



CONTENTS

UIM RACES

- TEAM ABU DHABI AIM FOR BIG ENDURANCE TRIUMPH IN FRANCE
- UIM F1H2O CHAMPIONSHIP READY TO REGROUP IN PORTIMAO
- PORTIMAO ALL SET TO KICKSTART UIM-ABP AQUABIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP'S 25TH SEASON
- MALTA TEAM EL DIABLO SHINES AS MARINE DIFFUSION TOP RANKING
- CHINA TV SERVICE TO SUPPORT V8 SUPERBOATS FOR A SECOND SEASON

INSIDE THE UIM

- WADA WELCOMES SIGNIFICANT DECISION BY COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT
- INTERNATIONAL MOTORSPORTS & ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOP

TEAM ABU DHABI AIM FOR BIG ENDURANCE TRIUMPH IN FRANCE

Team Abu Dhabi are primed for a major effort to secure a second victory in the prestigious 24 Hours of Rouen endurance race which gets under way on the River Seine in Northern France on Tuesday.

The reigning UIM F1H2O world team champions have sent a powerful two-boat entry into the dramatic 24-hour speedboat race which has been running since 1964 and attracts around 400,000 spectators.

Individual world F1 champion Shaun Torrente joins forces in Team Abu Dhabi 35 with Emiratis Rashed Al Qemzi and Rashed Al Tayer along with Italian endurance specialist Tullio Abbate, a member of the team's victorious 2016 line-up in Rouen.

Team Abu Dhabi 36 features the all-Emirati combination of Mohamed Al Mehairbi, Faleh Al Mansoori, Majed Al Mansoori and Rashed Al Remeithi.

For Torrente, Al Qamzi, and Al Tayer the challenge is to go one better than last year when they were in the team which overcame a series of niggling technical issues, an eight-lap penalty for turn buoy violations and a late scare over fuel levels to finish second in the highly competitive S2 class.

Standing in their way again are last year's winners, Team Nollet, featuring

the all-Russian crew of Roman and Dmitry Vandyshev, Andrey Paniushkin and Dmitry Malkin, along with a cluster of top French challengers all aiming for a home triumph.



Salem Al Remeithi, general manager of Abu Dhabi International Marine Sports Club said:

"We know the Russians will be difficult to beat and as usual competition in Rouen will be intense, but we have come here to win and both teams are looking forward to the race. We had to overcome a series of obstacles last year to take second place and naturally hope that our two boats can avoid any major problems this time and give us a second win in the race."

Following the four-hour Monday evening free practice, the 24 Hours of Rouen, staged within the framework of the World Endurance Championship, begins at 10am on Tuesday 30 April with the first of two non-stop 11-hour and nine-hour race sessions finishing at 4pm on Wednesday.



UIM F1H2O CHAMPIONSHIP READY TO REGROUP IN PORTIMAO

The testing 1.937km Arade River Circuit is the next challenge drivers take on when the UIM F1H2O World Championship resets and regroups for round 2 in Portimao for the 18th Grand Prix of Portugal on 17-19 May.

Portugal's European City of Sport for 2019 held its first event in 1999 and this year hosts its 17th Grand Prix, with drivers looking to post their first points of the season after the weather-disrupted season opener in Dammam, Saudi Arabia in March.

Defending champion Shaun Torrente returns to the Algarve to defend his Grand Prix title and will be looking for a repeat pole and win double after leading home Abu Dhabi teammate Thani Al Qemzi, the winner of race 2 in 2009, with CTIC F1 Shenzhen driver Philippe Chiappe targeting a fourth win in Portugal and his third in the Algarve.

Victory Team's Ahmed Al Hameli is another with a good record in Portimao claiming two pole positions and two race wins, Sharjah Team's Sami Selio looking to add to his two pole and three runners-up slots and Blaze Performance's Francesco Cantando going after his seventh podium on the Arade.

Arguably the most memorable pole position was Marit Stromoy's in 2011, but her hopes of converting it into a race win was thwarted by a spectacular coming together with Shaun Torrente and the Norwegian will be keen to avoid another fiery encounter with Jonas Andersson that ended their races on the opening lap last year.

The return of Erik Stark, who missed the season opener, with French outfit Maverick F1 Racing renews his rivalry with former teammates Torrente and Al Qemzi and adds spice to the title race, and with no championship points registered in Dammam the Swede starts his title campaign still on level terms.





PORTIMAO

ALL SET TO KICKSTART UIM - ABP AQUABIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP'S 25TH SEASON



The world's best jet ski racers will once again lock horns and launch their quests to claim the prestigious UIM-ABP world titles in Ski Ladies GP1, Ski Division GP1, Freestyle, and the blue ribbon event, Runabout GP1, when Portimao hosts the UIM-ABP Aquabike World Championship season-opener on 10-12 May.

Over the last quarter of a century, the UIM-ABP tour has provided some of the most exciting marine motorsport action in the world and there are few sports that can match the colour, the paddock camaraderie, the excitement and the spectacular action where every rider is tested to their limits of endurance, concentration, fitness, and skill.

The opening round of the 2019 season marks the start of a spectacular ten-day water festival on the Arade River over back-to-back weekends and includes the one-off UIM-ABP Ski Juniors World Championship and round 2 of the flagship UIM

F1H2O World Powerboat Championship [17-19].

Last season saw 81 riders from 32 countries compete in the elite ranks on the UIM-ABP GP1 tour, with 560 riders from 38 countries now represented in the prestigious UIM-ABP World Rankings and the upward trend looks set to continue with the 2019 line-ups in all categories littered with World, National and European Champions.

For the first time in his illustrious ten year career Jeremy Perez sets out at the beginning of a season to defend the Runabout world title, Victory Team's Kevin Reiterer will be looking to start the year strongly as he targets a third Ski title, with Krista Uzare heading up an impressive line-up in the Ladies Division, whilst in Freestyle all eyes will be on Team Abu Dhabi's world champion Rashed Al Mulla to see if he can extend his six Grand Prix unbeaten run.



UIM V2 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP



MALTA TEAM EL DIABLO SHINES AS MARINE DIFFUSION TOP RANKING

With great weather conditions and enthusiastic crowds watching on from the shores of St. Paul's Bay, the 2019 VOOMQUEST Enemed UIM V2 Powerboat World Championship concluded its first Grand Prix after crowning Marine Diffusion #55 (Corsica) duo Dominique and Jean-Luc Martini as overall winners after the race weekend.

The team gathered top points in the first two races on Saturday and a second placing in Sunday's final for a total of 57 points.

After a successful 2018 experimental season, the V2 racing series was granted the UIM World Championship status. This first event held in Malta has attracted six teams from four different countries for this Première.

Five-time powerboat racing world champion Aaron Ciantar, and builder of the V2 boats, was very happy

with the outcome of this first World Championship event. *"The response was incredible and I'm very happy about it because Malta deserves a championship of this calibre," Ciantar said.*

"We'll be looking to replicate this and maybe even increase participation also from the spectators." Ciantar, the Chaudron Powerboats' Managing Director, emphasized that the boats competing were all of the one-design class and would require performances from the pilots which are impeccable.

"The pilots and co-pilots did a great job over the weekend despite experiencing some rough conditions at one point in the GP" Ciantar explained.

"The new teams also performed well. I believe they're on their way to becoming great professionals in the sport."



This point was especially brought out by the winners of Sunday's Race Three – Team El Diablo #88 (Malta), who are one of the new teams taking part.

The local pair had started shakily in the first race but recovered soon after by getting a close second in Race Two and eventually taking first place in their last outing of the weekend.

This event also saw first-time pilot Clive Butler and co-pilot Sammy Grima competing as teammates after having been on opposite sides many times before.

"We felt very comfortable working with each other. With the help of the team owners, we were able to push towards achieving the results we ended up with," the team said.

The *El Diablo* pilots praised the level of their competition in this event and also look forward to facing other teams in the next Event.

"We hope to see other new teams in the next Event, and we will continue to work hard to remain competitive. We believe that this is just the beginning for us."

The next VOOMQUEST Grand Prix takes place off the Sliema promenade in June and is part of a long-term plan to continue organising these world championships.

Each of the next two GP are confirmed to take place in Malta while negotiations are under way regarding the fourth and fifth round of the UIM V2 World Championship.

Ciantar said emulating this kind of event *"is essential for us to raise the level of our game in Malta and abroad, especially within the next five years."*



We hope to see other new teams in the next Event, and we will continue to work hard to remain competitive. We believe that this is just the beginning for us.





CHINA TV SERVICE TO SUPPORT V8 SUPERBOATS FOR A SECOND SEASON

The Penrite Australian V8 Superboat Championships received unprecedented television exposure during the 2019 season, coverage which saw the sport beamed onto television screens around the world and onto airlines flying across the globe.

That exposure reflected the 2018 relationship between the Australian Formula Jet Sprint Association [AFJSA] and Beijing's China Television Service Co Ltd [CTVS] who produce the bulk of the motorsport coverage across Asia.

CTVS CEO Gernot 'Berti' Kuntze initially came across V8 Superboats two years earlier after discussions with their Creative Director Sean Henshelwood, who is also responsible for the media exposure of this incredible form

of motorsport in Australia.

"I couldn't believe what I was watching when I first saw it, I thought it had all been put on fast forward," Kuntze admitted. "Imagine a machine that can accelerate faster than a Formula One car on water, then turn at up to 6Gs without slowing down, then put the whole circuit in a field not much bigger than a football pitch and watch it all unfold against the clock - it's insane!"

During the 2018 season in Australia, CTVS filmed and produced four 30-minute programs across eight events which also included a UIM internationally-sanctioned World Series event contested across two races in late 2018 between Australia, New Zealand (who invented this crazy sport) and the USA.



“

I couldn't believe what I was watching when I first saw it, I thought it had all been put on fast forward

From the get-go, the V8 Superboat programs were very well received, the reaction to this incredible motorsport category seeing the first two half hour programs distributed across Asia to a market in the hundreds of millions of homes, whilst also being shown locally in Australia on Fox Sports across the summer holidays.

The CTVS relationship also saw V8 Superboats appear as inflight programs in a number of leading international airlines including Cathay Pacific and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines.

With two more programs from the 2018 Penrite UIM World Series due for delivery in coming weeks, and two more programs scheduled for the 2019 Penrite Australian Championships, the profile of the sport will continue to grow, with more and more networks including North America and Europe expected to join the distribution list this year.

For CTVS, an involvement with V8 Superboats allows China's leading independent production house to give something back to motorsport, a sport with which they have become synonymous across the Asia-Pacific region.

"For the last five years CTVS have been the leading technical and production partner of the top motorsport championships in Asia," Kuntze explained.

"We also understand - especially on the forefront of the emerging Asian market - that sometimes developing categories need support, and we were happy last year to help give V8 Superboats that opportunity to increase their reach.

"Personally, I think it's one of the most dramatic forms of motorsport I have ever seen, and the feedback from everyone we have shown the footage to only further reinforces that, it just needs a bigger audience, so if we can help facilitate that to ensure the relationship continues into the future, then we will do everything we can to keep supporting V8 Superboats."

Whilst he wasn't able to confirm too many details, Kuntze also let slip that a new opportunity to promote motorsport on networks across Asia in 2019 might well provide V8 Superboats with another chance to broaden its reach.

"We have in place some very good opportunities to take motorsport to a whole new level in 2019, one of the most exciting coming in China where I think V8 Superboats would be well received. It is a country with the world's largest population, and a country that only now is starting to discover motorsport, and I think the nature of V8 Superboats would prove very popular. Like all things in this part of the world, progress is conservative, but if we continue to make forward steps, then we will all be much better placed when the sport ultimately takes off."





WADA WELCOMES SIGNIFICANT DECISION BY COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT



A newly developed method for detecting the use of prohibited substances in athletes has led to a significant and unprecedented [29 March 2019 decision](#) by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in favour of the World Anti-Doping Agency.

CAS issued a final award confirming Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs) in the cases of the Ukrainian track and field athletes, Olesia Povh and Olha Zemliak. Both athletes were convicted of using a prohibited substance based on the detection of non-physiological levels of testosterone in their blood serum samples following analysis in the WADA-accredited laboratories in Lausanne, Switzerland, and Seibersdorf, Austria.

The testing was initiated by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF). This led to the subsequent investigation, which resulted in these important convictions. The measurement of testosterone levels in blood serum constitutes a further tool for Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) to detect and prosecute doping, even where urine samples might be reported as negative.

WADA Director General Olivier Niggli said: "WADA welcomes this decision by CAS, which could have a long-term positive impact on clean sport. I would also like to commend the AIU for their excellent work which led to this outcome. The decision sets an important precedent and this new method of detecting doping represents another way for ADOs to secure Anti-Doping Rule Violations against those who choose to cheat. It is a significant victory for clean sport and for athletes around the world."

Significantly, CAS ruled that there could be no doubt on the evidence that the method used in measuring testosterone in blood serum was scientifically valid, paving the way for further examples of this method being used in the future.

Olesia Povh was sanctioned with a four-year period of ineligibility for intentional doping while Olha Zemliak received an eight-year period of ineligibility as it was her second violation.



CLEAN ENERGY PROPELS FUTURE OF YACHTING

Organised every July by the Yacht Club de Monaco, in partnership with UIM (International Powerboating Federation) and Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, the Monaco Solar & Energy Boat Challenge (MSEBC) is unique and continues to go from strength to strength.

Reviving a century-old tradition, the Yacht Club de Monaco invites engineering students to work with industry experts and give free rein to their creativity to design and build propulsion systems using only clean energy sources. A packed programme includes slalom and endurance races, a speed record trial and a 16 nautical mile (nm) offshore race (Monaco-Ventimiglia-Monaco).

The fifth edition in 2018 attracted 200 contestants from 12 nationalities across 30 teams in three Classes: Solar, Offshore and Energy Class. In the Solar Open Class, Gerhard van der Schaar's Dutch Clafis Victron Energy Solar Boat Team won with its record speed of 49.10km/h (distance one eighth of a nm or 231.5m) with British driver David Gray clinching the offshore race on Vita Yachts in 54 minutes and 41 seconds.

For 2019, over 40 teams are expected with a focus on the new Energy Class, which was launched in 2018. The challenge is to design the most efficient, durable propulsion system for a one-design catamaran hull supplied by the YCM to each team. They can choose any clean energy source but it looks like hydrogen

will take centre stage for 2019 with three teams betting on the use of fuel cell to win.

Alongside action on the water, daily Tech Talks include talks by experts but are also a chance for teams to present their projects, shared on Open Source and via a Facebook Group. The goal is to motivate students and encourage them to share information on their research, which is so vital to moving this industry forward.

Prizes are awarded at the end of the challenge including: Innovation Prize, Best Tech Talk and Zero Emission Award. For more information and registrations, please visit www.ycm.org





On Saturday 6th July 2019, the Yacht Club de Monaco and the UIM will co-host the third edition of the International Motorsports & Environment Workshop.

The event which will be held alongside the Monaco Solar & Energy Boat Challenge will be attended by multi-stakeholder representatives from the four International Motorsport Federations FIA, FIM, FAI and UIM, the renewable-energy industry, Design Studios and Academia, all of whom will present ways how to apply sustainable energy sources for mobility on water, land and in the air.

The main goal of the workshop is to exchange best practice and to provide a platform to discuss "How to have a better world through Sustainable Motorsports & Green energies".

“

This event is a way to raise public awareness. Sustainable energy sources exist today and it is up to us to demonstrate their application





**LOCAL PARTNER OF
UIM F1H2O WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
IN CHINA**

WORLD-LEADING F1 CHINA CTIC TEAM

