Argentina's Snipers Dominate South American Championship

Pedro Sisti tops six-nation, 41-boat fleet on Paraguay's Lake Ypacarai

The II South American Championship was held in Paraguay on Lake Ypacarai April 28th to May 1st. The Yacht Club Ypacarai organized it with the help of the Club Nautico San Bernardino.

Six countries participated; Argentina with the largest fleet, 16 boats; Brasil 8; Chile 3; U.S.A. one; Uruguay 1; and Paraguay 12; a total of 41 Snipes. The Argentineans were the most prepared, as they had just finished their Nationals with 61 boats, and their very best sailors were all here; Pedro Sisti, Adalberto Utuary, Julio Labandeira, Wilson Pereira ... Brasil attended with two boats from Porto Alegre, and the others from S. Paulo, including the whole Cauby family.

Sibylle B. Sulzbeck, Bert Swanson and Roberto Salvat were on the race committee, with our Manuel Otazu and a newcomer, Angel Auad, President of the Yacht Club Ypacarai. In spite of the little wind and the pouring rain, they managed to start and finish 6 races out of the 7 scheduled during the four-day Championship.

On the 28th of April at 14-15 hrs. we commenced the first race with a South-easterly wind from 7 to 8 miles. Towards the end of the race we had a very poor wind of 2 to 3 miles. Mainly, those sailors who stayed closer to the shore line were at a better advantage, and this was true for the following races during which little wind was present.

The three first positions were as follows: Adalberto Utuary, Argentina, 1st; Eduardo Rawson, Argentina, 2nd; and Christian Borgstrom, also Argentina, 3rd.

The second race started on the 29th of April but at 3-15 p.m. because we had no wind, pouring rain and gale-force in the morning. For the afternoon at the very beginning we had 2-3 miles of South winds, increasing during the race, and at the end, it was up to 10 miles per hour. From the outset, right up to the end of the race, Pedro Sisti and Miguel Costa dominated, and arrived with 2 minutes advance on the 2nd boat, finishing in one hour and fifteen minutes. Julio Labandeira, Argentina, was 2nd; and Christian Borgstrom was third again.

The third and fourth races started on the 30th of April at 10 a.m. with very irregular winds from the southeast. The positions changed frequently, and several collisions and disqualifications took place at the first mark. Sisti won again with Rawson second, and Utuary third.

For the fourth race Labandeira won, followed by Eduardo Cauby of Brazil, 2nd, and Sisti third.

Right: Pedro Sisti, veteran Argentine Sniper, is new South American Champion. Opposite page: Close action at the mark with Chile leading Brazil, Argentina, and the U.S. in rounding.