Santiago Lange Appointed As Championship Coach For 2009

Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship

Two-time Olympic medallist and Volvo Ocean Race competitor Santiago Lange of Argentina has been appointed as the Championship coach for this year's Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship, taking place in Buzios, Brazil from 9-18 July.

Fifty-nine nations and over 280 of the world's top young sailors will gather in Buzios, just 170 kilometres east of Rio de Janeiro, this July for the 39th edition of the Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship, the first time the championship has been held in South America. The Youth Worlds is renowned for giving the sailing world its first glimpse of future champions but it's also a global celebra-

tion of youth sailing and a fantastic learning experience for the young competitors chosen to represent their nation. A key figure in this educational-side to the Youth Worlds is the championship coach and this year the competitors in Buzios will have the opportunity to learn from world-famous Argentinean sailor Santiago Lange.

Santiago Lange said: "It's a real honour to be appointed as championship coach for the 2009 Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship, particularly as this will be the first time the event has been held in South America. It's a fantastic championship and Buzios will be a great host.

"I'm greatly looking forward to working with so many young, talented and enthusiastic sailors from all over the world. They're the future of our sport and the Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship is the world-class showcase they deserve."

The championship coach, whose appointment is funded by the World Youth Sailing Trust, provides coaching to the sailors at the Youth Worlds whose nations have been unable to send support staff to the championship, in particular to those sailors competing thanks to funding support from ISAF's Athlete Participation Programme (APP). The APP sailors get the benefit of daily briefings from the championship coach, with all competitors can attend the video debrief sessions held at the end of each day's racing. This year there is a new coach for the Championship, with Lange taking over the reigns from British coach Jim Saltonstall, whose 30-year association with the Youth Worlds finally came to end last year in Århus, Denmark.

Lange is one of Argentina's most famous sailing names. He has competed at five editions of the Olympic Games across dinghy, keelboat and multihull events, winning bronze medals in the Tornado with Carlos Espinola at both Athens 2004 and last year in Beijing. However, Lange's sailing experience extends far beyond the Games. He has competed in two editions of the Volvo Ocean Race, first onboard Team SEB on leg one of the 2001-02 race and most recently as Watch Captain for the Telefonica Black team competing in the current edition. He has won four World Championship titles, in the Tornado in 2004 and Snipe dinghy in 1985, 1993 and 1995, and also competed for the Swedish Victory Challenge syndicate during the 2007 America's Cup cycle.

The World Youth Sailing Trust funds the appointment of the championship coach at each edition of the Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship. The Trust is a charitable organization of ISAF members, who focus their support towards youth events.

Find out more on the Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship at www.sailing.org/youthworlds.

## Bacardi Cup & Dudley Gamblin Memorial Series Wrap-UP

The weather Gods were with us this year and the wind conditions were perfect throughout the four days of racing. We had 19 boats participating, with eleven of them being foreign and coming from the USA, Canada, Norway, Finland, Sweden and Brazil. Eight Bahamian boats competed with two being sailed by junior teams while two other boats had junior crews.

This event drew some of the best Snipe sailors in the World. The big names were Ernesto Rodriguez (2nd at last year's US National Championships), Brian Bissell (from North Sails and overall winner last year), Augie Diaz (many times World Champion and US National Champion), and Alexandre Tinoco (one of the top Brazilians).

Ernesto Rodriguez with crew Meagan Place were unbeatable in the Bacardi Cup, winning all three races. Brian Bissell/Watt Duffy and Alexandre Tinoco/Lucas Diaz tied for second place in this series with the final place being decided by a tiebreak which resulted in the Tinoco team taking second and the Bissell team third.

In the Dudley Gamblin (5 race series) Ernesto and Meagan were pushed much harder as the main contenders (Bissell and Diaz teams) seemed to have found a bit more boat speed. In the end only 3 1/4 points separated the first three boats. Ernesto and Meagan won, Augie Diaz and Kathleen Tocke were second and Brian and Watt third.

The top Bahamian boat was sailed by Jimmie Lowe and crew Cameron Symonette. They placed 6th overall. Robert Dunkley with crew Michelle Lakin were 7th, Lori Lowe with Shaquille Dean were 9th and Fernando de Cardenas with Danny de Cardenas were 10th. The award for the top junior team went to Christopher Sands with crew Michael Gibson.

Overall, everyone had a great time and enjoyed all the Bahamas has to offer. We are greatly appreciative of and wish to thank, all of the members who participated in helping with this event, especially those who opened their homes to our sailors and worked around the club and on the various committees.

Snipe Bulletin Summer 2009