3. Stefan Karsunke + Team (Hamburg)

A-Cat

1. Thilo Keller (Bayern)
2. Guido Schulte (Wismar)
3. Peter Klemenz (Wasserburg)

Finn Dinghy

1. Sebastian Schmidt-Klügmann (Hüde/Dümmer)
2. Eike Martens (Hamburg)
3. Ulli Kurfeld (Wismar)

OK-Jollyboat

1. Greg Wilcox (NZL)
2. Jørgen Lindhardtsen (DEN)
3. Pawel Pawlaczyk (POL)

505er

1. Morten Bogacki (Düsseldorf)
Lars Dehne
2. Lutz Stengel (Rostock)
Frank Feller
3. Ronald Roos (Wuppertal)
Morten Roos

Korsar

1. Axel Oberemm (Bayern)
Gerd Linnemann
2. Uti Thieme (Berlin)
Frank Thieme
3. Dirk Braun (Wuppertal)
Jürgen Kruck

Pirat

1. Svenja Thoroë (Kiel)
Karsten Bredt
2. Frieder Billerbeck (Wedel)
Julius Raithel



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3. Simone Wahrendorf (Berlin)
Jörgen Mohns

Photos: Pepe Hartmann
except for BG002978: Marc Metzler
and DSC_0223: Klaus-Dieter Block
and dragon boat race-77WW-2014: Martin Schuster

captions:

© Pepe Hartmann-7562: Mayor Roland Methling and sailor Hannah Anderssohn are already looking forward to the 78th WARNEMÜNDER WOCHE.
© Pepe Hartmann-8478: Ragna Thönnessen took first place in the J/24 class with her women crew.
© Pepe Hartmann-7002: Piotr Cichocki from Poland, winner of the Europe Cup in the Skippi 650 class
BG002978: The kites of the kilters graced the Baltic Sea Resort for the last time today.
DSC_0223: The onshore program does not have to hide away and is always lovely, just like here at the 14th traditional garb meeting.
Dragon boat race-77WW-2014: stadium atmosphere at the finish line of the dragon boat race

contact during the event:

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