

GERMANY



Andreas Bollongino writes: I think the others will have mentioned it already enough – so I will not use the C-Word.

German Championships 2020

Great honours to the Schaumburg-Lippischer Seglerverein at the Steinhuder Meer in northern Germany – despite all the bureaucracy and regulations and uncertainties in organization the 'Club with the Finn Heart' arranged to organize the German Championships in July. 72 Finn sailors took the challenge to be called the German Champion and travelled to the nice village of Steinhude.

July is normally difficult to sail and so the conditions were tricky. On the first day the sailors experienced Caribbean conditions, with temperatures well in the 30 degrees range and wind around 15 to 18 knots. Three races were sailed with Phillip Kasüske taking the lead with 1,1,2 in front of Max Kohlhoff with 2,BFD,1.

So at the social distance beer event it was obvious, that the fight for the championship would be between our two young Finn Team Germany sailors. But the master cracks Thomas Schmid and Andre Budzien were lurking in promising positions in the front of the fleet.

The second day was still very hot but with less wind, the heat was, as in the first day, causing unpredictable disturbances in the swaying wind.

Uwe Barthel – the former Finn Secretary of the German Class – took advantage of this in the first race and won. Klaus Refelfmann also an experienced Master won the second

race. But Max Kohlhoff secured the third race for himself. Despite his win, Phillip Kasüske had a second and a fourth rank (with a ninth in third race) and a better overall result at the end of the second day.

On the third day there was no wind, and the boats were not even been called to the water. A race was attempted on the fourth day but also cancelled due to missing wind.

So we were able to congratulate Phillip for the win of the German Championships, followed by Max Kohlhoff and Phillip Heuwinkel – a new talent in the German Finn Class.

Thanks to the Schaumburg Lippischen Segelverein (Sailing Club) for their efforts and engagement to arrange a almost perfect event in those conditions.

1	GER 259	Phillip Kasueske	17
2	GER 25	Max Kohlhoff	21
3	GER 332	Nick Heuwinkel	24
4	GER 193	Thomas Schmid	26
5	GER 711	André Budzien	27
6	GER 251	Mark-Raimondo Bayer	48
7	AUT 3	Michael Gubi	61
8	GER 8	Jürgen Eiermann	63
9	DEN 80	Michael Staal	71
10	GER 824	Jürgen Alberty	74

Other Germany

As most of the regattas were cancelled early, the few local regattas which were not cancelled were attracting the Finn



Fleet even more – i.e. we had a regatta here at Lake Constance with more than 50 registrations – too bad that there was no wind that weekend, but I felt that this wasn't bothering the sailors too much – they just came because they wanted to be together with their friends.

And despite the situation the German Class is growing. Almost every month new boats are sold and new members are registering in the class. All of this is showing that we will come out strong from this and show up at local and international events strong in the next years.

GREAT BRITAIN



British Finn UK Masters and Open

Christchurch Sailing Club, 19-20 Sept.

Supported by Allen Brothers and Suntouched Sailboats, CSC organised a Covid secure and socially distanced event, much to the delight of the of 30 sailors that attended. As the first major event of the year everyone was all keen to get back to some big fleet championship racing.

After the first day in an unseasonal 16-24 knot north-easterly, Allen Burrell and John Greenwood were tied on 6 points apiece, out in front of defending champion Lawrence Crispin and Finnish flyer Kristian Sjoberg.

Sunday was still north-easterly, but a much sunnier and lighter. Richard Sharp hit the left hand corner to take a good lead that he held until the finish. Then Crispin mastered the tricky conditions to score his second win. Burrell held his nerve by going hard into the shore on the final race, and despite a few dodgy light patches into the mark, he was rewarded with a big shift that gave him a big enough lead to take the win.

Burrell emerged as the clear winner

on 8pts, but the following five boats were all within 14 points, underlining the strong competition at the top of the Masters fleet. The 'evergreen' Howard Sellars won the Super Legends Category, with a great 20th OA, and at the other end of the age range, Drew Barnes was awarded the U 23 prize.

1	GBR 2	Allen Burrell-GM	8
2	GBR 74	Lawrence Crispin-GM	13
3	GBR 5	John Greenwood-GGM16	
4	FIN 201	Kristian Sjoberg-GM	24
5	GBR 49	Jim Downer	26
6	GBR 635	Simon Percival-M	27
7	GBR 21	Michael De Courcy-GM32	
8	GBR 90	Richard Sharp-GM	39
9	GBR 61	John Heyes-GM	46
10	GBR 100	Matthew Walker-M	51

Warsash Sailing Club hosted the third, but sadly final BFA event of a curtailed 2020 season, on October 10-11. 28 Finns entered for the season's famous finale. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 restrictions placed on the sailors from Scotland prevented them from attending.

Saturday provided perfect conditions with 12-18 knots while Sunday was much lighter. John Greenwood had the best of the seven races winning the first two races



and only once dropping out of the top three. Other race wins went to Lawrence Crispin, James Downer, Kristian Sjoberg.

1	GBR 5	John Greenwood	12
2	GBR 74	Lawrence Crispin	17
3	GBR 49	Jim Downer	18
4	FIN 201	Kristian Sjoberg	24
5	GBR 2	Allen Burrell	38
6	GBR 90	Richard Sharp	38
7	GBR 100	Matthew Walker	44
8	GBR 567	Martin Hughes	46
9	GBR 13	Roman Khodykin	53
10	GBR 33	Kieran Holt	53