

# H2O Magazine

N° 3 | AUGUST 2017

H2O RACING  
POWERBOAT PROMOTION



## F1H2O

**SELIO LEADS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS – CARELLA WINS IN FRANCE**

## AQUABIKE

**AQUABIKE BONANZA KICK-STARTS 2017 AND SETS UP SEASON TO SAVOUR AS TOUR HEADS TO CHINA**



# TIMING FOR CHAMPIONS

Precision, accuracy and advanced technology: BRM watches are unique just as the FIH2O racing world. Beginning from 2016, BRM will be featured in an utterly dynamic sport where drivers push their limits to be the best.

The FIH2O BRM timepiece is capable of withstanding the criteria of extreme use. BRM is now the Official Timekeeping partner of the FIH2O World Championship. BRM - Timing for Champions



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## Commercial partners



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## Info

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## Organisations

### H2O RACING

POWERBOAT PROMOTION

H2O Racing is an international sports management, marketing and media company responsible for organising and promoting events in powerboat and jet ski racing – two of the most spectacular and entertaining sports on water.

The multi-faceted company, founded by Nicolo di San Germano in 2011, takes care of all commercial activities relating to three Union Internationale Motonautique (UIM) sanctioned properties; the F1H2O Powerboat World Championship, the Aquabike Circuit World Championship and the Nations Cup Powerboat World Series.

H2O Racing is made up of a group of dynamic professionals with over 30 years of experience in the sporting and event management sector, and a great passion for the industry.

President: Nicolò di San Germano

[h2oracing.net](http://h2oracing.net)



### UNION INTERNATIONALE MOTONAUTIQUE - UIM

The UIM is the world governing body for all Powerboating activities. It is fully recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and is a member of the Association of the IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF) and of SportAccord for whom the UIM President serves respectively as President and Vice President.

The UIM has 59 affiliated National Federations; Circuit, Offshore, Pleasure Navigation and Aquabike are the main disciplines. The UIM has signed a Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to further its range of environmental initiatives, share expertise and work together for "greening" the Sport.

President: Dr. Raffaele Chiulli

[uimpowerboating.com](http://uimpowerboating.com)



# TIGHT AT THE TOP AS F1H2O TOUR HEADS TO FAR EAST

With the two highly entertaining European rounds done and dusted the UIM F1H2O tour now heads to the Far East to the People's Republic of China for the Grand Prix of Harbin in August and the Grand Prix of Liuzhou in October.

Finland's Sami Selio leads the driver's world championship standings for the first time since 2013 by a single point from Alex Carella, 30 to 29, with defending champion Philippe Chiappe in third spot on 20. Duarte Benavente's continued run of finishing in the points sees him in fourth ahead of Victory duo, Shaun Torrente and Ahmed Al Hameli.

In the team's championship it is Abu Dhabi who has top spot with 34 points from Mad Croc BABA Racing on 30, CTIC F1 Shenzhen China in third on 22.



## ALEX CARELLA TAMES LAC LEMAN

Once again it was Italy's Alex Carella who 'tamed the beast' and ruled on Lac Lemman, powering to a second consecutive pole and race win-double in his DAC for Team Abu Dhabi at the UIM F1H2O Grand Prix of France in Evian in July. It was Carella at his finest, flawless, the Carella of old who put it very simply and said post-race 'I am back'.

The Italian survived a yellow flag and restart and was followed home by Mad Croc BABA Racing's Sami Selio and Victory Team's Shaun Torrente.



# PORETS LOCK OUT PODIUMS AT AQUABIKE OPENERS



For 'jet ski' aficionados and race fans around the world, as well as the 140 riders from 26 countries who signed up, the only place to be for the first two weekends in June was the stunning region of Puglia in Italy.

The opening rounds of the UIM-ABP Aquabike World Championship in Porto Cesareo and Vieste served up a feast of vintage racing, drama, incident, tantrums and tumbles and set up a season to savour.

On the water the talking points were many and mainly about a trio of Porets who locked out the top step of the podiums, Estelle enjoying a stellar two events winning both GP titles in the Ladies division, with elder brother and defending champion Jeremy taking one, oldest brother Mickael the other.

In runabout GP1 the anticipated three-way slug fest between defending champion Yousef Al Abdulrazzaq, James Bushell and Lars

Akerblom did not disappoint and set the tone for the months ahead.

In the frantic world of Freestyle there were two fights going on; one for the top step of the podium between Slovenia's aerial aces Rok and Nac Florjancic who traded the titles and the other for the third step between Italian's Roberto Mariani and Alberto Camerlengo and Czech, Jaroslav Tirner, Mariani winning that battle.

## CANTANDO'S NEW BLAZE RUNNER

Look down the line of the 20 boats in this years' UIM F1H2O Championship and one stands out immediately, the newest generation Blaze Performance Hull, designed and built by Francesco Cantando at his facility in Milan, Italy and unveiled in France.

The project has been a long time coming for Cantando as he balances the tougher commercial side of

running a race team and competing at the top level. "I am very happy to have realised and completed this project to deliver a new model of boat that has evolved with the latest technology using complete computer analysis in design and understanding critical air flow criteria. All the boat's moulds were realised by CNC machining with the latest technologies available."







# CARELLA

## THE MAESTRO TAMES LAC LEMAN AND WINS IN FRANCE AGAIN





## F1H2O

# A

dd together a very changeable weather system, an Alpine Lake and what you get, at times, is a ferocious bubbling cauldron of angry, very angry water called Lac Lemman.

For the third consecutive year the idyllic internationally renowned Spa Resort of Evian hosted the Grand Prix of France, round 2 of the UIM F1H2O World Championship and its mighty stretch of water threw down the gauntlet and challenged the best powerboat drivers in the world.

And, for the second Grand Prix of 2017, weather watching and disruption to schedules was the order of the opening days. But by the time the 20 boats launched off the dock at 15:00hrs on the Sunday, all was forgotten and the tens of thousands of spectators who lined the lakeside and had waited patiently for that moment were treated to a wonderful spectacle of racing.

Once again it was Italy's Alex Carella who 'tamed the beast' and ruled on Lac Lemman, powering to a second consecutive pole and race win-double in his DAC for Team Abu Dhabi. It was Carella at his finest, flawless, the Carella of old who put it very simply and said post-race 'I am back'.

Mad Croc BABA Racing's Sami Selio emerged from the weekend with a second consecutive podium of the year and moved to the top of the drivers' world championship standings, but for Philippe Chiappe there was more misery as the gremlins struck again, the CTIC F1 Shenzhen China driver failing to make it to the chequered flag in his Moore Formula hull for the third time in a row on home waters.





For the third consecutive year the idyllic internationally renowned Spa Resort of Evian hosted the 21st Grand Prix of France.



## F1H2O

The save of the day was by Victory Team's Shaun Torrente after tipping his Moore over in qualifying then driving it from 15th to the third step of the podium.

Australia's Grant Trask looked in fine form for F1 Atlantic, posting a best ever qualifying in fifth and running strongly in fifth when he went over, with Francesco Cantando bringing his brand new straight out of the box Blaze Performance hull home in tenth on its first outing.

Teams and drivers had to wait until Sunday morning before seeing any action and then faced a crammed and intense period on the water; a one hour practice session was their first chance to run their boats in anger, Chiappe, Carella and Torrente posting the top three times, 1.87 seconds separating the top 13.

BRM Official Qualifying followed almost immediately and the savvy few who went out early saw the best of the conditions; Carella was one and set the benchmark time early in the session, his 48.98s lap proving too good and taking his second pole in Evian by eight-tenths of a second.

The scramble to be best of the rest was a very tight affair with less than two-tenths separating the next six, Chiappe and Selio sealing the remaining places on the qualifying podium. Thani Al Qemzi bounced back after getting little time on the water at the season opener, going fourth quickest ahead of Trask who produced his best outing in just his fourth qualifying session on the tour.

Victory's Ahmed Al Hameli was clearly not going to make the same spectacular mistake twice in a row in qualifying and was cautiously quick in sixth ahead of another dogged performance by Emirates Racing's Marit Stromoy with F1 Atlantic's Duarte Benavente in eighth.

After engine issues and forced to make a change, the official time sheets showed Team Sweden's Erik Stark completing just two laps. As the clock counted down he finally managed to get back out on the water, a citing lap then one flyer to salvage ninth place ahead of Filip Roms.

Torrente, the pole-sitter in Portugal, simply made a mistake pushing a little too soon saying

wrong place wrong time after his barrel role, leaving the Victory driver with a mountain to climb in the race starting from 15th.

The shoreline was packed, the hospitality tents heaving and the weather good as the start of the Grand Prix of France loomed large. The starting grid was as per qualifying with the exception of Cantando, dropping to 19th after an engine change, Mike Szymura starting on the outside in the DAC for Emirates Racing, his penalty for the infamous 'black flag gate' last time out.

Lights out and it was pole-sitter Alex Carella who exploded off the dock and with clear water in front of him took full advantage opening out a nine second lead by lap 8, Philippe Chiappe and Sami Selio giving chase but making little impression.

Behind the lead trio Thani Al Qemzi was running well and keeping Grant Trask at bay who in turn was being hounded by Ahmed Al Hameli, with Erik Stark up a place in eighth and ahead of his teammate Jonas Andersson.





F1H2O

“ Mad Croc BABA Racing’s Sami Selio emerged from the weekend with a second consecutive podium of the year and moved to the top of the drivers’ world championship standings. ”



The man on the move was Shaun Torrente, up six spots and ahead of Duarte Benavente and Marit Stromoy, down five places from her start slot.

Carella was in cruise control and 13 seconds clear when Trask caught a wave and barrel-rolled his DAC bringing out the yellow flag and stripping the race leader of his huge advantage as the chasing boats all closed up on him.

The Italian would have to do it all again and did; five laps under yellow, green flag and Carella set off, behind him it was opportunistic chaos for several laps. Selio immediately got the jump on Chiappe who was going backwards and being passed by everyone. The world champion and winner last time out had a problem, the gremlins and the curse of Lac leman had struck again, the bitterly disappointed Frenchman retiring on lap 18.

Describing it ‘as the best restart of my life’ Torrente was on a mission and moved up five spots in one lap and was up into a podium position behind Selio, Al Hameli making up ground and passing Al Qemzi who then lost further ground when passed by Andersson who had also jumped his teammate Stark.

Stromoy wasn’t giving in and moved past Benavente who momentarily had Roms behind him, then Francesco Cantando loomed large in his new Blaze, up from 19th and running in 10th.





The save of the day was by Victory Team's Shaun Torrente tipping his Moore over in qualifying then driving it from 15th to the third step of the podium.



F1H2O

The top ten remained in order to the chequered flag with Carella controlling the pace and running out the winner, completing the 45 laps to take victory by 5.03s from Selio and Torrente.

Peter Morin was unlucky finishing outside the points in 11th, with Rashed Al Qemzi producing his best result in just his second start.

It was a tough weekend for the Maverick F1 Racing trio, Amaury Jousseume the first home in 13th ahead of Cedric Deguisne who pitted in the race to change propellers, with newcomer Beranger Robart not having the debut he was hoping for, having issues all day long and retiring after just three laps.

It was not the return to Evian that Filip Roms had hoped for, his hopes of a third podium there thwarted by fuel issues and retirement on lap 37. Mike Szymura's race ended with a bust engine on lap 25, with a very disappointed Bartek Marszalek calling it a day on lap 19 with trim issues.

With the two highly entertaining European rounds done and dusted the UIM F1H2O tour now heads to the Far East to the People's Republic of China for the Grand Prix of Harbin in August and the Grand Prix of Liuzhou in October.



**Maverick F1 Racing**







F1H2O



Finland's Sami Selio leads the driver's world championship standings for the first time since 2013 by a single point from Alex Carella, 30 to 29, with defending champion Philippe Chiappe in third spot. Duarte Benavente's continued run of finishing in the points sees him in fourth ahead of Victory duo, Shaun Torrente and Ahmed Al Hameli.

In the team's championship it is Abu Dhabi who has top spot from Mad Croc BABA Racing with CTIC F1 Shenzhen China in third.

Two down four to go and everything to race for!





# CANTANDO'S NEW BLAZE 'RUNNER'

## RAVENOL®

F1H2O

**L**ook down the line of the 20 boats in this years' UIM F1H2O Championship and one stands out immediately, the newest generation Blaze Performance Hull, designed and built by Francesco Cantando at his facility in Milan, Italy and unveiled in France.

It is strikingly different and despite a minor problem with the steering and an enforced engine change in qualifying and starting with a load of questions unanswered from 19th, it was a case of out of the box, onto the water and a very safe drive by the Italian to a top ten, point finish, on its debut. "I must say that the feeling with the new boat is right. I am very comfortable inside. It has very good acceleration which is one area we focussed on because today qualifying is so important. I am

happy with the top speed but now we need more time on the water to really work on set-ups, which propeller works better and to move forward and improve further in a good way."

The project has been a long time coming for Cantando as he balances the tougher commercial side of running a race team and competing at the top level. "I am very happy to have realised and completed this project to deliver a new model of boat that has evolved with the latest technology using complete computer analysis in design and understanding critical air flow criteria. All the boat's moulds were realised by CNC machining with the latest technologies available.

"The boat is equipped with a new crash box setup which is more than 14cm thinner than the original one's developed and homologated, thanks to the cooperation of the "Politecnico

di Milano" with the support of chief engineer DR Milanese Andrea.

"The new canopy, even if it is the same sliding system that Blaze Performance created and used for the first time in powerboat history, has a new safety concept with a technical plastic window of 10mm. The structure is much safer because we have projected a new carbon frame that gives far better protection to the driver. And the sponsons and the cover of the boat are completely new in shape and in the building materials."

Out of this project Cantando has confirmed that the principles established with his new F1 Blaze 'Runner' will be available to drivers competing in the UIM F2 Championship and that he has produced a new F4 Blaze Performance boat that will be used for first time in Harbin.



### INAUGURAL SEASON 1981

(no World Championship 1987 – 1989)

**32 COUNTRIES**

**34TH SEASON**

**13 WORLD CHAMPIONS**

**7 MULTIPLE WORLD CHAMPION**

Guido Cappellini (ITA) 10

Scott Gillman (USA) 4

Philippe Chiappe (FRA) 3

Alex Carella (ITA) 3

Renato Molinari (ITA) 3

Sami Selio (FIN) 2

Jonathan Jones (GBR) 2

**45 GRAND PRIX WINNERS**



## The F1H2O World Championship is a multiple Grand Prix series taking place in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Points allocated at each Grand Prix count towards the overall World Championship standings.

(1st 20, 2nd 15, 3rd 12, 4th 9, 5th 7, 6th 5, 7th 4, 8th 3, 9th 2, 10th 1)

A Grand Prix weekend consists of two/three practice sessions, official qualifying, race.

Qualifying : 60 minutes

Q1 :20 minutes, top 12 go through (times reset)

Q2: 20 minutes, top six go through (times reset)

Q3: top six, two flying laps

**Grand Prix :min 40 min / max 60 min**

### RACE BOATS

single-seater, enclosed cockpit, tunnel-hull catamarans

**Construction:** carbon fibre/composite

**Hull:** 6 metres

**Width:** 2.1 metres

**Weight:** 390kgs

**Engine:** Mercury 2.5litre

**HP:** circa 400

**Top Speed:** 220km/h – 136mph

### HALL OF FAME WORLD CHAMPIONS

Year	Driver	Country
2016	Philippe Chiappe	France
2015	Philippe Chiappe	France
2014	Philippe Chiappe	France
2013	Alex Carella	Italy
2012	Alex Carella	Italy
2011	Alex Carella	Italy
2010	Sami Selio	Finland
2009	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2008	Jay Price	USA
2007	Sami Selio	Finland
2006	Scott Gillman	USA
2005	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2004	Scott Gillman	USA
2003	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2002	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2001	Guido Cappellini	Italy
2000	Scott Gillman	USA
1999	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1998	Jonathan Jones	Great Britain
1997	Scott Gillman	USA
1996	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1995	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1994	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1993	Guido Cappellini	Italy
1992	Fabrizio Bocca	Italy
1991	Jonathan Jones	Great Britain
1990	John Hill	Great Britain
1989	Not competed	
1988	Not competed	
1987	Not competed	
1986	Gene Thibodaux	USA
1985	Bob Spalding	Great Britain
1984	Renato Molinari	Italy
1983	Renato Molinari	Italy
1982	Roger Jenkins	Great Britain
1981	Renato Molinari	Italy

### DRIVER STATS

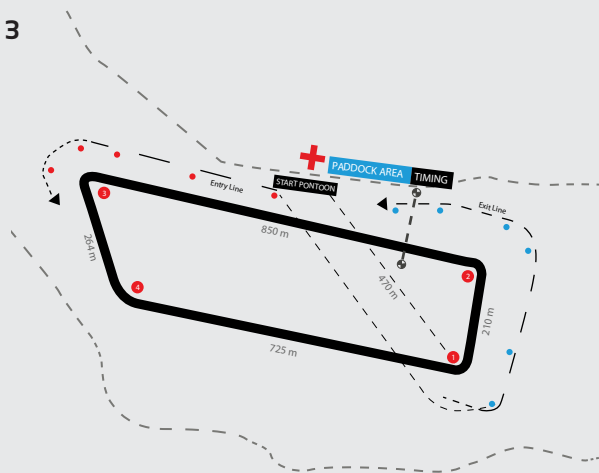
Drivers	Country	GP's Entered	Race Starts	Points Overall	Poles	Wins	Podiums
SAMI SELIO	FIN	148	145	973,5	25	13	46
FRANCESCO CANTANDO	ITA	170	166	923,5	5	12	42
THANI AL QAMZI	UAE	123	122	715,5	2	7	30
PHILIPPE CHIAPPE	FRA	110	106	637	5	8	30
ALEX CARELLA	ITA	47	47	513	13	13	27
AHMED AL HAMELI	UAE	75	70	414	10	7	18
JONAS ANDERSSON	SWE	84	83	442	4	5	15
SHAUN TORRENTE	USA	37	36	302	4	4	14
DUARTE BENAVENTE	POR	144	131	360,5	0	0	6
ERIK STARK	SWE	22	21	92	1	0	3
FILIP ROMS	FIN	32	30	78	0	0	2
MARIT STROMOY	NOR	73	68	155	1	1	1
BARTEK MARSALEK	POL	29	26	48	0	0	0
CEDRIC DEGUISNE	FRA	16	14	18	0	0	0
GRANT TRASK	AUS	4	4	9	0	0	0
MIKE SZYMURA	GER	9	9	4	0	0	0
PETER MORIN	FRA	2	2	2	0	0	0
RASHED AL QEMZI	UAE	3	2	0	0	0	0
AMAURY JOUSSEAUME	FRA	2	2	0	0	0	0
BÉRANGER ROBART	FRA	1	1	0	0	0	0



## HARBIN, GRAND PRIX OF HARBIN - CHINA

**AUGUST 11-13, ROUND 3**

9 teams  
19 drivers  
12 countries  
Australia  
China  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
Italy  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Sweden  
UAE  
USA



## TEAMS & DRIVERS 2017

### CTIC FI SHENZHEN CHINA

- 1 Philippe Chiappe (FRA)
- 2 Peter Morin (FRA)

### EMIRATES RACING TEAM

- 50 Marit Stromoy (NOR)
- 51 Mike Szymura (GER)

### MAD-CROC BABA RACING

- 11 Sami Selio (FIN)
- 12 Filip Roms (FIN)

### FI ATLANTIC

- 9 Grant Trask (AUS)
- 10 Duarte Benavente (POR)

### VICTORY TEAM

- 3 Ahmed Al Hameli (UAE)
- 4 Shaun Torrente (USA/\*UAE)

### TEAM SWEDEN

- 14 Jonas Andersson (SWE)
- 15 Erik Stark (SWE)

### BLAZE PERFORMANCE

- 23 Bartek Marszalek (POL)
- 24 Francesco Cantando (ITA)

### TEAM ABU DHABI

- 5 Thani Al Qemzi (UAE)
- 6 Alex Carella (ITA/\*UAE)
- 7 Rashed Al Qemzi (UAE)

### MAVERICK FI

- 73 Cedric Deguisne (FRA)
- 74 Amaury Jousseume (FRA)

## DRIVERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS (AFTER ROUND 2)

POS	BOAT	DRIVER	POINTS
1	11	SAMI SELIO	30
2	6	ALEX CARELLA	29
3	1	PHILIPPE CHIAPPE	20
4	10	DUARTE BENAVENTE	14
5	4	SHAUN TORRENTE	12
6	3	AHMED AL HAMELI	9
7	14	JONAS ANDERSSON	7
8	23	BARTEK MARSZALEK	7
9	15	ERIK STARK	7
10	73	CÉDRIC DEGUISNE	5
11	5	THANI AL QEMZI	5
12	9	GRANT TRASK	4
13	50	MARIT STROMOY	3
14	2	PETER MORIN	2
15	24	FRANCESCO CANTANDO	1
16	12	FILIP ROMS	0
17	74	AMAURY JOUSSEAUME	0
18	7	RASHED AL QEMZI	0
19	51	MIKE SZYMURA	0
20	70	BÉRANGER ROBART	0

## BRM POLE POSITION CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS (AFTER ROUND 2)

POS	BOAT	DRIVER	POINTS
1	6	ALEX CARELLA	27
2	1	PHILIPPE CHIAPPE	24
3	3	AHMED AL HAMELI	20
4	4	SHAUN TORRENTE	20
5	15	ERIK STARK	12
6	11	SAMI SELIO	12
7	5	THANI AL QEMZI	9
8	9	GRANT TRASK	7
9	10	DUARTE BENAVENTE	5

### WORLD CHAMPION

Philippe Chiappe (FRA)  
CTIC FI Shenzhen China  
Team

### WORLD GOVERNING BODY

Union Internationale  
Motonautique (U.I.M)  
President:  
Dr. Raffaele Chiulli

### PROMOTER

H2O Racing  
President:  
Nicolo di San Germano

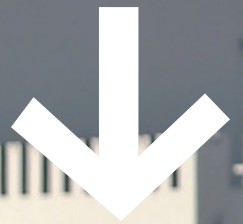
## PREVIOUS GRAND PRIX WINNERS IN CHINA

2016	Liuzhou	Ahmed Al Hameli UAE
2016	Harbin	Sami Selio FIN
2015	Liuzhou	Philippe Chiappe FRA
2014	Liuzhou	Alex Carella ITA
2013	Liuzhou	Alex Carella ITA
2012	Liuzhou	Alex Carella ITA
2011	Liuzhou	Thani Al Qamzi UAE
2010	Linyi	Alex Carella ITA
2010	Liuzhou	Jay Price USA
2010	Shenzhen	Francesco Cantando ITA
2009	Liuzhou R1	Sami Selio FIN
2009	Liuzhou R2	Jonas Andersson SWE
2009	Shenzhen R1	Guido Cappellini ITA
2009	Shenzhen R2	Sami Selio FIN
2008	Liuzhou	Jay Price USA
2008	Shenzhen	Sami Selio FIN
2007	Xi'an	Thani Al Qamzi USA
2007	Shenzhen	Guido Cappellini ITA
2006	Chongzhou	Scott Gillman USA
2004	Shanghai	Scott Gillman USA
1997	Xiamen	Jonathan Jones GBR
1996	Wuxi	Guido Cappellini ITA
1995	Hangzhou	Guido Cappellini ITA



F1H2O

# TITLE RACE BUILDING AS UIM FIH2O WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HEADS TO CHINA







## F1H2O

**T**he 2017 UIM F1H2O World Championship is in great shape and seemingly building into a titanic fight for the title; two Grand Prix put to bed, two different pole-sitters in BRM Qualifying with just hundredths, tenths separating the top runners, two different race winners, five different names on the podium running Moore, DAC and BABA hulls.

After the opening two rounds in Europe the fast, the furious and spectacular UIM F1H2O World Championship heads to the Far East to continue its racing romance with the People's Republic of China that is now in its third decade.

In 1995 UIM promoter Nicolo di San Germano knocked on the door of the PRC and introduced the world's most populous nation to the world of Formula 1 powerboat racing which it has since embraced fully, hosting 21 F1H2O Grand Prix in 15 years.

Hangzhou hosted the first event [1995] and since then

nine venues, Wuxi, Xiamen, Shanghai, Chongzhou, Shenzhen, Xi'an, Liuzhou, Linyi and Harbin have followed suit.

For rounds 3 and 4 and the mid-term of the 2017 campaign the UIM F1H2O tour heads to China's most recent recruit Harbin, the capital of Heilongjiang province in the north east, in August and then heads south to its most established venue, Liuzhou in Guangxi in October.

Of today's current on water gladiators it is Sami Selio and Alex Carella who have tagged the most successes winning four times; Selio's first win coming in Shenzhen in 2008, then twice in 2009 in Shenzhen and Liuzhou and in Harbin last time out. Carella's first win came in Linyi in 2010 followed by a hat-trick of victories from 2012 to 2014 in Liuzhou. Another multiple winner is Thani Al Qemzi taking victories in Xi'an and Liuzhou in 2007 and 2011, with Jonas Andersson, Francesco Cantando, Philippe Chiappe and Ahmed Al Hameli with a win apiece.



## F1H2O

Turn back the clock to 2016 and both venues served up two very memorable and significant events; Mad Croc BABA Racing's Sami Selio completed the pole and race win-double in Harbin – his first GP victory since 2013 – Victory Team's [formerly Emirates Racing] Ahmed Al Hameli then did the double in Liuzhou – his first win since 2012.

Selio's win in Harbin fanned the flames of the 2016 title race and put him in contention, this year he heads back to Harbin with a slender one point margin sitting at the top of the driver's championship standings for the first time since the GP of Brazil in 2013, following two second placed finishes in Portugal and in France.

But it is not just Selio who will be relishing returning to Harbin, so too will his Mad Croc teammate Filip Roms, who last year ran his team leader ever so close in BRM Qualifying, missing out on his first pole by just tenths of a second and then looked to be on course to making it a Mad Croc one-two when his race ended in a dramatic coming together with Alex Carella. He will be desperate to get his season properly underway after a spate of niggling issues, finish his first race of 2017 and post his first points.

Alex Carella and Team Abu Dhabi head to China looking to banish the memories of a year ago when Carella's title challenge began to derail, his over-zealous passing attempt in Harbin ending his race and costing him the championship lead and was followed by a retirement in Liuzhou. Thani Al Qemzi fared little better, his CV for the two races reading disqualified and sixth.

But the mighty Abu Dhabi outfit is looking in very good shape. Carella is in imperious form and enjoying his racing with a points





saving drive to fourth in Portugal and the pole and race win-double under his belt from France, with Al Qemzi T picking up points in sixth and the youngest of the trio Rashed Al Qemzi, who recently grabbed his first F2 victory, delivering his best finish in his short F1H2O career, last time out, and now looking for his first championship points.

Defending world champion Philippe Chiappe salvaged a remarkable podium place from starting way down the field in Harbin last year, and despite a third consecutive retirement at his home Grand Prix recently can take some comfort that if history is to repeat he has always bounced back with a win. Teammate Peter Morin will make his first start in China and looking to add to the points he picked up at the season opener.

Portuguese outfit F1 Atlantic is enjoying a great run with team principal and driver Duarte Benavente sitting in a well- deserved fourth spot in the points table and he will be looking to extend his eight race run of points finishes in the Moore, add to the podium third he picked up at this home Grand Prix and better his seventh and eighth places finishes in China last year.

Teammate Grant Trask will be hoping to build on his best ever qualifying showing last time out and putting more points on the board after his unfortunate race exit from fifth in France as he gets his first taste of racing in China.

Shaun Torrente and Ahmed Al Hameli's current fifth and sixth rankings hardly reflect the pace of the Moore or BABA, let alone the drivers. Both have entertained royally in 2017, shown great pace in qualifying, Torrente banking pole in Portugal then leading the race for 10 laps before retiring, Al Hameli showing too much pace and crashing out and not starting.

It was Torrente's time to exit early in qualifying last time out but his race pace was extraordinary, salvaging a podium from 15th - a similar feat he almost repeated a year ago in Harbin.

Al Hameli will be aiming to build on fourth last time and no doubt chasing the pole that he thought he had last year in Harbin, but was deemed to have stepped outside the circuit and to making up for tipping it over in the closing stages. But that race signalled his resurgence and just weeks later he went on to grab a very popular pole and race win-double in Liuzhou.

Poland's Bartek Marszalek will put his retirement in France behind him and focus more on other recent outings that has seen the Blaze Performance driver turn a corner in overall performances, with a best ever qualifying in Sharjah [at the end of 2016] followed up with a best race finish in fifth at the season opener.

Teammate and team principal Francesco Cantando will be eager to get his newest creation back out on the water and put a load more laps on the board after bringing his strikingly different looking brand new Blaze hull home in 10th on its debut outing, a race he described as the 'most careful' he has ever driven!

Jonas Andersson and Erik Stark will be desperate for a trouble free event and no engine changes, with Andersson targeting to improve on his podium



**Bartek Marszalek will put his retirement in France behind him and focus more on other recent outings that has seen the Blaze Performance driver turn a corner in overall performances.**



**Trask will be hoping to build on his best ever qualifying showing last time out.**



F1H2O

second and Stark on his fifth last year in Harbin. Both clearly have great pace but have been plagued by technical issues, Stark cruelly missing out on a podium place in Portugal, his teammate retiring but both taking points in France.

Maverick F1 Racing is another outfit hoping for better fortunes with both Cedric Deguisne and Amaury Jousseume starting in China for the first time, Deguisne picking up the team's best result of the year with sixth in Portugal.

It must only be a matter of time before Marit Stromoy is rewarded with a result that truly reflects the boat-engine package she has and the performance she is capable of. The Emirates Racing driver has delivered two very solid qualifying runs but has struggled in the races of 2017, failing to finish in Portugal and taking eighth place last time. Teammate Mike Szymura will try to turn his year around and post his first points.

Unlike last year when the Hulan Estuary Wetland Park circuit was reduced in distance due to the depth of the water or lack of it and drivers running for a hefty 60 laps, this year they face and run the distance originally planned of 2049 metres.





## F4-S

# F4-S CHAMPIONSHIP DRIVERS RESUME RACE DUTIES IN CHINA

**A**fter being restricted to just one race in Portugal and sitting out the last Grand Prix in France the drivers in the F4-S Championship resume normal service as the support act at the UIM F1H2O Grand Prix of Harbin in August and the Grand Prix of Liuzhou in October.

With the F4-S champions of the last two years now competing in the top flight, three-time

champion Mike Szymura moving up in 2016 and Rashed Al Qemzi this year, the accolade of new champion is up for grabs and Jeremy Brissett is the pace setter.

He started 2017 where he left off last year, dominating the season opener in Portimao to complete a very good day for the F1 Atlantic Team with a lights-to-flag victory.

The 21-year-old topped the time sheets in practice and qualifying and was equally strong in the race. He held off an early first lap challenge from Team Sweden's Danish debutant, Sebastian Haugaard, before racing off into the distance to take the chequered

flag and win comfortably by 12.56 seconds.

The battle for the final podium slot was fought out between Mad Croc BABA Racing's Kalle Viippo and Emirates Racing's Mansour Al Mansoori, Viippo stealing it on the final lap having trailed in fourth for most of the race.

Team Abu Dhabi's Mohammed Al Mehairbi finished in fifth ahead of Maverick F4 newcomer Corentin Guesnel and Victory's Mohamed Al Yamahi. It was a disappointing start to the season for CTIC F1 Shenzhen China driver Wu Bingchen who retired early on lap 3.





This year, the accolade of new champion is up for grabs and Brissett looks to be the pace setter.









## AQUABIKE

# AQUABIKE BONANZA KICK-STARTS 2017 AND SETS UP SEASON TO SAVOUR

**F**or 'jet ski' aficionados and race fans around the world, as well as the 140 riders from 26 countries who signed up, the only place to be for the first two weekends in June was the stunning region of Puglia in Italy.

The opening rounds of the UIM-ABP Aquabike World Championship in Porto Cesareo and Vieste served up a feast of vintage racing, drama, incident, tantrums and tumbles and set up a season to savour.

In runabout GP1 the anticipated three-way slug fest between defending champion Yousef Al Abdulrazzaq, James Bushell and Lars Akerblom did not disappoint and set the tone for the months ahead, but all were upstaged at the opener by one drive from the back of the field to the front by Hungarian Gyorgy Kasza.

The main talking point in the pits amongst the Ski riders from the word go was the arrival on the scene of the new Kawasaki, the view of Norwegian rider Stian Schjetlein was that "right now it is a development non-Kawasaki riders can manage."

On the water the talking points were many and mainly about a trio of Porets who locked out the top step of the podiums, Estelle enjoying a stellar two events winning both GP titles in the Ladies division, with elder brother and defending champion Jeremy

taking one, oldest brother Mickael the other.

Quinten Bossche marked his debut in the championship in style and was immediately touted, by some, as a future champion, picking up two moto wins a pole position, a DSQ robbing him of a maiden GP title.

In the frantic world of Freestyle there were two fights going on; one for the top step of the podium between Slovenia's aerial aces Rok and Nac Florjancic who traded the titles and the other for the third step between Italian's Roberto Mariani and Alberto Camerlengo and Czech Jaroslav Tirner, Mariani winning that battle.

Two tight and technical circuits, beach starts at both, great crowds and fabulous venues ensured a perfect stat to the year.

The 23rd season of the championship sanctioned by the sports' governing body the Union Internationale Motonautique (UIM), with Aquabike Promotion (ABP) embarking on its seventh season at the helm, kick-started with three days of intense competition at the Grand Prix of Italy in Porto Cesareo with the opening round of the UIM-ABP World Championship for Runabout GP1 and Ski GP1 and Freestyle and the World Championship for Runabout GP2 & 4 and Ski GP2 & 3.

In Runabout GP1 Yousef Al Abdulrazzaq kick started his title defence in style but left it late before hitting the front to take victory in the opening Moto.





The defending world champion trailed pole sitter James Bushell and Lars Akerblom from the start and needed seven laps before passing Akerblom to move in to second place and then set his sights on the leader.

His opportunity came when the lead duo hit a gaggle of backmarkers and Bushell struggled to cut his way through, Abdulrazzaq making the telling pass on lap 13 and going on to take the chequered flag and win by over 15 seconds.

Akerblom lost ground but held on to take third place with Jeremy Perez moving up from being in ninth place at the end of lap one to take fourth ahead of Johan Johanson and Markus schick.

Abdulrazzaq sealed overall victory with second place in Moto 2 but was outclassed by an astonishing performance by Hungary's Gyorgy Kasza, charging from the back of the field of 21 to take the win.

He [Abdulrazzaq] trailed in third for six laps

behind Bushell and Akerblom who hit the front on lap 7 when Bushell stopped and retired. But the man on the move was Kasza, scything his way through the pack, overhauling Abdulrazzaq and then Akerblom a lap later with the Swede then dropping to third.

Kasza's remarkable drive jumped him from nowhere in the standings at race start to take third overall behind Akerblom, Grand Prix honours going to defending champion Abdulrazzaq.

Defending Ski GP1 champion Jeremy Poret started his title defence with overall victory, but it was the young Belgian rider Quinten Bossche who stole the headlines with a brilliant win in Moto 2 on his UIM-ABP debut.

Victory for Jeremy Poret in Moto1 was sealed almost immediately after a brilliant start gave the champion the upper hand.

Starting form P3, he got the jump on pole-sitter

Raphael Maurin and Stian Schjetlein and never looked back, leading from start-to-finish to run out the winner by a narrow margin after a late charge by Schjetlein.

With Poret out front the chase was initially led by Maurin, but his challenge eventually faded, dropping back and his race coming to a premature end on lap 6. Schjetlein and Quinten Bossche traded places mid race with Schjetlein winning the battle and then setting about chasing down the race leader, closing the gap considerably but running out of laps and settling for second place.

Bossche's third place completed a memorable day for the youngster, with Mickael Poret overcoming a back injury to take fourth ahead of Daniel Svae Andersen and Morgan Poret.

In the second Moto Poret looked to be on target for a second win after storming to the front from pole position, but was chased down and passed by Bossche on lap 3 who then disappeared off







into the distance to take his maiden win on the tour by 26.28s and take second overall.

Despite pressure from older brother Mickael, Jeremy Poret held out to take second place and the Grand Prix victory, with Stian Schjetlein filling the final podium slot after finishing in fourth ahead of Morgan Poret and Raphael Maurin.

Estelle Poret pulled off a dramatic last lap win in Moto 2 to snatch the overall Grand Prix victory from defending champion Emma-Nellie Ortendahl.

Ortendahl needed four laps before stamping her authority in the opening Moto of the year to eventually run out a comfortable winner by 21.65s.

In a highly entertaining Moto it was Kylie Ellmers on her new ski who grabbed the early advantage to lead from Poret, with an unusually slow starting Ortendahl in third.

Ortendahl moved into second spot after a mistake by Poret on lap 2 and a lap later overhauled Ellmers and going on to take a comfortable victory.

Despite losing the lead Ellmers performance on a relatively untried Ski was impressive and was unchallenged in second and went on to take her best result on the UIM-ABP tour.

Poret's tumble saw her drop to fourth behind Sofie Borgstrom but she regained the place to secure third spot when Borgstrom also went down momentarily, then hanging on to finish ahead of her elder sister Jonna by just over a second, with UIM-ABP debutant Krista Uzare coming home in sixth.

A sensational second Moto produced two moments of high drama and was ultimately a tale of two laps.

Poret made a brilliant start from P2 to lead from Ortendahl, but fell on lap two to hand the lead to the defending world champion from Sweden.

Ortendahl then opened up a seemingly unassailable lead when she fell at the start of the penultimate lap allowing Poret to retake the lead and go on to take the win and overall victory.

Ortendahl recovered to finish in fourth and take second overall, with New Zealander Kylie Ellmers making up for a poor start to finish third and take the final podium slot, her best result on

the UIM-ABP tour.

Jonna Borgstrom enjoyed one of her best results finishing second, Katriin Nilbe taking fifth with Sofie Borgstrom coming home in sixth.

Rok Florjancic completed the clean sweep in Freestyle, topping the points' sheets in qualifying and both heats to take his 18th GP title.

In the first he made a last minute switch of Ski, borrowing brother Nac's after a problem with his new RNF Hull just moments before he was due to start, and then proceeded to take the win.

The brothers were evenly matched; both picked up 30 points for quantity of tricks with Rok grabbing the advantage in variety and style to get the judges vote 88 to 79.

Roberto Mariani edged out Jaroslav Tirner by just 3 points to take third, with Alberto Camerlengo in fifth.

In heat 2 Rok was again challenged closely by Nac, matching him in quantity of tricks but outpointing him on variety and style. Italy's Roberto Mariani claimed the final podium slot.







**Mattia Fracasso**

## RUNABOUT GP 2 WORLD TITLE FOR MATTIA FRACASSO

Italy's Mattia Fracasso produced a brilliant performance in the final Moto to win the Runabout GP2 World Championship in front of his home crowd.

The final Moto was billed as a winner-take-all decider between Fracasso and the defending champion, Denmark's Marcus Jorgensen, tied on 45 points and a win apiece. But a dramatic disqualification for a non-conforming Ski ruled out the Dane and turned the points table upside down.

It made no difference to Fracasso who bolted away at the start and was in a class of his own, stretching his lead lap-by-lap and running out the winner by over 30 seconds.

Giorgio Viscione added to Italian celebrations after following his countryman to the chequered flag to claim third overall, with UAE rider Ali Al Lanjawi taking the runners-up slot.

**Rok Florjancic completed the clean sweep in Freestyle, topping the points' sheets in qualifying and both heats to take his 18th GP title.**







**Runabout GP4**  
makes its competitive debut



## CAGNARD LIFTS RUNABOUT GP4 WORLD TITLE

Sweden's Christian Cagnard won the winner take all fight with Hungary's Oliver Gerencser for the Runabout GP4 World Championship after finishing in second place but importantly ahead of his rival in the final Moto.

Cagnard and Gerencser started the final day tied on 45 points and it was Cagnard who grabbed the early advantage.

The Swede led for four laps before being passed by Spain's Toni Vingut and the fight for the title developed with Gerencser in third and pressing. But an error by the Hungarian dropped him to fourth behind Spain's Jordi Tomas, to take the runners-up slot.

The win for Vingut jumped the Spaniard up the rankings and onto the final step of the podium.





## DANIEL SVAE ANDERSEN LIFTS SKI GP2 TITLE

Moto 2 winner Daniel Svae Andersen sealed the Ski GP2 World Championship after finishing in second place behind runner-up Benjamin Scharff in the final Moto.

Fifteen-year-old Marten Mani was unable to reproduce the form that saw him win Moto 1, finishing in fifth and take the remaining spot on the championship podium.



## QUINTEN BOSSCHE RETAINS SKI GP3 TITLE

Belgian rider Quinten Bossche completed a successful defence of his Ski GP3 world title with three wins in three days.

Three second place finishes for Alec Enderli secured the runners-up position for the Swiss rider with Denmark's Andreas Thiesson completing the world championship podium.



*Rising star Quinten Bossche*





# F

rom Porto Cesareo the UIM-ABP tour switched coastlines and headed north east to Vieste for the Grand Prix of the Mediterranean.

James Bushell powered to a superb start-to-finish victory in Moto 1 and despite a big crash after the start of Moto 2 forced him back into the pits to repair his damaged Ski, went back out and fought his way from last to finish in 11th and salvage five points, to snatch overall victory from [Moto2] winner Yousef Al Abdulrazzaq. Third place overall went to Estonia's Anton Pankratov.

After the disappointment of breaking down last time out, Bushell took revenge, launching from the start to jump pole-sitter Abdulrazzaq and lead into the first turn from Christophe Agostinho, Abdulrazzaq and Lars Akerblom.

The front four ran line astern for four laps when Abdulrazzaq stopped and was eventually towed off the circuit. Bushell was able to control the pace of his race from the front and despite easing off in the latter stages took his first win of the year by over 20 seconds

Agostinho enjoyed his best result on the UIM-ABP tour with second, Akerblom taking a third consecutive third place finish.

New Zealand's Carl Lampe was enjoying a strong outing and running in fourth when his Moto ended on lap 9 of 16 with a broken driveshaft, gifting fourth place to Estonia's Anton Panratov, with Markus Schick and Patrice Pellier completing the top six.

In Moto 2 the expected head-to-head between pole sitter Bushell and Abdulrazzaq in P2 was

short-lived with Bushell's race compromised on the run to the first when he collided violently with Akerblom, the coming together forcing Bushell to pit, Akerblom dropping to 11th his race then coming to a premature end on lap 6.

At the front it was France's Agostinho who coped with the conditions best, but his race ended on lap 4, with Abdulrazzaq hitting the front and running out a comfortable winner.

After breaking down in Moto1 Jeremy Perez turned things around producing a battling performance fighting his way up from ninth to finish in second place, with New Zealander Carl Lampe enjoying his best outing in only his second Grand Prix on the UIM-ABP tour, coming home in third.

France's Patrice Pellier finished in fourth ahead of Anton Pankratov, with Johan Johanson completing the top six.

In Ski, Mickael Poret celebrated his first Moto win in over a year and a first Grand Prix title since lifting his first world championship in 2010 following the dramatic disqualification of Quinten Bossche in Moto2.

Bossche produced a brilliant performance in Moto 1 to take victory with defending champion Jeremy Poret following the young Belgian to the chequered flag for the second time in two outings, Mickael Poret taking third.

Despite starting from pole Bossche dropped places immediately and trailed the Poret brothers off the start.

Behind the leader a titanic battle developed with Bossche closing down and attacking Mickael Poret, eventually making the successful pass on lap five.

Two laps later he moved in on and passed race leader Jeremy Poret and going onto to take his second win of the year by 5.54s.

Morgan Poret ran all but the final metres of



**James Bushell powered to a superb start-to-finish victory in Moto 1 and despite a big crash after the start of Moto 2.**





# THE NEW SKI ON THE BLOCK

The new Kawasaki was a main and contentious talking point at the season openers; the view of Norwegian rider Stian Schjetlein who runs a ProForce is that "right now it is a development Ski that non-Kawasaki riders can manage."

But is it a must have item? Is it case of staying with 'the Force or biting the Bullet?' "It is a game changer for sure. The Kawasaki is heavier, has a longer hull and a big engine. It changes everything. It's very easy to ride and it will enable riders normally in and around tenth place to be fighting for a podium. It's a simple scenario. The older hulls need to evolve to be able to compete.

"I don't think it is the right direction to go because we are now one step closer to Runabout with hulls weighing nearly the same. Stand up should not be the same as Runabout but it looks like we are taking that step.

"If you look at some of the current Skis we are running, Bullett, ProForce, K1s the all-important performance parts, after-market parts have been out and available

for several years. The new Kawasaki does not currently have this [advantage]. There are one or two manufacturers making parts but the Ski is just six months into production so they are not as developed or tested in this area. They are not behind us, because as it is they can keep the same speed as the older hulls.

"The Ski is good in all conditions but it excels in the big sea waves because of the weight and the extra-long nose piece. If you look at the distance from the handle pole brackets to the end of the Ski it's about the same [as ours] but in the front they have a big extra piece. That gives the advantage in the big waves and riders don't have to think about subbing and it also carries through the waves better because of weight."

The Jury remains undecided!

But after the opening rounds; heat wins, Bullett 3 Kawasaki 3 ProForce 2 – Grand Prix wins, Bullett 3 Kawasaki 1..and all Poret!!





Riders celebrate in Vieste

the race in fourth place and looked to be on course to make it a Poret two-three-four, but dramatically came off his Ski passing a group of backmarkers just before the finish line, eventually clambering back on board and finishing in eighth.

Raphael Maurin made up ground from sixth place passing Stian Schjetlein on lap 4 and then passing a floundering Poret to finish in fourth. Fifteen-year-old Marten Manni produced another impressive outing moving up from ninth to take fifth place ahead of Markus Lutsokert.

It was a disappointing afternoon for two of the championship's big names; Schjetlein struggling with his set-up and coming off his Ski after colliding with another rider but salvaging seventh spot, whilst Kevin Reiterer was forced to jump off his preferred SDC before the start and jump on to Jonna Borgstrom's Kawasaki. The switch forced the 2015 champion to start from the outside line of 29, and despite carving his way through the pack of riders ahead of him could only manage to finish in 12th.

In Moto 2 Poret and Bossche traded places at

the front early on, Poret losing the lead after the opening lap then getting it back before being passed by the young Belgian rider for the second time on lap three and trailing him to the chequered flag.

But the victory that would have given him his first Grand Prix title was short-lived with Bossche penalised and disqualified for cutting the course, handing the win and title to Poret.

Raphael Maurin made it a France one-two with his best result from the opening rounds of the season and was unchallenged in second and secured his first podium, with 2015 world champion Kevin Reiterer ending his run of bad luck moving up from 12th to take third and finally put some solid points on the board.

Defending champion Jeremy Poret struggled in the rough conditions but fourth place after finishing in second in Moto1 put him on the podium in third overall.

Fifteen-year-old Estonian rider Marten Manni produced another impressive performance coming home in fifth with Stian Schjetlein in sixth.

Estelle Poret capped a memorable 10 days in Italy sealing her second Grand Prix title of the season with victory in Moto2.

Second place overall went to defending champion and Moto1 winner Emma-Nellie Ortendahl despite only managing fourth, with Kylie Ellmers' second place sealing the remaining podium place.

Ortendahl simply outclassed the field of 11 in Ski Ladies to take her second win of the season in the opening Moto after a blistering start from pole and was eight seconds clear by the end of lap 1 and then simply disappeared into the distance to run out a comfortable winner by over a minute.

Despite picking up a place at the start Poret had no answer to the exceptional pace of her main rival and was comfortable in second for the majority of the eight laps but then had to stave off a late challenge from New Zealander Kylie Ellmers, who continued her impressive run of form, finishing third.

Jonna Borgstrom lost ground after starting from P2 and despite pushing hard at the end





**In Freestyle Nac  
Florjancic turned the  
tables on brother Rok**



missed out on a top three slot by one second, with Katriin Nilbe and Virginie Morlaes rounding out the top six.

With the start of Moto2 delayed due to strong winds and large swells it was the Ladies who were first to take on the testing conditions.

Poret made a poor start and was lying in third at the end of lap 1 with New Zealander Ellmers out front with Italy's Marta Sorrentino in second place.

Ellmers led for five of the eight laps but it was Poret who was on the charge, passing Sorrentino on lap 2 and then Ellmers to hit the front and go on to win comfortably by 15.42s.

Ellmers second place continued her great run of form in 2017 and on her relatively untested new SDC 'whale', racking up four top three finishes and two podiums.

If the conditions were too much for champion Ortendahl managing only fourth, Marta Sorrentino relished in them getting her best result for a long time with a fantastic ride to third to take fourth overall and saying at the end 'I told you. I am from Sardinia. We don't fear the waves.' UIM-ABP newcomer Krista Uzare took her best result with fifth, finishing ahead of Jonna Borgstrom.

In Freestyle Nac Florjancic turned the tables on brother Rok who took top spot in heat 1, with a brilliant performance winning the second and take overall victory, outscoring big brother 90 points to 88 to take his fourth heat and Grand Prix win, Italy's Roberto Mariani taking third overall.





## AQUABIKE

# EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS CROWNED IN THRILLING CLIMAX IN PENAFIEL

AN ENTHRALLING TITLE DECIDER SAW A RAFT OF CHAMPIONS CROWNED AT THE FINAL ROUND OF THE UIM-ABP AQUABIKE EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP IN PENAFIEL IN PORTUGAL

In Runabout GP1 Portugal's Christophe Agostinho dominated proceedings winning all three Motos to take GP honours, but it was Alessio Schintu's consistency over the two Grand Prix that earned the Italian the European title, sneaking home by one point 95-94 from Marcus Jorgensen who led after round 1, Patrick Agostinho completing the championship podium.

Russia's Dmitry Tsukov claimed the overall GP2 title from Mario Lamy and Alexander Kabatov, with Ali Al Lanjawi winning two out of three Motos to take the Penafiel title.

In the new GP4 'Spark' class Hungary's Oliver Gerencser grabbed a hat-trick of victories to move up from third after round 1 to claim the GP and overall title from Spain's Jordi Tomas and Toni Vingut.

In Ski GP1 Norway's Stian Schjetlein was unbeaten to take the GP title and was followed home each time by France's new European

Champion Raphael Maurin, with Daniel Svae Andersen adding to Norwegian success taking third overall, and then took full advantage of the side-lined Nacho Armillas, taking all three wins to run out a clear winner in Ski GP2 to claim GP and European titles.

In Ski Ladies Sweden's Jonna Borgstrom continued her season form and added to her perfect score card in Zadar, sealing the GP and European title with a fourth series win in the final Moto, Estonia's Katriin Nilbe and France's Virginie Morlaes completing the championship podium.

Alec Enderli took overall honours in GP3 from Barnabas Szabo, who took the Penafiel GP title, and Gonzalo Rodrigues.

In Ski Juniors there was a lot at stake with the added bonus of a world title on offer; Mattias Reinaas dominated in GP3.3 adding the Penafiel GP title to his win in Zadar to seal the World and European Championships. In GP3.2 Zadar winner Esteban Diaz Lopez and Penafiel winner Matteo Valente shared the titles, with Lopez crowned European Champion, the world title going to Valente.









## 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).*





# UIM H2O NATIONS CUP

A one-make international inshore circuit racing powerboat championship:

- 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

## WINNERS

**2011 Nations Cup winner:** Team UAE - Ahmed Al Hameli / Majed Al Mansoori  
**2011 Marina Bay, Singapore**  
 P1 Qualifying; Ahmed Al Hameli (uae)  
 Match race winner; Ahmed Al Hameli (uae)  
 Sprint race 1 winner; Ahmed Al Hameli (uae)  
 Sprint race 2 winner; Ahmed Al Hameli (uae)

## 2012 Nations Cup winner

Team UAE - Majed Al Mansoori / Rashed Al Tayer

## 2012 Khor Fakkan, Sharjah, UAE

P1 Qualifying; Khalid Al Shamlan (qat)  
 Match race winner; Majed Al Mansoori (uae)  
 Sprint race 1 winner; Majed Al Mansoori (uae)  
 Sprint race 2 winner; Majed Al Mansoori (uae)

## 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 Kitashov / Andrei Paniushkin / Dmitry Vandyshev / Roman Vandyshev  
 P1 Qualifying; Mohamed Al Mehairbi (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  
 P1 Qualifying; Rashed Al Qemzi (uae)  
 Match Race winner; Khalid Al Kuwari (qat)  
 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

P1 Qualifying; 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

P1 Qualifying; Andrei 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 - Andrey Panyushkin / Roman Vandyshev

## 2016 Shanghai, China

P1 Qualifying; Roman Vandyshev (rus)  
 Match Race winner; Rashed Al Qemzi (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



# 2017 CALENDAR

2017 looks all set to be another fascinating and challenging season for H2O Racing, with over 20 events planned in nine months, taking its UIM sanctioned Championships, F1H2O, Aquabike and Nations Cup to four continents.

NB: dates and locations subject to change

**F1**

## UIM F1H2O WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

21/23 April - Portimao, Portugal  
30 June/2 July - Evian, France  
11/13 August - Harbin, China  
29 September/1 October - Liuzhou, China  
6/8 December - Abu Dhabi, UAE  
13/15 December - Sharjah, UAE



**NC**

## UIM H2O NATIONS CUP

6/9 October - Shanghai, China

**AB**

## UIM-ABP AQUABIKE EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP - Circuit

19/21 May - Zadar, Croatia  
23/25 June - Penafiel, Portugal

**AB**

## UIM-ABP AQUABIKE CLASS PRO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP - Circuit

2/4 June - Porto Cesareo, Italy  
9/11 June - Vieste, Italy  
13/15 October - Shanghai, China  
20/22 October - Xi'an, China  
23/25 November - Dubai, UAE  
20/22 December - Sharjah, UAE

**AB**

## UIM-ABP EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP - Endurance

27/29 October - Portimao, Portugal

**AB**

## UIM-ABP EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP - Offshore

19/21 May - Zadar, Croatia





 **NEON**



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# VIP HOSPITALITY EXPERIENCE

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