

SINGAPORE AIRLINES SAIL AUCKLAND



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MEDIA RELEASE

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From: Sarah Dunn

A mix of top international names and local talent came out on top of the six Olympic classes which began racing in the Singapore Airlines Sail Auckland ISAF Grade One regatta on Auckland Harbour today.

Gusty westerly winds made for snakes and ladders style racing in the star studded Laser Radial Women's fleet. Finnish sailor Sari Multala, a veteran of two Olympics, is leading after three races with 3, 3 and 1 on her scorecard.

Multala commented "I started late in the first two races but the shifty conditions gave me lots of opportunities to catch up, being in the patches of wind was key. My start in the last race was good and that made it a lot easier."

Behind Mutala is Chinese sailor Lijia Xu and New Zealand's 2008 Olympic representative Jo Aleh. Jo Aleh finished the day with 1, 7 and 10 on her scorecard.

Jo Aleh commented "I won the first race in lighter conditions, I got a good start and played the shifts well which kept me in the lead all the way to the finish. In the other two races I got shafted at the starts but I managed to catch up on the down-wind legs. The last race was crazy; there was a big left shift off the start line which I missed and after that there was no catching up."

World number one ranked Australian pair Darren Bundock and Glenn Ashby lead the highly contested Tornado class which boasts a World class fleet of thirty-nine boats from nineteen countries. Today they scored 3, 3 and 7.

For the Tornado class Singapore Airlines Sail Auckland is doubling as a pre-Worlds regatta for the World Championships that begin next week.

The top New Zealand Tornado sailors are board sailing Olympic bronze medalist Aaron McIntosh and his crew Mark Kennedy in 13th place. The next New Zealanders are father and son team, Rex and Brett Sellers. Rex won gold and silver medals in the Tornado Class at the 1984 and 1988 Olympics respectively.

In the RS:X men's class New Zealander JP Tobin was rewarded for his consistency to lead a very strong fleet which includes thirty international sailors from fifteen countries. These sailors have remained training in New Zealand after the recent RS:X World Championships.

Tobin snatched the overall lead in the final race of the day from Portugal's Joao Rodrigues, who was second in the 2008 World Championships, and 2004 Olympic champion Nikos Kaklamanakis from Greece.

Racing continues for the next three days and concludes with a medal race on Tuesday.

Provisional Results:

Laser Radial Women

1 st	FIN	Sari Multala	3, 3, 1 (7 points)
2 nd	CHN	Lijia Xu	9, 2, 3 (14 points)
3 rd	NZL	Jo Aleh	1, 7, 10 (18 points)
4 th	GBR	Charlotte Dobson	8, 9, 7 (24 points)
5 th	NZL	Sara Winther	12, 6, 8 (26 points)

Tornado

1 st	AUS	Daren Bundock and Glenn Ashby	3, 3, 7 (13 points)
2 nd	ESP	Fernando Echavarri and Anton Paz	2, 8, 9 (19 points)
3 rd	NED	Mitch Booth and Pim Nieuwenhuis	7, 7, 6 (20 points)
4 th	USA	John Lovell and Charles Ogletree	17, 1, 3 (21 points)
5 th	GER	Roland Gaebler and Gunnar Struckmann	1, 5, 15 (21 points)

RS:X Men

1 st	NZL	JP Tobin	5, 2, 2 (9 points)
2 nd	POR	Joao Rodrigues	1, 7, 3 (11 points)
3 rd	GRE	Nikos Kaklamanakis	2, 1, 10 (13 points)
4 th	SUI	Richard Stauffacher	7, 5, 1 (13 points)
5 th	CAN	Zachary Plavsic	8, 3, 7 (18 points)

RS:X Women

1 st	ESP	Marina Alabau	1, 2, 2 (5 points)
2 nd	UKR	Olga Maslivets	7, 1, 3 (11 points)
3 rd	GER	Romy Kinzl	6, 5, 1 (12 points)
4 th	NZL	Barbara Kendall	2, 3, 12 (17 points)
5 th	POL	Anna Galecka	8, 4, 6 (18 points)

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1 st	NZL	Carl Evans and Peter Burling	1, 1, 4 (6 points)
2 nd	NZL	Geoffrey Woolley and Mark Overington	3, 2, 2 (7 points)
3 rd	NZL	Dan Wilcox and Chris Dawson	4, 3, 1 (8 points)

Laser Radial Men

1 st	NZL	Blair McLay	2, 1, 3 (6 points)
2 nd	NZL	James Sandall	1, 2, 8 (11 points)
3 rd	NZL	Andrew Maloney	3, 5, 5 (13 points)

Laser Standard

1 st	NZL	Josh Junior	1, 3, 1 (5 points)
2 nd	FRA	Malo Leseigneur	3, 1, 2 (6 points)
3 rd	NZL	Mathew Steven	2, 2, 4 (8 points)

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1 st	NZL	Marcus Hansen and Finn Drummond	26 points
2 nd	NZL	Thomas Saunders and Chris Steele	32 points
3 rd	NZL	Frankie Lardies and David Hazard	32 points

Further information is available from:

Singapore Airlines Sail Auckland website: www.sailauckland.org.nz

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