

Lettre de Monsieur MAURY au Président de l'I.Y.R.U.

My duty as the president of the French Association of Finns has ordered me to give you our opinion concerning the choice of equipment for the coming games in Kiel.

First of all, we find it abnormal to impose a standard equipment on each participant, where as in all to other classes (Dragon, Soling, Star, Tempest and F.D.), the participants may use their own boat.

We feel that this is a poor idea especially for a class where the weight and size of the sailor determines the equipment he must use in relation to his build.

The fact of wanting to choose the Finns for the games from a ship-builder who has not yet proven himself in the manufacturing of this class (Mader, of Germany) is very discouraging for those ship-builders who for many years have worked hard to give us a better hull.

Moreover, there is a sail-maker who has done a lot of research and who supplies most of the best sailors in the world and there is talk about selecting sails for the games which are unknown to most of the competitors of value (North, Germany).

Concerning the masts, it is even worse. With the games one year off, there is still some hesitation about choosing metal masts.

This is a choice which might be valid after 1972, but for the time being, the helmsmen should be allowed to race with the equipment they know the best.

We could argue a long time citing examples of other olympic sports (jumping, skiing, cycling, pole-vaulting) where the competitors use their own equipment.

In conclusion we urgently request that you renounce the idea of supplying the boats for the Finn class at the coming games in Kiel and to decide that our olympic one-man class will have the same rights to choose its equipment as the other olympic classes. This would put an end to an anomaly which stains the ideal and spirit of the olympic games.

I thank you for the attention you will give this request which also reflects the opinion of many other nations.

Le Président,
Raymond MAURY.

Mon devoir de président de l'Association française de la classe olympique Finn me commande de vous donner notre opinion concernant le choix du matériel pour les prochains jeux de Kiel.

En premier lieu, nous trouvons qu'il est anormal d'imposer à chaque concurrent un matériel standard, alors que pour les autres séries, Dragon, Soling, Star, Tempest et F.D., les coureurs pourront participer avec leur propre bateau.

Nous considérons que c'est une brimade, surtout pour une série où le poids et la taille du barreur imposent à chacun de courir avec un matériel adapté à sa corpulence.

Le fait de vouloir prendre les Finn des Jeux à un constructeur qui n'a pas fait ses preuves dans la fabrication des Finn (Mader, Allemagne) est néfaste et décourageant pour des constructeurs qui, depuis de longues années, ont travaillé pour nous donner une coque meilleure.

De plus, il y a un voilier qui a fait également beaucoup de recherches et qui livre la presque totalité des meilleurs coureurs dans le monde, et l'on parle de prendre, pour les Jeux, des voiles inconnues de la majorité de ces coureurs titrés (North, Allemagne).

Pour les mâts, c'est encore pire ; à un an des Jeux, il y a une hésitation pour choisir des mâts métalliques.

C'est un choix qui sera valable peut-être après 1972, mais pour le moment, il faut laisser les barreurs courir avec du matériel qu'ils connaissent parfaitement.

Nous pourrions épiloguer longuement en vous citant des exemples d'autres sports olympiques (saut à la perche, jumping, ski, cyclisme et bien d'autres), où les concurrents participent aux Jeux avec leur propre matériel.

En conclusion, nous vous demandons instamment de renoncer à la fourniture de bateaux pour la classe Finn aux prochains Jeux de Kiel et de décider que notre classe olympique en solitaire aura les mêmes droits de choix de leur matériel que les séries Dragon, Soling, Star, Tempest et F.D., mettant ainsi un terme à une anomalie entachant l'idéal et l'esprit des Jeux olympiques.

Vous remerciant pour l'attention que vous apporterez à cette demande qui reflète d'ailleurs l'opinion de nombreuses autres nations, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'expression de mes meilleurs sentiments.

Le président,
Raymond MAURY.



Report on Finn class sailing in 1972

REPORT
BY DR. T.G.M. MORRIS.



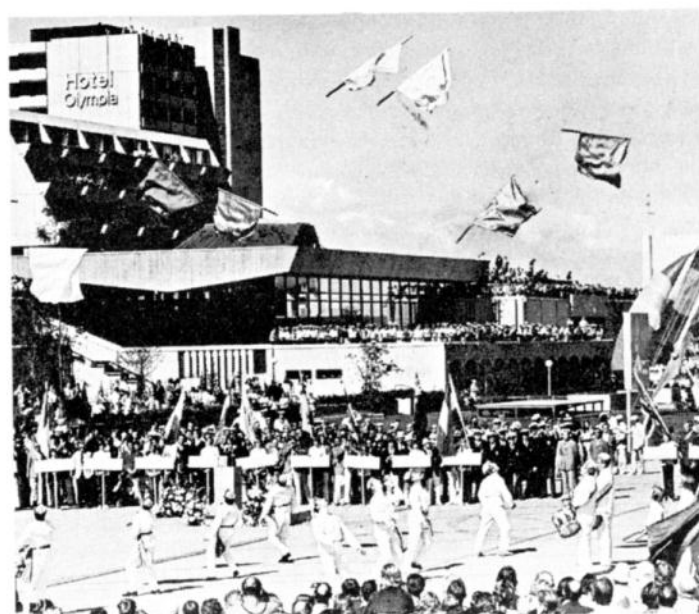
Kieler Fiord is often thought of as synonymous with strong winds and heavy weather sailing, but the wise will tell you "anything can happen at Kiel". But even few of the wise would have been prepared to forecast two weeks of mild weather and light winds for the sailing events of the XX Olympiad. Thus the 35 helmsmen who competed in the Finn Class at the 1972 Games found their long hours in the gym of little use to them and had instead to call on all their resources of skill, light weather tactics and strategy and patience to finish well - or sometimes just to finish.

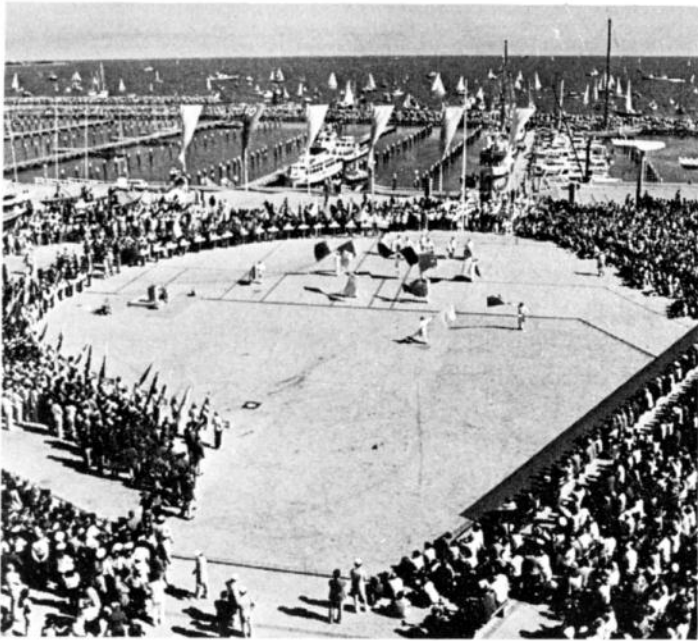
Although not able to arrange the weather to everyone's liking the German organisers had on just about every other conceivable facility. Those with energy to spare could make use of a well equipped gym, swimming pool, table tennis tables, and follow with sauna bath, while those with enough concentration could have a game of chess on a giant chessboard. In addition one could relax in the many "clubrooms" in the Olympic village or, if looking for entertainment could choose between films, television (almost everywhere - only one programme - guess what?), disco fruit machines or one of several bars - these last two being the only facilities that were not free.

Although hardly necessary to say so the food was also the very best - and seemingly limitless.

All in all a virtual paradise for the reserves - of whom there seemed to be a great many - or was it just that they got around a lot. In

fact there were more supernumerary Finn Helmsmen present in various guises, e.g. reserve, team manager, coach, boatman or even one masseur that there were competitors.





While there were many present who had been at Accapulco four years previously, only three of the helmsmen at Accapulco were still no. 1 at Kiel - Jacqui Rogge of Belgium, Per Werenskiold of Norway and Rachot Kanjanavit of Thailand. Others were present as reserves or coaches and yet others such as Valentin Mankin, winning his second "Gold" and Willy Kuhweide, who added a "Bronze" to his collection, had changed class.

Teams were better prepared than ever before and many Meteorologists were reputed to have been sacked before the end of the regatta, while many reserves and other helpers could be seen making tidal measurements before each race. Most teams had a reserve, complete with boat for tuning while both British and Canadians had impressive "tune-up" fleets present for the period of intense activity between the distribution of the identical Mader boats and the start of racing two weeks later. By contrast there were also a few "loners" while Ivan Hoffman of the diminutive Czech team found himself not only as reserve but also as team manager, coach and boatman.

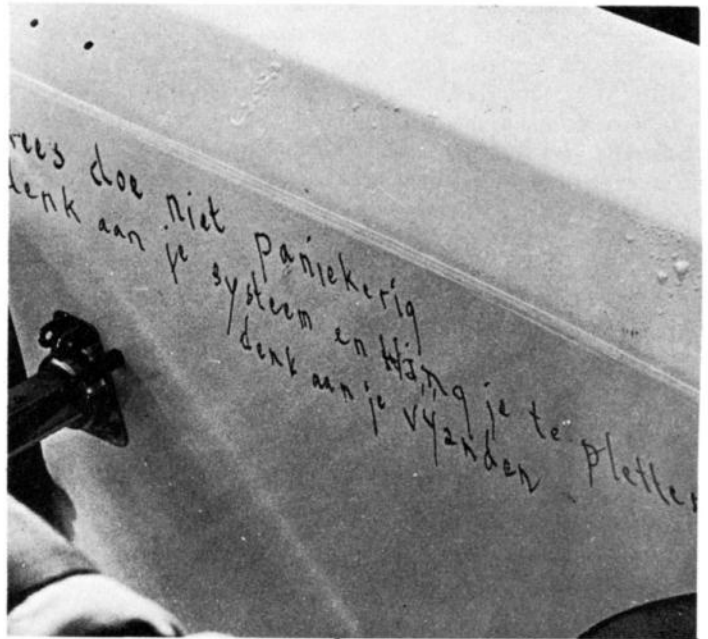
After the 10 day tune-up period, during which there was only one day of light weather, everyone left the village at Kiel to take part in the Opening Ceremony in Munich. When they came back the weather had changed and skippers could be seen getting some hurried light weather practice "just in case". Then came our own Opening Ceremony, a much less formal affair, in fact quite a party with bands to suit every style playing in the bright sunshine.



First Race

And so, at last, to the racing. The almost incredible first race sailed in a force 2-3 breeze, seemed to set the scene for what was to happen in some of the later races. Getting away at the first start the fleet soon split into two distinct groups, separated by almost a mile of empty water. Thirty-one boats headed off towards the land on a long port tack looking for a predicted veer in the wind while the remaining four boats, Serge Maury of France, Ilias Hatzipavlis of Greece, Jacqui Rogge of Belgium and Jose Manuel Quina of Portugal headed out to sea on starboard.

These four then met a 15 degree haeder, tacked and reached the windward with an incredible 2 minute lead. For the rest of the race Maury had only to beat off the challenges made by Hatzipavlis to finish a comfortable winner, while Rogge sailed a lonely race in third place — unable to catch the leaders and out of reach of the rest of the fleet. Of the "rest" Kim Weber of Finland, and Victor Potapov of Russia managed to overhaul Quina before the finish, but early leader of that group, Bermudian Paul Hiles slipped to thirteenth on the last beat.



Look out for your enemies, Kees

Second Race

The second race was again sailed in light and shifty air. Hatzipavlis, sailing quickly, was first at the first mark followed by Walter Bachmann of Switzerland, Roberts Colliard of Mexico and Claudio Biekarck of Brazil. This order remained unchanged to the leeward mark but Potapov, rounding the first mark thirtyfirst, pulled up to twenty-ninth by the lee mark and then, in one huge leap with superb tactics, to second place. Hatzipavlis slipped to ninth and the lead was taken by Paul Hiles. Gyoergy Finaczy of Hungary also made a lot of place, coming from seventeenth to third while Quina, although sailing slowly downwind, seemed consistently able to make places upwind, having rounded the weather mark sixth, slipping to fourteenth but getting back to fourth place. The run saw a further place change with Potapov taking the lead, Kees Douze of Holland moving up from sixth to second, in which positions they finished. Walter Mai of Germany, moving steadily up, finished third and Quina once more recovered from a bad downwind leg to finish fourth. Finaczy finished fifth and Bret de Thier of New Zealand came through to sixth.

Third Race

This was another light weather affair in shifty, difficult winds, producing some remarkable place changing this time on the last beat. Steen Kjolhede of Denmark led for the first triangle followed by Potapov, Hans-Cristian Schroeder of East Germany and Maury. On the second beat Schroeder moved past Potapov to challenge Kjolhede on the subsequent run. Kim Weber of Finland moved up a place to fourth, Maury dropping to thirteenth. Schroeder led at the last mark and reached the finishing line in that position while Potapov ousted Kjolhede from second place. Further down the fleet things were happening. For the third day running Quina "found the right way" and moved up from 23rd rounding the last mark to fifth at the finish, pursued by Hatzipavlis who came from 27th to eighth and Bertrand from 24th to ninth. After a total disaster in the first race of the series, Puerto Rica Lee Gentil proved he could adjust to light weather by finishing sixth.

Fourth Race

The fourth race was sailing in the best breeze of the series, the wind at the start blowing 16 knots, and falling only slightly during the course of the race, and the finishing order contained few surprises, apart from Maury who finished a disappointing 26th. Patrick Pym of Britain led at the windward mark, but was overtaken on the first reach by Nordic Champion, John Clarke of Canada and on the second reach by Bret de Thier, both of whom had been fancied in the event of heavy weather. Clarke however slipped to sixth on the second beat, while Swede Thomas Lundquist came through to first from fifth, and went on to retain his lead. Behind John Bertrand was pulling up from an early thirteenth to third with a show of steady sailing. De thier finished second and Walter Mai, recovering a place lost on the second beat, finished fourth. Ed Bennet (U.S.A.) after finishing seventh, summed up the race for a lot of people - "It was a good race ' I had the change to win linea lot of other people but I made one or two little mistakes so I didn't".

Fifth Race

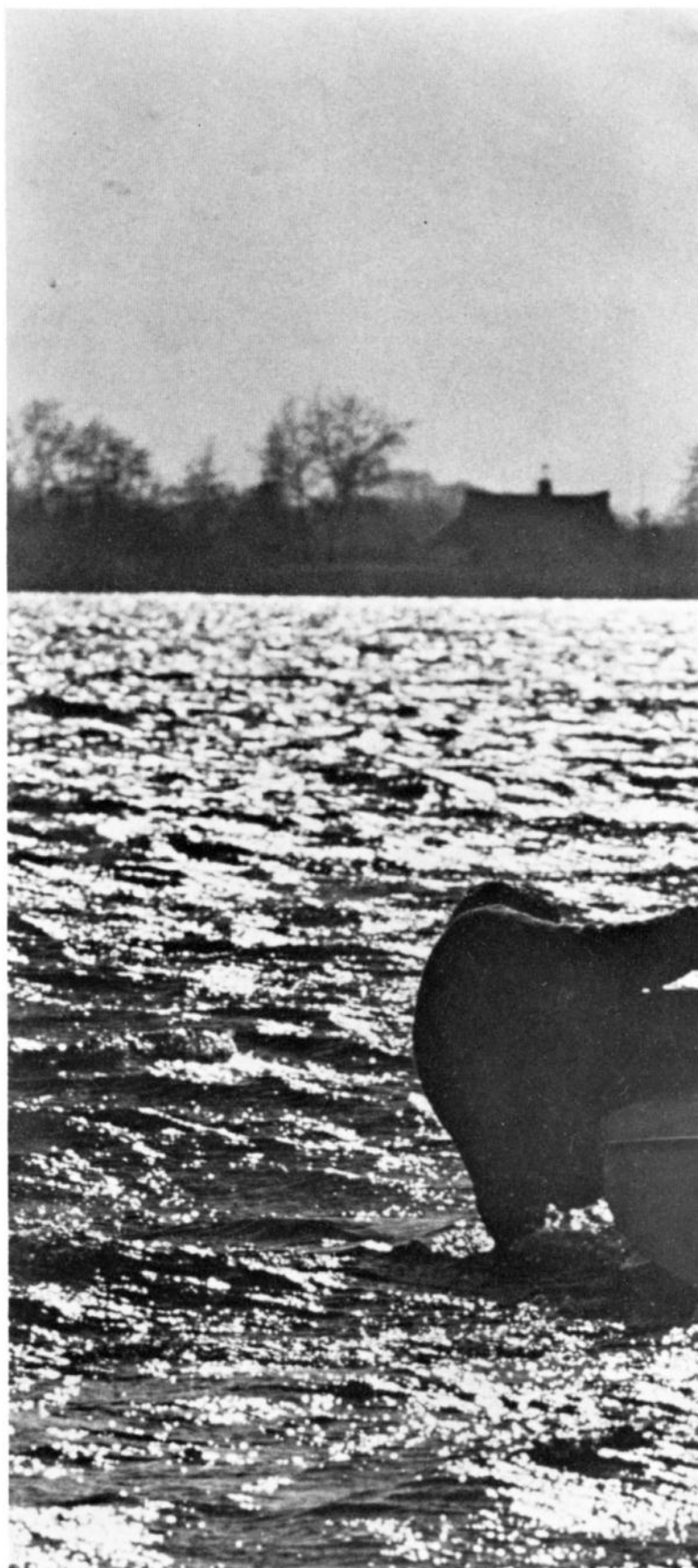
When sailing resumed after the two rest days which included the parade of the tall ships it was to the now familiar sound at Kiel of three guns in short succession.

In all there were four general recalls before the fleet started successfully in another light weere.

Walter Bachmann, sailing well, led at the first two marks but as the race progressed it developed into a struggle between Hans-Christian Schroeder, Czech Miroslav Vejoda, Mauro Pelaschier of Italy and Hatzipavlis, finishing in that order. Bertrand, Maury and Lundquist all finished in the first ten to keep medal hopes alive.

Sixth Race

When the sixth race started in a moderate breeze once again few could anticipate the dramatic effect it would have on the leading places. As the race progressed the wind gradually fell away until there was not sufficient wind to get the majority of the fleet across the finishing line. Serge Maury went straight into the laed which he held to the last buoy and his lead looked almost unbeatable. However Gyoergy Finaczy finding the falling breeze greatly to his liking first passed Lundquist, the early second, then attacked successfully Maury's lead and finally finished after 3 hrs. 36 mins., almost eleven minutes ahead of Maury. Behind however it looked increasingly as if there might be no more finishers as Kieler Fiord took on a glassy calm. One man had seen the emerging pattern and had the determination to finish — Kim Weber rounding seventeenth noted a weak tidal flow running across the course and took a single long tack against the tide so that he would be carried across the finishing line by it. He finished in third place after 4 hrs. 32 mins. - four minutes within the time limit set by Finaczy. One more boat crossed the line from a heart-break groep



of boats who had almost reached the line; that of Hans-Christian Schroeder, but was later disqualified for using illegal means of propulsion.

Coming up to the final race this put Serge Maury in a very strong position, with his nearest rivals all failing to complete the course. Five or six helmsmen could theoretically beat him but only if he finished in the twenties in the last race, though Hatzipavlis and



Potapov were a little closer. The fight for silver or bronze was still very much alive as any slip by Hatzipavlis and Potapov could let in Bertrand or Lundquist who had sailed consistently well in a series with weather not really to their liking, or Finaczy who had shot into the running by coming in first in this race.

Seventh Race

A further two days more to elapse before the final results were

known. One day was lost drifting around in mist and calm on Kieler Fiord and the next day was pronounced a day of mourning for the victims of the Munich tragedy. Finally the last race got away cleanly in once again a medium breeze. As the wind veered slightly and also seemed fresher on the starboard hand side of the course, boats going to that side arrived at the weather mark with an appreciable lead on those favouring the other side of the course. Serge Maury played the minor shifts best and was first,

with Bertrand, Lundquist and Claudio Biekarck in close attendance. Potapov and Hatzipavlis were mid fleet and Finaczy having gambled on the port side trailed badly. On the next beat safety first tactics dropped Maury to fourth, Bertrand taking the lead with Lundquist second. Potapow and Hatzipavlis had moved up but if the positions remained as they were Bertrand could get bronze and possibly even silver. On the run Bertrand was passed by Lundquist who went on to win convincingly. Bertrand clung on to second place but Potapov, in a very exciting finish crossed the line (sixth) just in front of a group of three boats and made sure of his bronze medal, while Hatzipavlis, finishing sixth, was close enough to him to be sure of the silver.

Looking back Serge Maury's victory was the result of one of the most thorough and intensive campaigns in the Finn Class and a considerable personal success for French Coach Phillippe Soria and his training methods. Although Hatzipavlis, consistency surprised some, his medal was not unexpected as he had been going fast all season and in all conditions with the Olympic rig, while Potapov's tactical ability in medium airs saw him through to a second Russian success in four years.

Luck seems to desert the Australians when it comes to medals in the Finn Class as they have now been placed fourth overall in the last three Olympics, while Finland seems to be heading for a similar "hat trick" with two sixth places.

Inevitable in a contest of this nature, many champions, used to the sound of winning guns, must fail, and for them there are the consolations of "if only" and more important "next time".



RESULTS

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL-1	TOTAL
1. F Maury, Serge	1	8	11	(26)	10	2	4	58.0	(90.0)
2. GR Hatzipavlis, Ilias	2	9	8	10	4	(NF)	9	71.0	(112.0)
3. SR Potapov, Victor	5	1	2	23	15	(NF)	6	74.7	(115.7)
4. KA Bertrand, John	11	17	9	3	7	(NF)	2	76.7	(117.7)
5. S Lundquist, Thomas	8	23	13	1	13	(NF)	1	81.0	(122.0)
6. L Weber, Kim	4	(29)	4	24	18	3	5	85.7	(120.7)
7. GO Schroeder, Hans-Christian	24	19	1	13	1	(DQ)	11	91.0	(136.0)
8. M Finaczy, Gyoergy	7	5	21	18	14	1	(23)	94.0	(123.0)
9. BL Biekarck, Claudio	14	13	23	16	5	(NF)	3	105.7	(146.7)
10. KZ Thier, Bret de	9	6	15	2	27	(NF)	20	109.7	(150.7)
11. P Quina, Jose Manuel	6	4	5	29	16	(NF)	17	109.7	(150.7)
12. G Mai, Walter	18	3	20	4	24	(NF)	12	111.7	(152.7)
13. I Pelaschier, Mauro	12	16	14	21	3	(NF)	16	114.7	(155.7)
14. B Rogge, Jacques J. M.	3	24	16	12	11	(NF)	19	117.7	(158.7)
15. KB Hiles, Paul	13	7	10	20	19	(NF)	14	119.0	(160.0)
16. SZ Vejvoda, Miroslav	20	25	12	15	2	(NF)	18	123.0	(164.0)
17. Z Bachmann, Walter	27	20	7	22	6	(NF)	15	132.7	(173.7)
18. K Pym, Patrick	19	11	17	6	(DQ)	NF	10	133.7	(178.7)
19. D Kjoelhede, Steen	16	(DQ)	3	17	8	NF	25	136.7	(181.7)
20. KC Clarke, John	28	22	22	8	17	(NF)	8	141.0	(182.0)
21. Y Fabris, Minski	15	28	29	19	12	(NF)	7	146.0	(187.0)
22. US Bennett, Edward	10	15	24	7	(NF)	NF	21	148.0	(189.0)
23. H Douze, Kees	32	2	28	11	25	(NF)	24	153.0	(194.0)
24. PZ Wyszowski, Blazej	25	21	27	5	20	(NF)	26	159.0	(200.0)
25. N Werenskiold, Per	26	18	25	14	21	(NF)	27	167.0	(208.0)