

R Lymington YC Youth Sailors win a clutch of titles at World and European championships

Junior European Laser 4.7 Champion Tom Britz

Royal Lymington Yacht Club sailor, Tom Britz has just returned from Helsinki as the newly crowned Junior European Laser 4.7 Champion for 2009. Sailors from 25 countries participated in this year's championships with the boy's class of 148 sailors ranging in age from 13 to 17 years. The competitors had to deal with mixed weather conditions with brilliant sunshine and sea breezes on some days and cloudy skies with rain on others. Tom sailed consistently all week, notching up 5 top ten results of the 6 races to count taking Bronze position in the overall event and claiming the U16 Junior European title. 3 other Club sailors were with him, James Parker-Mowbray (Silver 27), Jamie Diamond (Silver fleet 33rd) and Ollie Cooper (Gold fleet 65th), who, with Callum Ellis, also a club member, won the European RS Feva European Championship title at Lake Garda the previous week. Tom Britz was one of several Lymington Laser Youth sailors who have been representing GBR at World and European events this last month. Earlier this month Tom also went to the Laser 4.7 World Championships in Brazil (photo) where he finished 16th overall and 5th Junior so a great few weeks abroad with solid results . The youth sailors all had to qualify to compete in the World and European Championships Earlier this month Tom also went to the Laser 4.7 World Championships in Brazil (photo) where he finished 16th overall and 5th Junior so a great few weeks abroad with solid results.

Robbie Urwin and Olly Porter competed at the European Laser Radial Youth and Men's Championships in Denmark in July where they were joined by Lawrence Walters. 195 sailors competed in the European Youth Championships where Robbie Urwin qualified for the Gold fleet 29th and finished 61st, Olly Porter 19th in Silver fleet. They all gained enormous experience in the Mens competition and finished 10th (Robbie Urwin), 13th (Lawrence Walters) and 21st (Olly Porter) in silver fleet with just one British sailor qualifying for Gold. Robbie, Olly and Lawrence had all qualified for the Laser Radial World Championships in Karatssu Japan, which Lawrence attended. Lawrence joined fellow Lymington sailors Hannah Snellgrove and Robbie Claridge in Japan, dodging the typhoon to finish 21st in the Silver fleet in a hard fought championships.

In the Laser Nationals in Paignton, Devon, the sailors were met with wet, windy and shifty conditions. Both Robbie Urwin and Olly Porter had a string of top 5 results. Robbie Urwin sailed consistently throughout the week in the top 10 and finished 8th overall. Olly Porter pushed hard finishing 13th overall. In the 4.7 laser series, James Parker- Mowbray and Jamie Diamond sailed a close series to come 2nd and 3rd overall respectively.

Photo

1. Tom Britz receiving Junior European Championship at Prizegiving in Helsinki, Finland
2. Tom Britz sailing in 4.7 World Championships, Brazil

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