

H2O Magazine

N° 4 | DECEMBER 2016

H2O RACING
POWERBOAT PROMOTION



F1H2O

FIVE IN THE MIX IN
TITLE SHOWDOWN IN
THE UAE

AQUABIKE

PORET WINS SKI WORLD
TITLE - SHARJAH
PREPARES FOR SEASON
FINALE

NATIONSCUP

TEAM RUSSIA
RETAIN TITLE

TIMING FOR CHAMPIONS

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H2O RACING POWERBOAT PROMOTION

H2O Racing is a sport's marketing company set up by Nicolò di San Germano to promote World Championship events in powerboating.

The company was launched in January 2011 and brings together a group of professionals with over 30 years of experience in sport's and event management to collectively manage all commercial and marketing activities across three Union Internationale Motonautique (UIM) sanctioned properties; the F1H2O World Powerboat Championships, the Aquabike World Championships and Nations Cup.

President: Nicolò di San Germano

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UNION INTERNATIONALE MOTONAUTIQUE - UIM

The Union Internationale Motonautique (U.I.M.) was formed in 1922, and is the world governing body for powerboating. It is fully recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and is also a member of the Sportaccord, the former General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) and of ARISF, the Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations.

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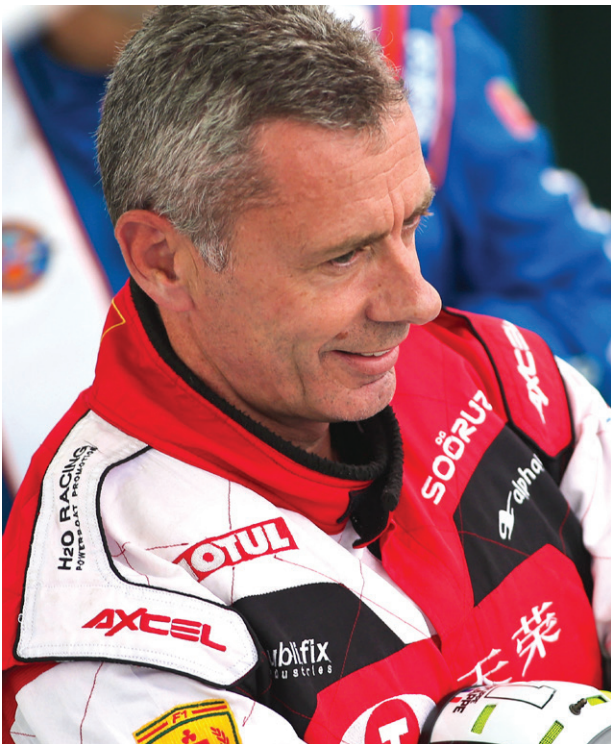
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CHIAPPE IN CHARGE IN F1H2O TITLE RACE

Defending world champion Philippe Chiappe is in charge and in control of his own destiny in the race for the 2016 UIM F1H2O driver's world title.

Two-time champion Chiappe tops the standings with 67 points and could close out the title race at the penultimate Grand Prix of the season in Abu Dhabi on 7-9 December. A second career-win in Abu Dhabi for the CTIC F1 Shenzhen China driver would take key challengers Sami Selio on 47 points, Alex Carella on 42 and Jonas Andersson on 37, out of the title chase, irrespective of where they finish.

If Shaun Torrente was to follow Chiappe to the chequered flag [in Abu Dhabi] in second place he would then need to win at the Grand Prix of Sharjah a week later on 14-16 December, with Chiappe finishing in tenth or not finishing.

But if Chiappe wins [in Abu Dhabi] and Torrente is third or lower, the Frenchman from Le Vaudreuil will be champion for a third consecutive season.

DOES AL HAMELI HOLD THE 'KEY' TO WHO WINS THE TITLE RACE?

Emirates Racing's Ahmed Al Hameli may well hold the key to unlock the title race if he can deliver the same brilliant form in the final races of the season in Abu Dhabi and Sharjah in December that he produced in Liuzhou in China last time out.

The 2016 driver's title is beyond Al Hameli's reach, but his return to the top step of the podium in qualifying and the race in China will not have been

overlooked by the five protagonists still in the fight for the title.

If Al Hameli delivers again and is in the mix for podium finishes and or race wins in the UAE he will be taking much needed points out of the equation that the likes of Torrente, Selio, Carella and Andersson desperately want. Equally if he can unseat points' leader Chiappe he will back him into the chasing pack.



NATIONS CUP AND AQUABIKE EVENTS ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRAL STATUS



The UIMH2O Nations Cup and UIM-ABP Aquabike Grand Prix of Shanghai were confirmed as the first 'carbon neutral events' across both the sporting categories to take place in the People's Republic of China.

Throughout the negotiations and planning stages to bring two such high profile international events to Shanghai, ensuring

the carbon neutral status of both was high priority for H2O Racing president Nicolo di San Germano and BUND Holding Group chairman, Mr Chongjie Xin. "Investing in high quality carbon reduction projects and making events carbon neutral is our commitment to ensure that we respect and achieve our corporate social responsibilities."



JEREMY PORET SEALS SKI GP1 TITLE

The Grands Prix in Shanghai and Liuzhou proved definitive in Ski GP1 with Jeremy Poret landing his fourth world title in six years.

If anyone expected it to happen with the final round in Sharjah on 19-21 December still looming large, I doubt it, least of all Poret who went through a maelstrom of emotions of self-doubt, frustration

and then elation in the space of a week in China. "In the end Liuzhou was a perfect weekend for me. It is a good circuit for me," he said. "After Shanghai I was very disappointed. I really was not very good and questioned myself, the Ski, everything. So I looked at myself to understand why, what was going wrong. I had to wake up."

RUSSIA WIN NATIONS CUP



For the second year in a row Team Russia proved too strong for their rivals as they retained their UIM H2O Nations Cup crown in Shanghai.

Fifteen drivers from eight countries lined up in one of the strongest and most diverse line-ups seen, with a raft of previous winners, series newcomers and one or two legends of powerboating all vying for top honours.

Roman Vandyshv, strongly backed up by Andrei Panyushkin, was the standout driver and guided the team to overall victory, going quickest in qualifying, taking third in the match race and winning both sprint races. Second overall went to Team USA's veteran pairing with Team UAE in third, Rashed Al Qamzi winning the match race shoot-out over Australia's Brock Cohen.

JOHANSSON BACK FOR SHARJAH FINALE



Sweden's Johan Johansson has made a full recovery following his crash in Liuzhou and will line up in Runabout GP1 at the Aquabike season finale in Sharjah.

The 42-year-old from Gothenburg sustained four broken ribs in a big spill involving two other riders in race 1 in Liuzhou and on the advice of doctors remained in hospital in China for longer than expected and ordered not to fly over concerns that the impact and trauma to his lungs needed further recuperation and monitoring.

EMMA-NELLIE FOUR POINTS FROM TITLE DREAM

Emma-Nellie Ortendahl will head to the final Grand Prix of the year in Sharjah in the UAE, 19-21 December, needing just four points to achieve her dream of becoming Ladies Ski GP1 world champion.

The 18-year-old from Alvangen in Sweden has been the class act and the standout rider of the 15 she has faced this year and has hardly missed a beat all year, starting six of eight races in P1, taking win-doubles and GP titles in Otranto, Shanghai and Liuzhou and finishing in second after a fourth and a win in Denia, and nothing short of a cataclysmic meltdown can stop her from laying the ghost of Sharjah, where she lost out on the title last year, to rest.

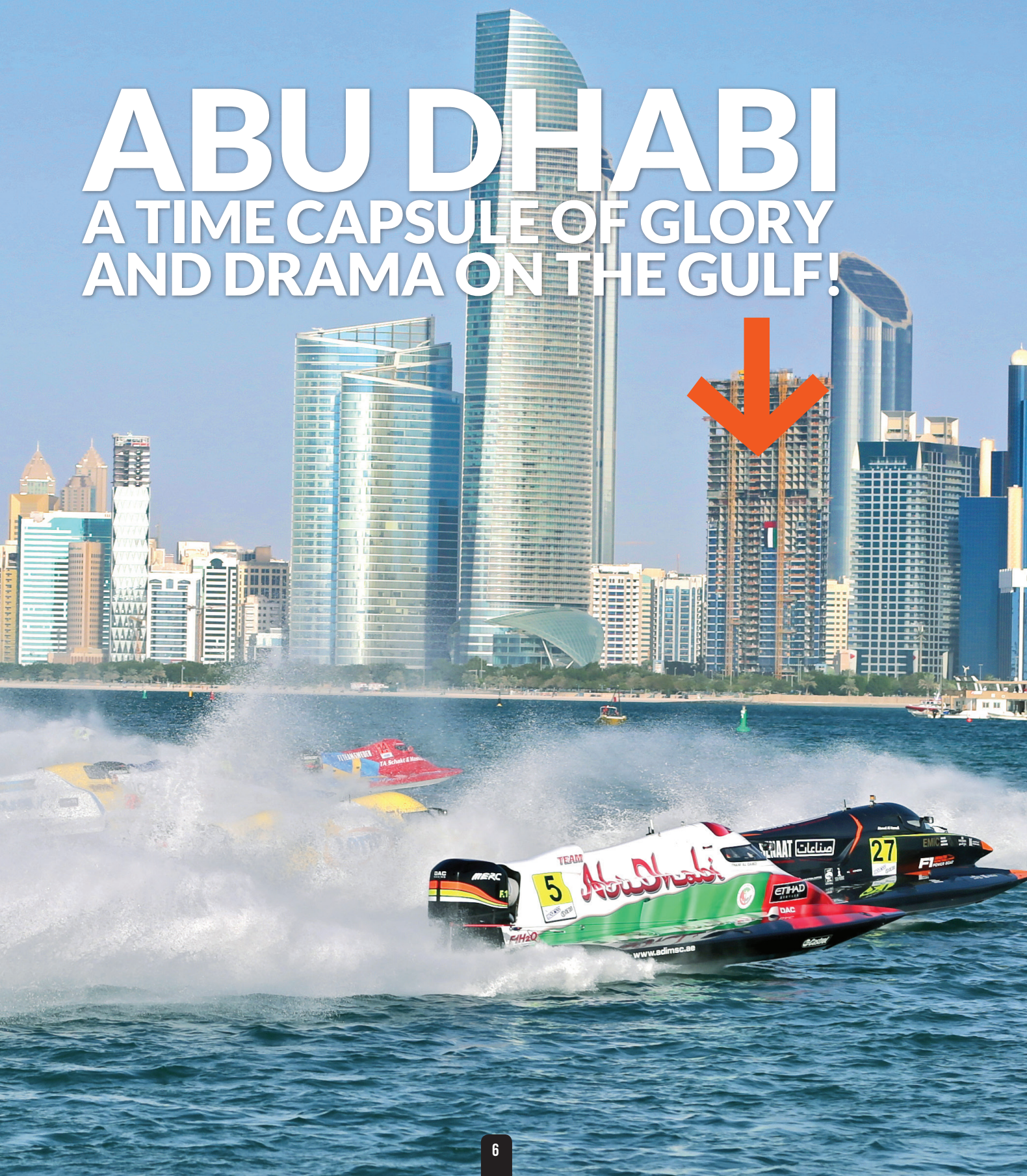
Ortendahl is on top with 188 points, 46 clear of the only challenger still left standing, defending champion Jennifer Menard.



F1H2O

ABU DHABI

A TIME CAPSULE OF GLORY
AND DRAMA ON THE GULF!





T

he serpentine saga that is the longest running race in the history of the UIM F1H2O World Championship, the Grand Prix of Abu Dhabi, dates back to 1993 and is still one of the premiere events of the racing calendar not only for its beauty but for what it stands for in the sports lore.

Why so special? This year will mark the 25th Grand Prix, with 11 different drivers from six various nations having won in the last 24 years along the corniche, facing the downtown center of the crown jewel of the Gulf region that is Abu Dhabi.

The race is famous for its “unknown” results that can turn the table of a world championship upside down in a flick of an eye and dash the hopes of one driver while giving hope and dreams to another.

Why? Because Abu Dhabi has become the all-important “beginning of the end” of a drivers championship since it’s the penultimate race of a Grand Prix season.

It hasn’t always been that way.

Take the first time drivers on the tour came to Abu Dhabi back in 1993.

Italian Hall-of-Fame driver Guido Cappellini won the event at the start the season. The victory would propel him to his first of 10 world titles with American driver Felix Serralles taking second.

The series returned to the corniche for the final race of that year with Serralles, a part time driver who raced mainly on the North American tour, winning and doing so again the following year in 1994 before retiring from F1 powerboat racing for good.

Welshman Jonathan Jones was a strong player in the early years in Abu Dhabi. He won the event in 1995 and went on to capture his final world title in 1998. It would be his first and only time that season at the year’s final race after both Cappellini and American Scott Gillman dropped out losing their hopes of a title while doing so.

Speaking of the Californian Scott Gillman, he is one of three American drivers who have won in Abu Dhabi. The first time was in his rookie season when he won his first World Championship in 1997 and again in 2005.

Jay Price from New Orleans, Louisiana won in 2008 cementing his world title and did so again in 2009 sharing his excitement with the Italian Cappellini who also won at the second Grand Prix event of that year cementing his final title along with his 62nd and final victory of his stellar career.

While Cappellini's five victories in 17 starts in Abu Dhabi are more than anyone else in the history of the race, other notable performances came from Saudi Arabian driver Laith Pharaon. The ex-offshore racer took back to wins in 2002 and again in 2003.

Currently, as we look at today's active drivers that will be racing in the 2016 event there is a lot of history and drama as well in the mix.

Take 2007.

Sami Selio of Finland was trailing Guido Cappellini by 85 to 64 with just two races to be run. It was going to be a "must win" situation for both Emirates races that year for Selio to have any hope with just 40 points to be earned. Selio got the job done when he had two straight perfect weekends taking pole and winning both races to upset the multi-world champion winning the title by just four slim points after the Grand Prix event in Sharjah.

Selio, repeated the feat three years later, coming from behind and taking the title away from the American Jay Price winning from pole in Abu Dhabi and taking second in Sharjah a week later for the second of his two titles.

This year, Selio sits third in the championship with 47 points after three straight podiums in his last three races including a victory in Harbin, China back in early September.

He will need some luck again this year, trailing points leader Philippe Chiappe of France by 20 points, but as the saying goes, "he's been on this doorstep before" and knows what must be done to secure a third title with hopefully his fourth win in Abu Dhabi as well.

No one has had more recent success in Abu Dhabi than Italian Alex Carella as the three-time World Champion driving for the home standing Team Abu Dhabi. Carella has tasted victory in three of the last five years, including last seasons' win from pole position for the Abu Dhabi International Marine Sports Club's first victory in over a decade on home waters.

The 31-year-old driver is trying to shake a two race "slump" where he crashed out in Harbin, China in a fight for second place in the race and a mechanical problem a month later in Liuzhou and dropping from leading the championship to sitting now down in fourth, 25 points back of Chiappe. Carella is hoping that he can return to the magic he had when he won in 2011, 2012 and 2015 to have any legitimate shot at a title in 2016.

Carella's old teammate, Shaun Torrente of Florida, who has had a top-three in the title race the last three years in a row, is still chasing his first world title and sits just 13 points back courtesy of three straight podium thirds along with a pair of fourth place finishes.



No one has had more recent success in Abu Dhabi than Italian Alex Carella as the three-time World Champion driving for the home standing Team Abu Dhabi.

While Cappellini's five victories in 17 starts in Abu Dhabi are more than anyone else in the history of the race.





F1H2O

In Abu Dhabi, most of his memories have been less than exciting, with a fifth place in qualifying being his best back in 2014 and a third place podium in 2014 being his only top-three performance in four previous appearances.

He will need to do more this year if he has any hope of taking the top step of the championship this calendar year for the Emirates based Victory Team.

Sweden's dark horse hope is Jonas Andersson of Team Sweden. He sits 30 points back and is in need of more than one miracle to develop in his chase for his first world title. The driver from Fruvi has raced 11 different times in Abu Dhabi with one podium result in that time since 2006 with a third place finish in 2007.

All eyes will be glued to one man in particular, the two-time defending World Champion Philippe Chiappe of France. The CTIC F1 Shenzhen China Team driver has momentum on his side once again this year, with a 13 point lead over Torrente with just 40 points still up for grabs after a pair of wins and four podium finishes in five starts leading to Abu Dhabi.

The driver from Rouen had a victory from pole position in a must win situation back in 2014 when he went on to win his first title. In his 12 previous starts, he also has four podiums and six top-five finishes and knows he can't let any of the other talented drivers such as Torrente, Selio or Carella buy a ray of hope by making a mistake along the corniche this time around.

Can Chiappe become only the fifth driver in the history of the UIM F1H2O World Championship tour to become a three-time World Champion behind Renato Molinari, Guido Cappellini, Scott Gillman or Alex Carella?

Local drivers such as a fast charging Ahmed Al Hameli from the Emirates Team and Thani Al Qamzi from Team Abu Dhabi will be hoping to spoil the party.

It's another step into the history and drama of the historic third decade at the Grand Prix of Abu Dhabi!

F1H2O



SHARJAH POWERBOAT RACING'S 'FINAL ACT AND WORLD STAGE'!





Last year, Norway's Marit Stromoy made history in her 60th career start in her eighth season of racing on the tour winning for the first time as she charged up from her fourth starting position.



F1H2O



he last act of any play on stage is supposed to be the best act.

Why? Because it ties all the loose ends together!

Its purpose is to bring all the drama that has come before it during the performance to a conclusion.

In life, we all have a beginning and an ending. It's the actions that you put before others that will eventually be judged and thus, make you who you are. It's how people will remember you.

In racing, as in life, it's how you want to be remembered as a driver. Your accomplishments will be weighed against others. You'll be remembered by how you finished overall in your career with success or failure.

And this brings us to the final race of the year, the Grand Prix of Sharjah.

In a series that has witnessed 262 previous races over its 33 year history with 13 different

World Champions and 46 different Grand Prix winners, Sharjah has become a special place in the overall history of the sport of F1H2O racing.

It is not just the "grande finale" but a destination to accomplishing the goal of a world title.

This year will mark the 18th Grand Prix race along the Khalid Lagoon and nothing marks a stronger signature identity to the race than last years' historic result.

On that late afternoon and for the first time in the sport's history, we saw a woman defeat 17 other men in a chase for glory and a Grand Prix victory.

Norway's Marit Stromoy, a professional entertainer by trade and a talented veteran racing driver, made history in her 60th career start in her eighth season of racing on the tour winning for the first time as she charged up from her fourth starting position.

She instantly became a worldwide celebrity.

However, this is just a sample of why Sharjah is

so special with such a multitude of memories over the years.

In 2014, the drama was at a fever pitch, when three drivers were within six points of each other for a world title coming to Sharjah. Teammates Alex Carella and Shaun Torrente driving for the Qatar organization were hot on the trail of French driver Philippe Chiappe who was searching for his first title.

Carella was motivated. He was chasing history looking for his record tying fourth straight title.

Torrente was determined. He was a two-time North American champion coming off both a victory and a second place in his last two starts.

Chiappe, a veteran driver who wasn't an instant success in his career but who had built himself into a force, needed to win, after taking a victory the week before in Abu Dhabi from pole position.

The pressure was intense, but Chiappe used his business savvy and coolly came home with his first of back-to-back world titles with the victory that day.

F1H2O

The same three drivers were deadlocked in 2013.

Coming to Sharjah, this time it was Torrente who had the two point margin, only to lose the title finishing third while his teammate Carella won his third overall title. Chiappe came home second in the race and third in the title chase.

Not convinced yet? Want more?

In 2011, teammates on the Qatar Team again deadlocked in a battle for the title, with another American Jay Price, who had already won a crown the first turn of the first lap, Alex had slipped through and with Price pushing hard from behind the two touched crashing violently out of the race handing Carella the world title for the first time in his career.

A year earlier, Sharjah was the deciding factor for a title win once again.

This time Price was leading the table, but this time Finnish driver Sami Selio stole the show finishing second to Price's conservative sixth place result. Thus, Selio leap frogged over Price for his second championship while Jay was left shaking his head.

This is just a sampling of the past six years as the list goes on and on.

OK, a few more memories to sprinkle into the mix.

Sami Selio's miracle come-from-behind back-to-back victories to win his first world title from Hall-of-Fame driver Guido Cappellini in 2007.

Another Hall-of-Fame competitor, American Scott Gillman, earned his fourth and final title a year earlier cruising home to a seventh place finish after Cappellini dropped out of the race and once again having bad luck on the Khalid Lagoon, finishing runner-up in the championship.

So, when all is done and dusted coming into the pair of races in the Emirates there are five drivers still in with a shout.

Two-time world champion Philippe Chiappe is leading the way with Shaun Torrente 13 points back in second and Sami Selio 20 points back in third as they head to the Grand Prix of Abu Dhabi.

Italian Alex Carella is 25 points back of Chiappe and Swede Jonas Andersson the dark horse with 30 points still to gain.

In all, Torrente needs to find magic in Emirates and win in Sharjah for the first time in order to have a real chance at catching Chiappe and not let the Frenchman win a title for the third straight season.

It's all coming to the final act, all on the Khalid Lagoon. Once again Sharjah will have the world center stage on the 18 December.



Torrente needs to find magic in Emirates and win in Sharjah for the first time in order to have a real chance at catching Chiappe.



F1H2O

CHIAPPE ON DOOR-STEP OF ANOTHER TITLE AFTER A PODIUM SWEEP IN CHINA!







F1H2O

Fourteen year racing veteran Philippe Chiappe cut a swathe of nothing but success in the back-to-back two race Grand Prix “Chinese tour” of the 2016 UIM F1H2O World Championship in early fall, capturing a well-earned third place finish in Harbin, following that up with a second place performance a few weeks later, giving the CTIC F1 Shenzhen China Team driver a 13 point lead in the drivers’ championship with just two races to run.

The 52-year-old, who has now competed in 102 F1H2O Grand Prix, has a pair of victories and two podium finishes in the four races he’s completed this season, has now set himself as the odds on favorite to win a third straight world title in the Emirates by mid-December.

It wasn’t all smooth sailing for the driver from Rouen this year in China however.

To say the least, he truly faced a huge challenge, especially in the early September round at the first ever

Grand Prix of Harbin in northern China. A technical problem in qualifying saw him fail to get out of the Q1 qualifying session, forcing him to start way back in the 15th grid position. “It turned out to be an electrical problem that caused our trim to quit working,” said Chiappe. “We worked on it as quickly as we could but couldn’t solve it in time and were forced to start way in the back for the race. I will say I truly earned the podium spot in Harbin pushing as hard as I could on a very warm day. My physical training paid for itself during those hard fought 60 laps of racing.”

The likeable Frenchman stretched his lead in the championship when three-time world title holder Alex Carella of Team Abu Dhabi fell out of first place in the championship crashing in a big way fighting for second place in Harbin with young Finnish driver Filip Roms, who was up to that point, having his best racing day of his short four year career.

Carella became an unwanted spectator, watching Roms’ teammate veteran driver Sami Selio win for the first time all season for the Mad Croc Baba Racing Team.



UIM F1H2O WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

after round 5

POS	NOS	RIDER	TEAM	POINTS
1	1	Philippe Chiappe	CTIC F1 SHENZHEN CHINA TEAM	67
2	4	Shaun Torrente	VICTORY TEAM	54
3	11	Sami Selio	MAD-CROC BABA RACING	47
4	6	Alex Carella	TEAM ABU DHABI	42
5	14	Jonas Andersson	TEAM SWEDEN	37
6	27	Ahmed Al Hameli	EMIRATES RACING TEAM	25
7	28	Erik Stark	EMIRATES RACING TEAM	19
8	10	Duarte Benavente	F1 ATLANTIC TEAM	19
9	12	Filip Roms	MAD-CROC BABA RACING	18
10	50	Marit Stromoy	EMIC RACING TEAM	10
11	73	Cédric Deguisne	MAVERICK RACING	9
12	2	Xiong Ziwei	CTIC F1 SHENZHEN CHINA TEAM	9
13	5	Thani Al Qamzi	TEAM ABU DHABI	9
14	9	Christophe Larigot	F1 ATLANTIC TEAM	7
15	23	Bartek Marszalek	BLAZE PERFORMANCE TEAM	5
16	80	Ivan Brigada	EMIC RACING TEAM	4
17	51	Mike Szymura	EMIC RACING TEAM	4
18	24	Francesco Cantando	BLAZE PERFORMANCE TEAM	3
19	3	Nadir Bin Hendi	VICTORY TEAM	2
20	15	Jesper Forss	TEAM SWEDEN	0

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For the two-time World Champion Selio, it brought him solidly back into the championship fight. Selio, who also finished third in Liuzhou and now sits just 20 points back of the points leader Chiappe, will be hoping for the Frenchman to run into more bad luck in the Emirates in December.

Meanwhile, Carella's season only would get worse.

His misfortune only grew as he failed to finish the race in Liuzhou after qualifying in a fine third position. His dreams of a comeback and of winning for a second time in 2016 fell apart when he DNF'd in 15th position dropping him to fourth in the title chase with 42 points and 25 behind leader Chiappe.

The first of back-to-back races in China and the lovely setting that is Harbin also highlighted the charge from the back of the grid by American driver Shaun Torrente.

Torrente, who drives for the Emirates based Victory Team, flew in perfect formation with Chiappe as they both carved their way up through the field at the start of the 60 lap event. He would eventually finish a sterling fourth after starting 16th on the dock.



Selio, who also finished third in Liuzhou and now sits just 20 points back of the points leader Chiappe.



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The two-time North American Champion, who has three straight top-three finishes in the drivers' championship in the last three years, also took a fourth in Liuzhou and is now in second place with 54 points and 13 behind Chiappe as he hopes to earn his first gold medal at seasons end.

The 60 lap circuit in Harbin was a short "bull ring" of a layout, with just four turns to navigate hi-lighted by plenty of passing and close sponson-to-sponson racing throughout. Swedish driver Jonas Andersson qualified well and followed that up with his best result of the season taking second place and his first podium of the season.

A few weeks later Andersson's luck ran out as the Team Sweden driver struggled with his equipment in qualifying, forcing him to start last, but he charged his way up for more points finishing seventh at races end. He still is a long shot for his first title and will need help with a 30 point gap between him and Chiappe with 40 points still up for grabs in Abu Dhabi and Sharjah on the horizon.

Out of the championship hunt, but a real star after his dominating win in Liuzhou was the talented Ahmed Al Hameli, who won from pole picking up his first victory in five seasons after his long illness coming from a brain tumor stopping his career for almost a year back in 2012.





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The Emirates Team driver is hoping to play a “spoiler” role in the Emirates, while re-igniting his confidence and make a real run for the championship in 2017.

Al Hameli’s young teammate Erik Stark of Sweden, had back-to-back fifth place finishes in China while qualifying both times in that same position, having now finishing his last three races of the season after failing to do so in the first two Grand Prix.

The pair of events in the People’s Republic will long be remembered for their enthusiasm and excitement featuring the first ever event in the northern city of Harbin followed by Liuzhou which has been a mainstay since 2008.

Defending World Champion Chiappe did just enough to increase his lead in the title chase to 13 points with two back-to-back podium finishes and, for the third straight year, has a chance to wrap up a world championship in the final month of the season in the Emirates in December.

It took a special effort in both races during the very warm months in China to get it accomplished, proving that once again China is the “gatekeeper” events to a world championship title! ■



'EMIRATES MAGIC' THESE DRIVERS KNOW THE WAY!

F1H2O

Some drivers seem to have that special "happy place" at a certain race that they always do well at, with great results year-after-year.

The final swing of any season on the UIM F1H2O World Championship tour are the Emirates races which are back-to-back every year and truly a grind for not only the drivers, but their crews and families alike.

Some also seem to get it right every year. Let's take a look at who's had the greatest success in the Emirates over the years.

For the Grand Prix of Abu Dhabi which will be

the sixth race of the 2016 campaign, if you were a betting person, Italian Alex Carella, a three-time world champion and driving for the home Team Abu Dhabi organization would be the most logical choice. In just six races starts the driver from Piacenza has three victories and four podiums so he has a fantastic 50/50 chance to win in 2016 as well.

Next would be another three-time winner in twice world champion Sami Selio of Finland. This driver from Helsinki has won in Abu Dhabi under tremendous pressure in the past and whose last victory was 2013 in his 16 previous starts so he's winning at almost a 20% clip or one out of five chances.

F1H2O

Philippe Chiappe, the current world champion has only won once in his 12 previous starts in Abu Dhabi but that was in 2014 and last season he finished second so he's on a bit of a roll of success as well.

At the final round of 2016 at the Grand Prix of Sharjah no current driver has won more than Emirati Thani Al Qamzi who has three victories in 17 starts for a winning percentage near 20% as he drives for the nearby Team Abu Dhabi organization.

Another driver from Abu Dhabi who has done well in his home country and who is red-hot at the moment is Ahmed Al Hameli racing for the Emirates Team and looking for his third overall win on the lagoon in 10 starts and who's winning at a 20% clip.

Alex Carella, also driving for Team Abu Dhabi has won once (2013) in his six starts, while Philippe Chiappe has 13 races under his belt winning in 2014, both still in the hunt for the title in 2016.

Who can forget last years' winning performance by Marit Stromoy of Norway as the EMIC Team driver won in her ninth start. Also having won is veteran Italian Francesco Cantando of the Blaze Performance Team winning at the races inaugural event in 2000.

These drivers all have happy memories in the Emirates and want to keep the dream alive in December. ■





EMIRATI DRIVER
AHMED AL HAMELI
BACK ON TOP ONCE AGAIN!

F1H2O

Al Ain
Al Ain Dairy



F1H2O

It's taken the Emirates Team driver and crowd favorite, Ahmed Al Hameli, five years and 20 Grand Prix to get his "mo-jo" back but he did it in a big way in early October in Liuzhou, China winning from pole position and once again becoming a factor in the world of UIM F1H2O powerboat racing.

The 37-year-old driver from Abu Dhabi had his world turn upside down back in 2012 while leading the world drivers title after three rounds and soon discovering a life changing diagnosis that no one wants to hear when he found out his frequent headaches were coming from a tumor he had in his brain.

Quick medical work and months of rehabilitation in the United States gave him back his world of being a racing driver but it took him from 2013 to Liuzhou to truly find himself and bring himself back as a true race winner in the sport in Liuzhou. "Yes, I got the monkey

off my back and you can't imagine how excited not only myself, my team, my teammate and my family is but all those who had faith in me to get this turned around and get back on track," stated Al Hameli.

"Coming off a big victory in Liuzhou and now I am so pumped up and ready to try and win for the first time in my hometown in Abu Dhabi and my third trip to the top step in Sharjah to end the season on a real high and shot for 2017."

The hurdles this driver from Abu Dhabi has had to endure are nothing compared to his current race win. If anyone in the starting field of drivers will try to upset the championship fight, it will be Al Hameli, out of the battle for 2016 with 25 points but ready to continue his life change and push for victory at home and make his mark this time around.

Let's see if the youngster can keep the drive alive in December. ■



F4-S

RASHED AL QAMZI CLOSING IN ON F4-S TITLE

Team Abu Dhabi's rising young star Rashed Al Qamzi will have home advantage in the final two rounds of the F4-S Trophy Championship in Abu Dhabi and Sharjah as he bids to become the first Emirati driver to win the title and follow in the footsteps of Britain's Matthew Palfreyman, Sweden's Jesper Forss and three-time winner, Germany's Mike Szymura.

The 24-year-old from Abu Dhabi is enjoying a stellar year and leads the pack on 126 points, 36 clear of Mad Croc BABA Racing's Ferdinand Zandbergen, with 64 in hand over Team Sweden's Kalle Viippo and F1 Atlantic's Jeremy Brisset.

A pair of wins in the penultimate round in Abu Dhabi will put Al Qamzi into an unassailable position with two races to spare.

Al Qamzi has been supremely confident and consistent this season, kicking off the year with his first race win and overall victory in Dubai, winning again Portimao, taking third in the first of two events in China in Harbin and winning in Liuzhou to extend his overall lead. From eight starts this year he has never been outside the top three, taking three race wins, finishing second twice and third three times.

The overall win that got away from Al Qamzi in Harbin went to series newcomer Marcus Sederholm, stepping in to replace Kalle Viippo at Team Sweden, their exploits despite both missing Liuzhou putting them into second place in the Teams Championship behind Abu Dhabi.



“ A pair of wins in the penultimate round in Abu Dhabi will put Al Qamzi into an unassailable position with two races to spare. ”





F4-S



In the chase to somehow steal the title [away from Al Qamzi], Ferdinand Zandbergen looks to be the only realistic challenger, but is still very much an outside bet. He is enjoying his best run in only his second season which has seen the 21-year-old from Veenendaal earn his first race win and three podium finishes. But he will look back at the races in Harbin with frustration, where mechanical issues resulted in dropped points, putting him on the back foot for the remaining rounds.

F4-S debutants Viippo and Brisset sit tied on 62 points in third; Viippo starting well finishing third overall in the opener in Dubai, taking his first race win and second overall in Portimao, but missed the next two events. Brisset started the season badly, failing to post points in the first three races but bounced back with a win and second overall in Harbin, taking his second win in Liuzhou but missed out on the podium to Mohammed Al Mehairbi, his best result of the year.

Victory Team's Mohamed Al Yamahi posted his strongest race performances in China with a fourth and third and sits in fifth in the standings ahead of CTIC F1 Shenzhen China's Wu Bingchen. Tom Chiappe also picked up his best race result in China with a fifth and sits behind Team Abu Dhabi's Al Mehairbi in seventh, Sederholm in eighth with Blaze Performance driver Paolo Longhi ninth, Ali Bin Shaiban the only other points scorer this season in tenth. ■





F4-5 TROPHY CHAMPIONSHIP 2016
after round 4

POS	NOS	RIDER	TEAM	POINTS
1	56	Rashed Al Qamzi	TEAM ABU DHABI	126
2	29	Ferdinand Zandbergen	MAD-CROC BABA RACING	90
3	41	Kalle Viippo	TEAM SWEDEN	62
4	10	Jeremy Brisset	F1 ATLANTIC TEAM	62
5	3	Mohamed Al Yamahi	VICTORY TEAM	55
6	88	Bingchen Wu	CTIC F1 SHENZEN CHINA TEAM	50
7	65	Mohammed Al Mehairbi	TEAM ABU DHABI	44
8	7	Tom Chiappe	EMIC RACING TEAM	37
9	41	Magnus Sederholm	TEAM SWEDEN	35
10	8	Paolo Longhi	BLAZE PERFORMANCE TEAM	16
11	27	Ali Bin Shaiban	EMIRATES RACING TEAM	15
12	17	Ugo Dessertene	CTIC F1 SHENZEN CHINA TEAM	0



AQUABIKE



**UIM-ABP AQUABIKE
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
HEADS TO SHARJAH FOR**

SEASON FINALE



A

season of drama, twists and turns will come to a close when the world's best riders head to the spectacular setting of Khalid Lagoon in the United Arab Emirate of Sharjah for the 2016 UIM-ABP Aquabike World Championship season finale on 19-21 December.

Ahead of the visit to Sharjah, the UIM-ABP tour headed east and the two Grand Prix in ten days in the People's Republic of China in September and October always had the potential to shake up the championship standings. And that is exactly what happened on Dishui Lake in Shanghai and on the River Liu in Liuzhou.

Heading to China and the world titles in Runabout, Ski, Ski Ladies and Freestyle were all open and up for grabs – fast forward and the picture is now very different.

In Ski, Jeremy Poret was somewhat gifted back the crown he relinquished to Kevin Reiterer at the end of last year, when all three of his title rivals failed to post points in race 1 in Liuzhou. Reiterer broke on lap 3, Nacho Armillas joined the race several laps down and limped round completing just 5 laps and Stian Schjetlein failed to make the start line. Poret took the win and maximum points.



James Bushell is the only challenger with an outside chance of overhauling the 36 point deficit.

“New boy Marcus Jorgensen arrived leading the title race, broke in race 1 didn't start race 2 and went home to Denmark.”



And with his rivals all starting race 2 on the outside of the field of 19 Poret needed no more encouragement, sweeping to victory to secure his fourth world title and the GP title, with Alberto Monti and Mickael Poret completing the podium.

His rivals gave it their best shot to keep the title alive, Armillas and Schjetlein coming through the pack to finish fourth and fifth, Reiterer in seventh. But with just two races to go and with 50 points on offer, Poret's 52 point advantage is unassailable.

For Poret the turnaround from despondency and self-doubt in Shanghai where he only managed third overall behind Reiterer and Armillas and saw his lead reduced was remarkable or as Armillas put it 'we handed him that on a plate'!

In Ski Ladies there really has only ever going to be one champion and that is Emma-Nellie Ortendahl. The 18-year-old from Alvangen in Sweden won all four races and both GP titles in China by a country mile and has now won seven of the eight races this season. And with two races to go she needs a mere four points and that she can do going backwards.

Behind her the race to be best of the rest is between Jennifer Menard, Estelle Poret and Beatriz Curtinhal. Curtinhal and Menard taking second and third spots in Shanghai and Liuzhou, Poret's title chances taking a hit after crashing in Shanghai and not making either podium.





In Runabout defending champion Yousef Al Abdulrazzaq has one hand on retaining his trophy as the battle is reduced to a two horse race, with James Bushell the only challenger left and with an outside chance of overhauling the 36 point deficit.

There were twists and turns from the moment the Runabouts took to the water in Shanghai; new boy Marcus Jorgensen arrived leading the title race, broke in race 1 didn't start race 2 and went home to Denmark.

Bushell was brilliant, stole the race 1 win from Abdulrazzaq halfway round the final lap and then thumped him to win by over 30 seconds in race 2

to cut the Kuwaiti's points lead to six, third place overall went to Christophe Agostinho.

In Liuzhou came another twist; Abdulrazzaq won race 1, maximum points, Bushell broke a driveshaft, managed to get back to the pits fixed the bike and got back out but missed out on any points, finishing 14th and where he would start race 2 from.

Bushell gave it everything and from over 30 seconds behind Abdulrazzaq on lap 1, scythed his way up through the field of 15 to get to within touching distance at the chequered flag in second place, but the Brit will need something special and some luck in Sharjah as he stares at

a 36 points gap to the leader.

Second place overall went to Sweden's Lars Akerblom with Poland's Andrzej Wisniewski taking third place.

In the upside down inside out topsy-turvy world of the Freestylers Rok Florjancic all but ended the title challenge of series newcomer Rashid Al Mulla. The duo traded GP titles in Italy and Spain but in China 'the Rok' was imperious and unbeatable claiming all four heat wins and both titles to extend his championship lead to 34 points with only 50 on offer in Sharjah, Al Mulla taking both the runners-up slot ahead of the younger Florjancic brother, Nac.



← THE TWO GRAND PRIX IN TEN DAYS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER ALWAYS HAD THE POTENTIAL TO SHAKE UP THE CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS.

UIM-ABP AQUABIKE CLASS PRO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

Runabout GP1 - after round 4

POS	NOS	RIDER	POINTS	
1	1	YUSEF AL ABDULRAZZAQ	156	
2	15	JAMES BUSHELL	120	
3	11	MARCUS JORGENSEN	86	
4	30	LARS AKERBLOM	77	
5	10	CHRISTOPHE AGOSTINHO	72	
6	84	JOHAN JOHANSSON	64	
6	86	JEREMY PEREZ	64	
8	25	ANDRZEJ WISNIEWSKI	59	
9	8	MATTIA FRACASSO	56	
10	22	DIDIER CHABERT	53	
11	21	PATRICE PELLIER	52	
12	16	HERVE PARTOUCHE	40	
13	2	WU RONGHUA	32	
14	20	ALESSIO SCHINTU	29	
15	5	MARCIN SENDA	28	
16	50	GIANLUCA SANTI AMANTINI	26	
17	7	LIU YICHENG	19	
18	44	LORENZO BENAGLIA	14	
19	7	DMITRY TSUKOV	13	
20	6	FREDRIK BRANDAO	10	
20	156	JULIEN EMELIE	10	
22	51	GYORGY KASZA	9	
23	65	BRUNO SECCHIAROLI	7	
24	3	CHAWOLITA KUJAROON	6	
25	40	KONSTANTIN SAVOTIN	2	
26	38	ANTONIO DARMA	0	
26	26	33	GEDIMINAS LEONAS	0

Ski GP1 Men - after round 4

POS	NOS	RIDER	POINTS
1	72	JEREMY PORET	169
2	90	KEVIN REITERER	117
3	36	NACHO ARMILLAS	111
4	2	STIAN SCHJETLEIN	103
5	77	MICKAEL PORET	84
6	30	ALBERTO MONTI	82
7	7	MORGAN PORET	66
8	95	AXEL COURTOIS	58
9	11	MARKUS LUTSOKERT	46
10	88	DANIEL SVAE ANDERSEN	42
11	53	ANTOINE GOETHALS	38
12	17	TOMAZ KETE	36
13	3	ALMUR BIN HURAIZ	35
14	19	MARVIN MARTINEZ	33
15	64	HENRIQUE GOMES	21
16	18	NICOLA PISCAGLIA	20
17	39	LUKAS BINAR	18
18	55	KELLER ANDERS	17
19	4	SLAVEN IVANCIC	9
19	19	GABOR SZABO	9
21	8	DANIELE PISCAGLIA	2
21	96	CARLOS VELA SANANDRES	2
23	83	ULRIK BERNTSEN	1
23	8	HE LIU	1
25	13	ANDY TRASMONDI	0
25	31	LUCAS OLIVER BULTO	0
25	10	KYLE ARAIZA	0
25	5	FEDE FUSTER LOPEZ	0

Ski GP1 Ladies - after round 4

POS	NOS	RIDER	POINTS
1	98	EMMA NELLIE ORTENDAHL	188
2	89	JENNIFER MENARD	142
3	96	ESTELLE PORET	124
4	20	BEATRIZ CURTINHAL	116
5	7	VIRGINIE MORLAES	94
6	13	KYLIE ELLMERS	81
7	4	MARTA SORRENTINO	62
8	23	SOFIE BORGSTROM	55
9	66	LISA CAUSSIN BATTAGLIA	53
10	11	NIXIN YUE	42
11	25	JONNA BORGSTROM	20
11	36	SANDRA FERNANDEZ HERNANDEZ	20
13	19	HELEN LAURI	16
14	55	ZSUZSA BIRO DOMOTOR	11
15	10	CHALIT KUJAROON	6
16	33	JULIE BULTEAU	4

Freestyle - after round 4

POS	NOS	RIDER	POINTS
1	1	ROK FLORJANCIC	191
2	11	RASHID AL MULLA	157
3	2	NAC FLORJANCIC	140
4	70	ROBERTO MARIANI	92
5	3	ALEKSANDAR PETROVIC	89
6	21	ALBERTO CAMERLENGO	79
7	8	HE LIU	38





EMMA-NELLIE

FOUR POINTS FROM ACHIEVING HER WORLD TITLE DREAM

AQUABIKE

Emma-Nellie Ortendahl will line up at the final Grand Prix of the year in Sharjah needing just four points to achieve her dream of becoming Ladies Ski GP1 world champion.

She has been the class act and the standout rider of the 15 she has faced this year and has hardly missed a beat all year and nothing short of a cataclysmic meltdown can stop her from laying the ghost of Sharjah, where she lost out on the title last year, to rest.

Ortendahl is on top with 188 points, 46 clear of the only challenger still left standing, defending champion Jennifer Menard.

The Swedish youngster's rise up the ranks has been meteoric; her first chequered flag came on her solitary tour debut in Italy in 2014, only to lose it and a podium slot after incurring a post-race penalty. In Qatar in her first full season she made the podium and lit up the night sky to win the slalom, going on to take her first race win and GP title in Italy and move to the top of the standings in the title race.

But after a summer of illness and a rejuvenated Menard on the attack her nine point lead shrank to three in Liuzhou and then disappeared in race 1 in Sharjah after her disqualification, Menard taking advantage and a race later the title.

But in 2016 Ortendahl has been an all-together different rider, fitter,

stronger and with a single steely focus and determination to win the big prize. Add to that a switch of machine to a Kawasaki zx-i 1100 and the transformation was complete.

She has started six of eight races in P1, taking win-doubles and the GP titles in Otranto, Shanghai and Liuzhou, and finishing in second after a fourth and a win in Denia.

Emma-Nellie has the luxury of knowing that 12th place in race 1 in Sharjah will seal the title, but that scenario is unlikely to be in her mind set – the win double on route to being crowned the youngest champion will be. ■



AQUABIKE

NATIONS CUP AND AQUABIKE EVENTS ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRAL STATUS



The UIM H2O Nations Cup and UIM-ABP Aquabike Grand Prix of Shanghai were confirmed as the first 'carbon neutral events' across both the sporting categories to take place in the People's Republic of China.

Throughout the negotiations and planning stages to bring two such high profile international events to Shanghai, ensuring the carbon neutral status of both was high priority for H2O Racing president, Nicolo di San Germano and BUND Holding Group chairman, Mr Chongjie Xin. "Investing in high quality carbon reduction projects and making events carbon neutral is our commitment to ensure that we respect and achieve our corporate social responsibilities."

BUND Holding Group's carbon neutral strategy is very much in line with the strong direction on environmental responsibilities taken and implemented by Dr. Raffaele Chiulli, President of the sport's world governing body, the Union Internationale

Motonautique (UIM) and its close working relationship with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP). "The Union Internationale Motonautique (UIM) governs all Powerboating disciplines and acknowledges that every activity conducted on water can make a difference in the fight against climate change. We are fully committed to promoting environmentally friendly practices which we hope will help to contribute towards solving some of the environmental challenges of today, particularly those involving the unsustainable use of energy resources. We do encourage more of these efforts favouring the protection of the environment which result in a reduction of the environmental footprint in all types of motorboating activities." ■



BUND
Holding Group chairman,
Mr Chongjie Xin





JEREMY PORET

WINS
FOURTH SKI GP1
WORLD TITLE

AQUABIKE

The Grands Prix in Shanghai and Liuzhou were expected to play a crucial role in this year's title races but in Ski GP1 they proved definitive, with Jeremy Poret landing his fourth world title in six years.

If anyone expected it to happen and with the final round in Sharjah on 19-21 December still looming large, I doubt it, least of all Poret who went through a maelstrom of emotions of self-doubt, frustration and then

elation in the space of a week in China. "In the end Liuzhou was a perfect weekend for me. It is a good circuit for me," he said. "After Shanghai I was very disappointed. I really was not very good and

questioned myself, the Ski, everything. So I looked at myself to understand why, what was going wrong. I had to wake up."

After taking third overall in Italy and winning both heats to take the GP title in Spain Poret headed to China in front and in command, 25 points clear of Stian Schjetlein, 28 clear of defending champion Kevin Reiterer, with Nacho Armillas in between the two.

But in Shanghai the self-doubt started to creep into Poret's mind set; after P1 and P2 in qualifying in the previous rounds, P5 in Shanghai was disappointing. Poret recovered to take second in race 1 but then managed only fourth in race 2 to take the third step of the podium. To most riders that is not a disaster, but to Poret it was. More importantly and worrying for him was the 17 points gained by Reiterer, the gap between the two now just 11 points.



Poret took his fifth race win and third GP title in Liuzhou

Poret cut a solitary figure, with little to say and headed to Liuzhou.

Again P5 in qualifying and again Poret was bemused by what was going wrong. But at the start of race 1 something clicked and Poret got to the all-shot in front of pole-sitter Reiterer and unaware that Armillas and Schjetlein were both sidelined. On lap 3 Reiterer stopped, Poret took the win and the title race swung massively back his way.

With all three of his rivals starting at the back Poret took full advantage, taking his fifth race win and third GP title in Liuzhou and all importantly had moved 52 points clear [with just 50 remaining] to secure the world title.

A key factor to Poret's success in 2016 was his decision to switch machines and opting to race the Kawasaki powered Bullett Racing V2, winning four races and two GP titles 'en route' to the crown he so desperately wanted back, the 28-year-old from Beynost in France also notching up a fifth consecutive French title and winning again in the USA.

In the last six years' Poret's credentials speak for themselves; four world titles, 21 race wins, 16 podiums and 10 Grand Prix titles. ■



A key factor to Poret's success in 2016 was his decision to switch machines and opting to race the Kawasaki powered Bullett Racing V2



NATIONS CUP



RUSSIA

PROVE TOO STRONG
AND RETAIN UIM H2O
NATIONS CUP



f

ollowing its debut on Marina Bay in Singapore in 2011 and outings in Qatar, Khor Fakkan-Sharjah and Abu Dhabi, the sixth year of the UIM H2O Nations Cup saw the series head to the Peoples Republic of China for the first time and to the country's largest artificial expanse of water Dishui Lake for the BUND Holding Group Grand Prix of Shanghai.

Fifteen drivers from eight countries lined up in one of the strongest, talented and most diverse line-ups seen, with a raft of previous winners, series newcomers and one or two legends of powerboating all vying for top honours.

The defending champions Russia fielded two seasoned campaigners who had both lifted the trophy and would ultimately prove too strong for their challengers; Andrei Panyushkin who claimed pole and a win in race 2 to guide them to victory in 2015 and Roman Vandshev, also a proven race winner, who took the title with Belarus in 2014.

Looking to try to regain their title was the series most successful team and three time winners, the UAE, and once again rolling out their young rising star Rashed Al Qamzi who was unbeaten in all four races when they won in 2013 and Rashed Al Tayer who won with Majed Al Mansoori in 2012, Ahmed Al Hameli and Mansoori winning the debut event in Singapore.

The diversity came in the shape of two young Nations Cup rookies from Australia, Corey Davoll and Brock Cohen, and the not so young rookies from the USA, Scott Gillman and Jay Price, who would be relying on their international racing pedigree and five collective UIM F1H2O world titles to carry them through.

Xiong Ziwei and Ni Haojun carried the hopes of China, with Roberto Lo piano the sole Italy driver. Germany was back with an all new line up of Jorn Lassig and Dietmar Kaiser, with the Kadri brothers, Mohammed and Alffian back representing Malaysia.

In qualifying Russia, the USA and Australia slugged it out in a thrilling final ten minute session, with Russia's Roman Vandyshev setting the fastest time to grab pole position for the first of two 20 minute sprint races.

In the tightest qualifying session in the Nations Cup's previous six outings just three-one-hundredths separated the top three, Vandyshev posting the fastest time of 43.69 around the 1800 metre four-pin circuit, with American Jay Price taking second ahead of Australian Corey Davoll.

Each of the top three topped the time sheets over the three sessions, Davoll going quickest in Q1, Price on top in Q2 and Vandyshev at the top when it mattered most, with Jorn Lassig in fourth ahead of Mohammad Kadri and Scott Gillman in sixth.

In the match race the UAE's Rashed Al Qamzi was too strong for Australia's Brock Cohen in the final, taking the overall victory with two straight wins and putting the UAE at the top of the overnight standings with 39 points.

The shoot-out for the final podium slot was an all-Russian affair between Andrei Panyushkin and teammate Roman Vandyshev, Panyushkin winning the duel with Russia moving into second place overall just one point behind the leaders.

Despite facing a raft of more experienced drivers in the knockout stages it was the two youngsters, Al Qamzi 24 and Cohen 19, who starred and upstaged their more illustrious peers in the match race format of two boats racing off against each other on an alternate course over the best of three runs, the match-ups decided by drivers qualifying positions.

Al Qamzi's route to his second Nations Cup match race final saw him defeat Cohen's teammate Corey Davoll, then his own teammate Rashed Al Tayer and pole-sitter Roman Vandyshev in the semi-final.

Cohen will remember his Nations Cup debut for some time after first taking the scalp of four-time F1H2O World Champion Scott Gillman, then beating defending Nations Cup Champion Andrei Panyushkin, and with Davoll picking up 11 points Australia were in the mix to challenge for the title in third.

In race 1 Roman Vandyshev led from start-to-finish to take victory, and with teammate Andrei Panyushkin's fifth place Russia headed into race 2 leading the points table.

Australia's Corey Davoll produced another strong performance to move from third place off the dock to take a well-earned second place, holding off the attentions of American Jay Price.

But there was disappointment for the second Australian driver Brock Cohen whose crash on lap three brought out the first of two yellow flags, ending his Nations Cup debut with the team's chances of improving on third spot severely dented.

The restart saw Scott Gillman make an immediate move on Panyushkin to take fourth, with Germany's Jorn Lassig running in sixth but losing out to the UAE's Rashed Al Qamzi when the second yellow was raised after Italian Roberto Lo Piano destroyed a buoy, the boats running the remainder of the race under yellow to the chequered flag.

Vandyshev was at it again in race 2 and completed a near perfect weekend taking his second win of the day to lead Russia to a successful defence of their title. Vandyshev was supported brilliantly by Panyushkin, the duo topping the overall standings with 120 points.

Second place overall went to USA's Jay Price and Scott Gillman whose 73 point haul from the two sprint races edged them past the UAE's Al Qamzi and Al Tayer by a single point, 100-99.



Russia crowned Nations Cup Champions





F1H2O

Race 2 saw Vandyshv deliver another masterclass of winning from the front and, as in race 1, he led from pole position to take maximum points, his teammate Panyushkin repeating his race 1 result finishing in fifth.

The lead Russian driver was made to work hard for his second win and again was pressed all the way by Corey Davoll who chased hard for 25 laps and closed to within 6/10ths of a second at the chequered flag, to help Australia to a very good fourth place on their Nations Cup debut. And but for Brock Cohen's unfortunate exit in race 1 and unable to start the second, the outcome may well have been even more impressive.

Jay Price grabbed third spot for the second time with teammate Scott Gillman finishing sixth. But both were made to work hard, Price chased all race long by match race winner Al Qamzi, with Al Tayer applying the same amount of pressure on Gillman.

Germany's two debutants Dietmar Kaiser and Jorn Lassig delivered a solid showing to take fifth ahead of Malaysia's Kadri brothers, with China duo Xiong Ziwei and Ni Haojun seventh on their first outing and Italy's solo driver Roberto Lo Piano eighth. ■





EVENT

- Two/Three days
- one/two practice sessions
- One official qualifying session to determine start order of Match Race / Race 1
- Match Race; knockout competition for team points, two boats racing off on an alternate course, best of three runs, winners progress to final
- Two x 20 minute sprint races
- Circuit length; circa 1600m

POINTS

- Points - 1st 25pts ; 2nd 22pts ; 3rd 20pts ; 4th 18pts ; 5th 16pts ; 6th 15pts ; 7th 14pts ; 8th 13pts ; 9th 12pts ; 10th 11pts ; 11th 10pts ; 12th 9pts ; 13th 8pts ; 14th 7pts ; 15th 6pts ; 16th 5pts ; 17th 4pts ; 18th 3pts ; 19th 2pts ; 20th 1pt

Points (ALL points achieved by drivers from the Match Race and Sprint races count towards overall Nations Cup Team result - Match race and Sprint races are individual driver competitions - points from sprint races are combined to determine winner - points achieved in sprint race 2 determines overall result in the event of a tie).



INFO

UIM H2O NATIONS CUP

A one-make international inshore circuit racing powerboat series:

- World governing body, Union Internationale Motonautique (UIM)
- Promoter, H2O Racing
- Emphasis on team participation and country success rather than individual performance and result
- Each team is sanctioned by its UIM affiliated National Authority
- Each team run two boats, with two to four drivers sharing practice, qualifying and racing responsibilities over a three day Grand Prix weekend
- Maximum ten countries and 20 boats per event
- Country participation 2011 (Singapore): Brazil, Brunei, Finland, Hungary, Malaysia, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, UAE
- Country participation 2012 (Khor Fakkan); Brazil, Brunei, Finland, Malaysia, Qatar, South Africa, UAE
- Country participation 2013 (Doha/Abu Dhabi); Italy, Lebanon, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Venezuela
- Country participation 2014 (Doha): Belarus, Italy, Lebanon, Malaysia, Qatar, Russia
- Country participation 2015 (Doha): Belarus, Germany, Italy, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, UAE
- Country participation 2016 (Shanghai): Australia, China, Germany, Italy, Malaysia, Russia, UAE, USA

2011 NATIONS CUP WINNER:

TEAM UAE - AHMED AL HAMELI / MAJED AL MANSOORI

- 2011 Marina Bay, Singapore
- Qualifying; P1 - Ahmed Al Hameli (uae)
- Match race winner; Ahmed Al Hameli
- Sprint race 1 winner; Ahmed Al Hameli
- Sprint race 2 winner; Ahmed Al Hameli

2012 NATIONS CUP WINNER:

TEAM UAE - MAJED AL MANSOORI / RASHED AL TAYER

- 2012 Khor Fakkan, Sharjah, UAE
- Match race winner; Majed Al Mansoori
- Qualifying; P1 - Khalid Al Shamlan (qat)
- Sprint race 1 winner; Majed Al Mansoori
- Sprint race 2 winner; Majed Al Mansoori

2013 NATIONS CUP WINNER:

TEAM UAE - MOHAMED AL MEHAIRBI / RASHED AL QEMZI

2013 Doha, Qatar

2013 Nations Cup Qatar Grand Prix winner; Team Russia - Mikhail Kitashev / Andrei Paniushkin / Dmitry Vandyshev / Roman Vandyshev

- Qualifying; P1 - Rashed Al Qamzi (uae)
- Match Race winner; Khalid Al Kuwari (qat)
- Sprint race 1 winner; Rashed Al Qemzi (uae)
- Sprint race 2 winner; Rashed Al Qemzi (uae)

2013 Abu Dhabi, UAE

2013 Nations Cup Abu Dhabi Grand Prix winner; Team UAE - Mohamed Al Mehairbi / Rashed Al Qemzi

- Match Race winner; Khalid Al Kuwari (qat)
- Qualifying; P1 - Rashed Al Qamzi (uae)
- Sprint race 1 winner; Rashed Al Qemzi (uae)
- Sprint race 2 winner; Rashed Al Qemzi (uae)

2014 NATIONS CUP WINNER:

TEAM BELARUS - DMITRY VANDYSHEV / ROMAN VANDYSHEV / ANDREY OVCHINNIKOV

- 2014 Doha, Qatar
- Qualifying; P1 - Stefano Paoletti (ita)
- Match Race winner; Stefano Paoletti (ita)
- Sprint race 1 winner; Stefano Paoletti (ita)
- Sprint race 2 winner; Stefano Paoletti (ita)

2015 NATIONS CUP WINNER:

TEAM RUSSIA - ANDREY PANYUSHKIN / KONSTANTIN USTINOV

- 2015 Doha, Qatar
- Qualifying; P1 - Andrey Panyushkin (rus)
- Match Race winner; Konstantin Ustinov (rus)
- Sprint race 1 winner; Andrey Panyushkin (rus)
- Sprint race 2 winner; Roman Vandyshev (blr)

2016 NATIONS CUP WINNER:

TEAM RUSSIA - ANDREI PANYUSHKIN / ROMAN VANDYSHEV

- 2016 Shanghai, China
- P1 Qualifying; Roman Vandyshev (rus)
- Match Race winner; Rashed Al Qamzi (uae)
- Sprint race 1 winner; Roman Vandyshev (rus)
- Sprint race 2 winner; Roman Vandyshev (rus)



TECHNICAL

- Identical stock boats, engines, propellers: Single-seater, tunnel hull catamaran
- Overall Length: 5302mm (with engine 5945mm)
- Beam: 2185mm
- Minimum Weight: 455kgs
- Engines: Mercury Optimax 200XS SST
- Capacity: 2.5litre
- HP: 225
- RPM: 8000
- Propeller: Dewald (two sets)
- Design/Build: H2O Racing
- Boat Construction: Carbon / Kevlar - Epoxy
- Boats, engines, propellers drawn for at beginning of event weekend

2016 CALENDAR

2016 is another ground-breaking and challenging season for H2O Racing, with over 20 events planned in ten months, taking its UIM sanctioned Championships, Aquabike, F1H2O and Nations Cup to four continents.

NB: dates and locations subject to change

UIM F1H2O WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

2/4 March - Dubai, UAE
15/17 July - Evian, France
29/31 July - Portimao, Portugal
2/4 September - Harbin, China
1/3 October - Liuzhou, China
7/9 December - Abu Dhabi, UAE
14/16 December - Sharjah, UAE

UIM H2O NATIONS CUP

19/22 September - Shanghai, China

UIM-ABP AQUABIKE CLASS PRO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP - Circuit

10/12 June - Otranto, Italy
23/25 June - Denia, Spain
22/24 September - Shanghai, China
3/5 October - Liuzhou, China
19/21 December - Sharjah, UAE

UIM-ABP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP Offshore - (Karujet)

17/20 March - Petit Bourg, Guadeloupe, France

UIM-ABP AQUABIKE EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP - Circuit

13/15 May - Porec, Croatia
22/24 July - Mirandela, Portugal

UIM-ABP EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP - Endurance

29 April / 1 May - Solenzara, France





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VIP HOSPITALITY EXPERIENCE

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