Snipe Bulletin™
Official newsletter of the Snipe Class International Racing Association

2022 Snipe World Champions Alfredo Gonzalez & Cristian Sanchez-ESP, celebrate just after crossing the finish line.

Matias Capizzano photos

2022 Snipe Worlds Photo Book

GONZALEZ/SANCHEZ TAKE SNIPE WORLDS

After a 47-year drought, the Spanish duo of Alfredo Gonzalez and Cristian Sanchez sailed a great last race of the Championship to return the Snipe World trophy to Spain. The last time the Hub Isaacs Snipe World title was in Spain (and Europe) was in 1975 with Felix Gancedo and Manuel Bernal as champions. It was a long time overdue.

BRAZILIANS LEAD AFTER FIRST DAY

Brazilians Mario Sergio de Jesus and Henrique Wisneiwski sailed a consistent first two races in puffy and shifty conditions off Cascais, Portugal, setting the pace for the rest of the fleet. Their 2-3 finishes gives them a margin over the 2nd place team of Ernesto Rodriguez and Kathleen Tocke of the USA who follow with 11 points posting a 7-4 and Spaniards Alfredo Gonzalez and Christin Sanchez with 13 with 4-9 finishes for the day.

The day's forecast predicted winds of 30+ on the preferred course, but PRO Jose Cancella opted for the more protected course to ensure a good start to the 50th World Championship. With northerly winds off the land, the first race was held in 12-14 knots with Gustavo and Rafael del Castillo, brothers (ESP) leading from the start. The right side seemed to favor the leaders and it was hard fought behind the winners with De Jesus and Wisniewski finishing second. Jan Peeters and Nathalie Janssens of Belgium crossed third, with two boats caught under the black flag, one who crossed the finish line 2nd only to be disappointed later.

With a short break, the Race Committee started the next race posting a triangle course, but changed to windward-leeward with the wind dropping at the start to 14-15 knots. The Spanish junior skipper Francisco Silvela with Rafael del Castillo Diaz, fresh from the Snipe Junior Worlds where he finished third, rounded the weather mark first followed by De Jesus/Wisniewski on their heels. As the race progressed with increased wind, the positions changed with Victor Perez Campos and Enric Noguera (ESP) crossing first followed by Silvela/del Castillo Diaz and De Jesus/Wisniewski.

SCIRA Commodore Luis Soubie commented, “Today was a good start for the Championship being able to complete the 2 scheduled races with the 2nd race more shifty and gusty than the first. It was great to watch the sailors boat handling and course management in these tricky conditions. The competition was very close and we expect the rest of the week to be just as intense.”

PATIENCE ON THE SECOND DAY

On the second day of the Snipe World Championship, the wind was light leaving the harbor, but began to build steadily with big shifts, causing the Race Committee to move the course 3 times to find suitable conditions for racing.

After almost 2 hours, the wind was finally steady, with intensity between 15 and 20+ knots, allowing to finally start racing.In the only race of the day there was a Brazilian “dobradinha”, with the team of Alexandre Paradeda – Olympic sailor and World Champion of the class – and Gabriel dos Santos, getting the better of fellow countrymen Bruno Bethlem and Dante Bianchi, double World Champions.

Leading the championship, with 16 points, are now the Spaniards Alfredo Gonzalez/Cristian Sanchez, who, with the 3rd place obtained in today’s regatta, are now the only team with all the results in the top10. About the harsh conditions that were felt today in Cascais, Alfredo says “I love this race course, in Lanzarote [where he lives] there is also a lot of wind, so I am happy and comfortable with this type of conditions”.

In 2nd place, with 28 points, is now the Brazilian team Henrique Haddad/Gustavo Nascimento, current world title holders. Finally, closing the podium is the mixed team of the United States, Enrique Quinter/Charlie Bess.

In the Portuguese teams, Henrique Brites and Francisco Maia, who yesterday had finished in 10th place, broke the mast and were unable to finish today’s regatta, so now the first Portuguese boat is the Portuguese/Spanish duo formed by Mafalda Pires de Lima and Jaime Urdangaray, who now occupies the 12th position, just 14 points from the top 10.

CONSISTENCY IS KING – or QUEEN

Day 3 of the 2022 Snipe World Championship in Cascais, Portugal was an exercise in consistency with teams making giant moves to put them into contention. Today the organizers had the 174 competitors on the water for 3 races, playing catch-up to the 1 race day prior. While yesterday was a challenge, today was much more civil for the Race Committee team with only a 5 degree shift in the course all day. The first race of the day (race 4) began in 15 knots and after several attempts the black flag was shown keeping the fleet in check. Henrique Haddad/Gustavo Nascimento (BRA) lead from the start and extended on his downwind leg to take the win comfortably. Alexandre Paradeda/Gabriel Kieling (BRA) began their consistent day posting a second followed by Ernesto Rodriguez/Kathleen Tocke (USA) also sailing well.

The wind began to increase for the 2nd race of the day (race 5) in the 15-18 knot range with a windward-leeward course signaled at the start, but changed to a triangle for the 2nd lap. Paradeda/Kieling started well and went right with them rounding the weather mark first followed by Rodriguez/Tocke. Alfredo Gonzalez/Cristian Sanchez (ESP) sailed their best race of the day moving up through the fleet and finishing second, passing the Americans who would cross 4th.

For the last race of the day (race 6), the wind began to subside a bit to signal and windward-leeward with the start under a U flag. Haddad/Nascimento, recovering from a tough race (finishing 19th), won the race convincingly followed by the consistent teams of Paradeda/Kieling and Rodriguez/Tocke. Mario Sergio de Jesus/Henrique Wisniewski crossed the finish line second, but were caught under the U flag and now have 2 deep scores to discard, pushing them back to 14th overall.

Reflecting on the day in a dual interview with Haddad and Paradeda, Paradeda (Xandi) commented “We came to this championship without great expectations so I’m super happy with today and in reality I’m actually rooting for the younger generation. Henrique & Gustavo won the last worlds…” with Haddad responding, “Xandi had a great day today scoring a bullet and two seconds and Alfredo is sailing super well, and there are some more teams fighting close for the title so it won’t be easy to win, but I wouldn’t mind to repeat the score of the last worlds.” Paradeda continued, “I think this was the best sailing day of my life. Three windy races, not as windy as yesterday though, and we had an incredible day with a win and two second places, climbing lots of places on the scoreboard!” When asked about their 19th place in the 2nd race of the day, Haddad said, “in the second race I didn’t start next to Xandi, so that was the problem. For tomorrow I already know the strategy; in doubt, always start next to Xandi!”

The consistency award for the day must be awarded to Juliana Duque/Rafael Martins (BRA) who posted a 5-5-5 and moving them to 5th overall in the standings. Duque is the current reigning Snipe Women’s World champion, but has her husband crewing for her in Portugal. Also of note is Mafalda Pires de Lima with Jaime Urdangaray (POR) who sits 10th overall. While there are plenty of females in the event, there are 6 female skippers with 2 in the top 10.

The discard comes into play after 7 races and it looks like the competition is on to see who can remain consistent over the next 2 days of racing.

CLOSING IN ON THE FINISH

After the 4th day of racing with 8 races completed at the 2022 Snipe World Championship in Cascais, Portugal, the field is narrowing. The top teams are laser focused on winning the title with 1 race remaining and those in contention managed single digit scores today to push them to the top. Between the top 5 teams in contention, 21 points separate them, with the ultimate title still up for grabs.The day began in 13 knots when the competitors arrived on the course, but quickly built to a consistent 17 knots after the 2nd start under a U flag. 4 boats were caught under the U flag including would be contender Victor Perez Campos/Enric Noguera (ESP). The weather mark reported increased puffs to 20 knots and Xandi Paradeda/Gabriel Kieling (BRA) arrived first followed by the Belgian team of Sam & Daan Vandormael (BEL) and Henrique Brites/Francisco Maia (POR), followed by Americans Ernesto Rodriguez/Kathleen Tocke. Most teams did not launch the pole and took off on a jib reach on the double triangle course. A tricky gybe and screaming reaches and back upwind for another triangle, this time with Rodriguez/Tocke taking the lead and Juliana Duque/Rafael Martins (BRA) finishing behind them in 2nd with Paradeda/Kieling in 3rd.

With the wind increasing to 18 knots, the Race Committee signaled another double triangle course for the last race of the day. After a clear start, the racers headed toward the weather mark which was reporting puffs to 21 knots but also with a fog bank hanging just off the course. Paradeda/Kieling rounded in first followed by early regatta leader Mario Sergio de Jesus/Henrique Wisniewski (BRA) and Alfredo Gonzalez/Cristian Sanchez (ESP). After the first triangle, the wind dropped a bit in velocity, but not enough to change the course, but causing teams to change gears. At the finish, Paradeda/Kieling hung on with Rodriguez/Tocke just behind. A bit of a gap and Gonzalez/Sanchez crossed in 3rd with Juliana Duque/Rafael Martins in 4th and managing to finish the day with a severely damaged rudder that managed to get them through the day (2-4 finishes).

Going into the final day, Rodriguez/Tocke have a 6 point lead over Paradeda/Kieling (30) and Gonzalez/Sanchez (32). Rodriguez commented, “we knew we would have our chance but there are many good sailors here so we would have to sail pretty well in order to be in the top spots and we did a good job today. Upwind was pretty much maintaining our position, it was on reaches that we made our gains” And on the plan for tomorrow, “hopefully we don’t sail tomorrow. No, just kidding, …hike really hard and keep it clean tomorrow”

Haddad/Nascimento are in 3rd with 44pts and Duque/Martins in 5th with 45. All have double digit drops except Gonzalez/Sanchez.

NAILBITER FINISH

The last race of the regatta was held in relatively lighter winds than the other 8 races, with 8-12 knots and no swell. Quite a change over the week and a bit of a surprise as the competitors left the Club in heavy air. A clear start on the first go with the pin and the left side favored, sitting in 2nd overall, Alexandre Paradeda/Gabriel Kieling (BRA) were on the favored side while Gonzalez/Sanchez & regatta leaders Ernesto Rodriguez/Kathleen Tocke (USA) started at the boat. Rodriguez/Tocke stayed right in lighter wind with Gonzalez/Sanchez opting for the left ½ way up the beat. At the weather mark, 1999 Snipe World Champion Nelido Manso/Sanlay Castro de la Cruz rounding first followed by Sam & Daan Vandormael from Belgium. Gonzalez/Sanchez rounded just ahead of Paradeda/Kieling who rounded 10th with Rodriguez/Tocke in the 40’s. At the 2nd top mark, Gonzalez/Sanchez had moved into 3rd, Paradeda/Kieling holding their spot and Rodriguez/Tocke slowing grinding through the fleet.

The finish for the Earl Elms Trophy – winner of the last race, was extremely close with the Belgian team of Sam and Daan Vandormael just taking the gun. Nelido Manso/Sanlay Castro de la Cruz (CUB) finished 2nd and Gonzalez/Sanchez finished 3rd, securing their title. Second overall was still to be determined, and Paradeda/Kieling crossed in 7th with Rodriguez/Tocke in 14th which created a tie for 2nd overall with Paradeda/Kieling winning the tie breaker.

With 17 nations represented, the 87 teams was the largest Snipe Worlds held and the competition was fierce with the best team winning. Congratulations to all competitors for a hard fought week.

Hailing from Lanzarote, Gonzalez/Sanchez have been silently chipping away. Their best prior performance at the Snipe Worlds was 4th overall in 2017, and their lead up regatta was a win in June for the Spanish Cup with 200 boats. Lanzarote was the perfect heavy air training ground which proved to their advantage in Cascais. With finishes of 4 (9)-3-8-2-7-4-3-3, their ability to finish in the top 10 each race proved to be their winning formula.

The 50th Snipe World championship first contested in 1934 and held bi-annually, came to a close with a fantastic closing ceremony held by Club Nautico Cascais. The Race Management and organizing team are to be congratulated for a fantastic event as well as the Portuguese Snipe Class.

FULL RESULTS

Celebrating SCIRA
2022 CHAMPIONS

WORLD & HEMISPHERE CHAMPIONS

WORLD - Alfredo Gonzalez & Cristian Sanchez
JR WORLD - Samuel Beneyto & Rafael del Castillo

SOUTH AMERICAN - Luis Soubie & Diego Lipszyc
NORTH AMERICAN - Raul Rios & Andrea Riefkohl

MIXED EUROPEAN - Victor Perez Campos & Lucia Guerrero Macias
EUROPEAN MASTERS - Agustin Zabalua & Juan Luis Granados
EAST EUROPEAN - Lukasz & Piotr Sokolowski
WOMEN'S EUROPEAN - Rosa Foruria & Laura Morata Lamadrid
SO EUROPEAN - Manu Hens & Enrico Michel
NORDIC - Reider Berthelsen & Janett Krefting
SO EUROPEAN SUMMER - Alessandro & Antonio Bari

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

ARGENTINA - December 8-11
BAHAMAS - Gavin McKinney & Joshua Weech
BELGIUM - Manu Hens & Ann Van Daele
BRAZIL - Juliana Duque & Rafael Martins
CHILE - December 8-11
COLOMBIA - November 5-6
CROATIA - Marko Marinovic & Maj Kristin Hansen Borgen
FINLAND - Ville Aalto-Setala & Satu Salminen
FRANCE - Jean Jacques Frebault & Vincent LeSerc
ITALY - Dario Bruni & Francesco Scarselli
JAPAN - Tetsuya Matsunaga & Junpei Hokazono
NORWAY - Jostein Groden & Asbjorn Grodem
PERU - November 19-20
POLAND - Jan Sibilski & Bartosz Napierala
PORTUGAL - Antonio Pereira & Tiago Mercelino
SPAIN - Victor Perez Campos & Enric Noguera Serra
SWEDEN - Reidar Berthelsen & Janett Krefting
UNITED KINGDOM - Matthew Wolstenholme & Lloyd Roberts
UNITED STATES - Ernesto Rodriguez & Kathleen Tocke

Photos below from each of the championships held this year

Samuel Beneyto Lancho & Rafael Del Castillo Diaz
Take Junior Worlds Title

Leca Palmeira, Portugal was host to the 2022 Snipe Junior Worlds, after a delay caused by the global pandemic. Despite several changes in the eventual venue/date, an impressive 38 teams representing 7 nations from 4 continents showed up on the starting line for exciting competition.

A total 8 races were held in varying conditions in the Atlantic. The regatta saw different leaders over the course of 4 days of racing, although no racing was held on the last day. The Spanish and American teams were in the top ranks with the Spanish teams taking the podium for 1st, 2nd and 3rd overall at the regattas conclusion.

The entry list included 16 females with 4 all-female teams on the water vying to have their name engraved on the Vieri Lasinio Castelvero Trophy.

The Portuguese hosts made the most of the event by offering great social activities for post racing and encouraging the sailors to mix and mingle.

In the end, Samuel Beneyto Lancho and Rafael Castillo Diaz from Spain ended up on top followed by Juan Jose Fernandez Maldonado/Daniel Espejo with Francisco Silvela Landin/Mauro Gonzalez-Regueral Noguerol in third. Congratulations to all for another great event showcasing some of the best junior sailors in the World! The next Junior Worlds are set for Miami in January of 2023.

FULL RESULTS
Photo gallery
Video - Day 1
Video - Day 2
Video - Day 3
Video - Day 4

SCIRA TREASURER'S REPORT

Sue Roberts- SCIRA Treasurer

On behalf of the SCIRA Board we would like to thank you for supporting your association throughout these very difficult and unprecedented times. Although membership numbers were down in 2020 the impact of the reduced membership was lessened due to their being very little activities or events taking place and so costs were also greatly reduced compared to a “normal” year.
During 2021 there was far more activity, particularly at National level. With an increase in sailors starting to get back out on the water, the number of sailors paying their dues also increased.
SCIRA’s main income is from both dues and Royalties. Snipes are a growing class! Boats are being built and new sails are being bought.
Below is the history of our net income. We increased sail royalties and hull number fees in 2018 and since then our income has steadily increased. 2020 and 2021 are anomalies as these were years heavily affected by the Covid pandemic. The income figures for the most recent two years are high due to there being no or few costs associated with running major championships / clinics / travel costs.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Net income	$18,797	$15,993	$-5722	$-14,044	$-25,670	$3,802	$11,524	$16,791	$22,213 Covid	$43,959 Covid

As of December 2021:

Total bank assets	$150,129
Total assets (includes merchandise stock, decals etc)	$176,336

With many more events predicted to take place in 2022, we are anticipating a healthy return to our number of members. Snipe fleets are also growing in many countries Worldwide and so we should see an addition of new members too. Please encourage new members to join SCIRA.
National Secretaries order decals and pay for them at the beginning of the year. Every decal needs to be accounted for against a boat(s) that correlate with a member for that year. For NS’s please remember to return any unused Decals at the end of the year so your association gets a credit note.
Fleet dues are paid for at the end of the year once members have been assigned to fleets.
With SnipeToday now being a fully integrated part of SCIRA, we now have a great platform for which we can bring in revenue from advertising. If you are interested in advertising, please contact the SCIRA office for more details. It is a fantastic and easy way to get the attention of Snipe sailors Worldwide!
We sold many Snipe plans that were keeping sailors busy during the 2020 lockdown! Hats were our big seller in 2021 – a sign that either sailors are starting to get out on the water or that global warming is influencing our sales!
Our bank service charges are because all banking transactions take place online which includes dues, merchandise & championship entries. Stripe fees, credit card processing fees and any wire transfers. However, in the past we have had to spend regular significant costs on software upgrades and system maintenance of the old database and now that Clubspot is used, this will not be necessary. For example in 2016 the software upgrade cost $20,411 and we will no longer have to budget for these costs going forward.
SCIRA pays an annual subscription fee to ISAF. These fees have doubled in recent years, but this affects all classes, not just Snipes.
The Management fee has remained the same for the past 8 years and the Board has agreed a 7% increase. This fee will remain in place for the next 3 years (equating to an increase of 2.3% per annum).

SCIRA seems to have weathered the storm of the pandemic but that is only because of the amazing support we have had from our members and the hard work that the National Secretaries have put in to keep moral high during very troubling times. We are also fortunate to have an experienced Executive Director with a wealth of knowledge, contacts and expertise as the backbone of SCIRA.
The Board has had to make some very difficult and unprecedented decisions over the last couple of years and your support has been greatly appreciated. We hope everyone can get back to Snipe sailing, in the way they want to, very soon.
Thank you.

2023 CHILE
Western Hemisphere & Asia Championship
ALGARROBO

March 14-19 WH&A website

2023 Major Regatta Schedule

Worlds	dates	venue
Women's	Oct 3-8	Valencia, ESP
Masters	Oct 18-22	Denia, ESP

Hemisphere		
So Americans	April 5-9	Montevideo, URU
WH&Asia	March 14-19	Algarrobo, CHI
Europeans	Aug 21-27	Gargnano, ITA
N. Americans	TBC	Norfolk, VA, USA

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