

PRESS RELEASE

SATURDAY JULY 14th, 2007

ROYAL DANISH
YACHT CLUB

F40
DEXIA FARR'40
SKAGEN 2007

DEXIA

Dexia Farr 40 Skagen 2007

Testing Seas bring out the best

...

By Gordon Smith, Royal Danish Yacht Club

16:00 Skagen Harbour, Denmark.

Opus One win the Dexia Farr 40 Skagen 2007 Regatta

Drenched in persistent and heavy rain, which was driven by 20-25 knot winds, Opus One deservedly won the Dexia Farr 40 Skagen 2007 Regatta.



Photo by Per Heegaard

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As we entered the final day's racing, yesterday's 3 bullets had left Opus One in as strong a position as they could wish for. However, with Hooligan, Kokomo and Barking Mad on their heels one could hardly describe the situation as comfortable. Taking 8th place in the first race of the day (race 7) must have increased the tension on board, (particularly as Australia's Hooligan came 1st) but they nailed the regatta with a fine 2nd in the 8th and final race. Four 1st places and two 2nd places in an eight race regatta of this quality is an excellent achievement.

"It's a step on the path" says skipper Wolfgang Stoltz " I am delighted with the win; the conditions were tricky today, it was impossible to see the shifts and with the big choppy waves steering wasn't easy."

Wolfgang continues, "Crew work was the key in these conditions; you might say that the kiwi connection came in to play. Kelvin (Harrap, Opus One's tactician) has been a patient coach with me over 3½ years, bringing me on from having no competitive experience at all."

"This is our first regatta win but for the last 12 or so regattas we have been there and thereabouts in the top quarter of the field."

Marcus Blackmore, skipper of the second placed boat Hooligan from Australia "Apart from a 12th position in Race 2 when we did a Chinese gybe we were consistently good, thing is, Opus One were consistently better!"

"I would like to say what a great job the Royal Danish Yacht Club have done here in Skagen. They haven't just looked after the skippers or just after the skippers and crew, but they have also done a really good job of taking care of our guests and families. Well done guys".

Continued..

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Other comments:

The weather forecast service from North Sails has worked well and they called today's weather flawlessly, 10-15 knots to start building to 20-25 knots with squalls and thunderstorms in the locality.



Photo by Per Heegaard

After the first six (of eight races) Denmark's Monick had worked her way up to 5th place and given a performance along with Denmark's Nanoq (skippered by HRH Crown Prince Frederik) that must give them more confidence going in to the Rolex Pre-Worlds and World Championships to be held at the end of August, Tuborg Harbour Copenhagen, Denmark.

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Germany's Struntje Light must surely rue the results in Races 3 & 4 (15th and 12th places respectively) without which they would have been able to seriously challenge Opus One and the other leaders. Finishing with a win perhaps underlined how one or two poor races can dis-rail an otherwise satisfying campaign.

Provisional Results (awaiting Protest Hearings)

1	OPUS ONE/Wolfgang Stolz	1	5	2	1	1	1	8	2	21
2	HOOLIGAN/Marcus C. Blackmore	7	12	1	2	2	2	1	4	31
3	KOKOMO/Lang Walker	5	2	4	3	4	3	7	6	34
4	BARKING MAD/Jim Richardson	4	1	3	7	12	6	2	3	38
5	STRUNTJE LIGHT/Wolfgang Schaefer	2	4	15	12	3	10	3	1	50
6	NANOQ/HRH Crown Prince Frederik	6	11	19	5	5	5	5	12	68
7	MONICK/David Holm	3	8	7	8	10	8	9	16	69
8	NORWEGIAN STEAM/Eivind Astrup	20	OCS	6	4	6	4	6	5	75
9	CALVI/Carlo Alberini	11	9	11	9	13	11	12	8	84
10	GROOVEDERCI/Deneen Demourkas	14	3	5	6	17	14	16	15	90
11	PHISHFOOD/Alexis Michas	22	13	10	10	7	17	4	9	92
12	INFINITY/John B. Thomson Jr.	13	6	9	17	8	18	10	ZFP	96
13	SILVER BULLET/Henrik Jansen	15	10	8	20	14	9	11	14	101
14	JOE FLY/Giovanni Maspers	17	7	18	11	9	16	13	11	102
15	BACKBONE/Thomas Kiær	9	18	14	19	16	7	14	7	104
16	LE RENARD/Stephen B. Phillips	18	14	13	16	15	15	20	10	121
17	BALOO 110/Jens Erik Høst	10	16	16	14	11	13	19	ZFP	122

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18	MONKEY CLASS 2/Ole van der Heide	16	15	12	15	19	20	15	19	131
19	WOLFPACK/Grant Larsen	21	17	17	13	20	19	17	17	141
20	TEAM BERGEN/Sverre Valeur	19	DSQ	DNC	18	18	12	18	18	151
21	MASCALZONE LATINO/Vincenzo Onorato	8	OCS	DNF	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	173
22	SIRAGUSAWA/Olli-Pekka Lumijarvi	12	DNF	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	177
23	HAPPY HAPPY/Per Arne Nilsen	DNF	DNC	DNC	21	DNC	DNC	21	20	182

Full result list and further information on www.farr40.kdy.dk

For more information on the Dexia Farr 40 Skagen 2007 please contact:

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