

PRESS RELEASE

THURSDAY JULY 11th, 2007



Dexia Farr 40 Skagen 2007

When the going gets tough

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By Gordon Smith, Royal Danish Yacht Club

Yesterdays shifty moderate winds gave way this morning to stable moderate conditions. Which would have been nice for the rest of the day, however we were forecast (and received) building wind speed and increasing swings. "Happy Happy" from Norway suffered hydraulic problems during the first race and are ashore awaiting repairs.



Photo by Per Heergaard

In a separate incident team Siragusawa lost their mast head crane. After a mid-field position in race 1 Siragusawa were well up in the fleet on the first downwind leg when their bow dug itself deep in a wave.

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Matt Ciesicki , downwind trimmer explains: "With the flat water conditions and the strong winds the boats are sailing fully loaded; we were surfing when a big puff caught us and drove the bow deep into a wave and that was it for the mast head."

Mascalzone Latino had a very mixed day but one that Tactician Adrian Stead had otherwise predicted rather well. "Just as I told you! Strong breeze conditions and we are going to get to see how the mast head spinnakers perform". They crossed the line 8th in race 1 but in race they were early on the start and failed to correct earning them an 'OCS' and 24 points. Sadly that was not the worst of it as Mascalzone Latino suffered serious damage in the third race. They were rounding the bottom mark and tensioning the backstay when they suffered the same fate as Siragusawa and lost their mast head crane.

"We are probably out of this regatta, it really depends on the mast builder and is probably an insurance issue; we will need to see what happens. However it is far better that this happens now than at the Worlds."

Full resultlist and further information on www.farr40.kdy.dk

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