



1st Women's World Championships

Yokohama, Japan

Three years ago, the Snipe Class announced plans to hold the 1st Women's World Championships. Many women had been skipping in their fleets, some with a male crew, others with female crews, still, others had been crewing, anxious to steer. When the announcement was made, many women began to pick their crew and started to practice for this event. When the regatta finally arrived, 44 women's teams had been assembled, representing 5 countries.

The Women's Worlds were held in combination with Japans Women's Nationals, with 34 crews were vying for both trophies! The competition was great, with current and former Olympic hopefuls sailing as well as many other champions.

The women sailed out of Sea Paradise, a man-made island that houses an amusement park in the south of Yokohama city, and a marina complex where many high schools and colleges keep their boats. To get to the marina, competitors walked 20 minutes through the amusement park. Once in the marina, it was a short sail out to the course, nestled near the end of Tokyo Bay amid freighters and fisherman and adjacent to the new Techno Tower Hotel that housed all guests, officials and competitors.

The first day of sailing brought a good 8-10 knot breeze and choppy seas. Norways Pauline Book and Carine Juliussen convincingly won the first race, leading around the entire course. Mika Shirai and Chisato Isogai finished 2nd with Lisa Foulke Pline and Sherry Eldridge of the USA in 3rd. Yumiko Ito and Yukari Morishita of Japan finished fourth with sisters Paulo and Monica Marino of Uruguay in 5th. Tarasa Davis and Sherri Welch of the US posted one of their deepest races which they later used as a throw out, and Mary Brigden and Jerelyn Biehl went back to restart thinking they were over only to find out it was not them, posting a 17th. With 2 races a day, all competitors were anxious to start the 2nd race, having one already under their belt. This day was notable, as Princess Hisako Takamado observed the races from her nearby yacht with Fujiya Matsumoto giving the play by play. During this race, the competition was close between Satsuki Tachibana and Emiko Tomomori of Japan and Book/Juliussen with Brigden/Biehl close by. At the finish, Tachibana/Tomomori crossed first with Book/Juliussen in 2nd, Brigden/Biehl crossed 3rd, but were later disqualified for an alter-



Competitors from Japan, Uruguay and the United States gather at the closing ceremony. J. Biehl photo.

Results

Skipper/Crew	Country	Places	Total
1 Pauline Book/Carine Juliussen	Norway	1-2-6-1-(20)-4	13.5
2 Mika Shirai/Chisato Isogai	Japan	2-5-4-2-5-(8)	18
3 Yumiko Ito/Yukari Morishita	Japan	4-3-7-(9)-2-5	21
4 Mika Tsuchiya/Nana Sudo	Japan	(20)-4-9-4-3-2	22
5 Mary Brigden/Jerelyn Biehl	USA	17-(3dsq)-1-3-1-3	24.5
6 Paulo Marino/Monica Marino	Uruguay	5-7-ymp6-ymp6-(11)-6	30
7 Tarasa Davis/Sherri Welch	USA	(9)-6-3-5-8-9	31
8 Satoko Kaneda/Noriko Sumi	Japan	13-10-5-(15)-4-7	39
9 Atsuko Takahashi/Reiko Togo	Japan	6-8-10-(16)-7-10	41
10 Satsuko Tachibana/Emiko Tomomori	Japan	12-1-12-8-(25)-13	45.75
11 Lisa Foulke Pline/Sherry Eldridge	USA	3-14-8-7-17-(23)	49
12 Chizuko Izima/Hiroko Usgaya	Japan	(25)-13-13-14-18-1	58.75
13 Naomi Tomita/Izumi Ozawa	Japan	11-9-(ret)-12-10-21	63
14 Kimie Isobe/Sekiko Watanabe	Japan	15-17-2-11-(27)-16	71
15 Kayo Hama/Yumiko Kato	Japan	10-19-11-18-(29)-14	72
16 Annichen Sandborg/Marita Christensen	Norway	7-11-15-(ret)-12-10-21	75
17 Yukiko Fukuoka/Megumi Yamaguchi	Japan	8-18-23-22-(33)-11	82
18 Saori Kamei/Emi Takata	Japan	19-20-(27)-13-12-19	83
19 Miho Yoshioka/Hiromi Nishiyama	Japan	14-16-15-(ret)-23-17	86
20 Miyuki Yoshida/Akiko Tsujimoto	Japan	(pms)-12-10-10-21-29	91
21 Kalin Berentsen/Gro Janine Kristansen	Norway	37-34-14-6-6-(40)	97
22 Yoko Yamaguchi/Noriko Fujimoto	Japan	21-29-(31)-23-14-25	102
23 Miwako Tomita/Hikari Suzuki	Japan	32-15-20-21-16-(35)	104
24 Akiko Kobayashi/Chiharu Matsumoto	Japan	30-28-(ret)-17-9-20	104
25 Reiko Doi/Naoko Tomoshige	Japan	22-21-22-(34)-19-22	106
26 Miwako Murai/Megumi Yamashita	Japan	18-27-(30)-25-13-28	111
27 Michi Sawamura/Mayumi Komatsu	Japan	16-32-(36)-30-15-24	117
28 Fuyuko Ishimoda/Natsuko Ikeda	Japan	33-23-17-24-26-(42)	123
29 Maria Jose Fernandes/Petrioia Aguerre	Uruguay	31-24-18-33-(36)-25	131
30 Tomomi Yonezawa/Kuniko Yamada	Japan	28-30-24-19-(38)-34	135
31 Yuki Nagashima/Mieko Kosugi	Japan	(dnf)-ymp-33-28-24-26	137
32 Eiko Kishi/Michiru Fukada	Japan	24-25-(39)-35-22-33	139
33 Hiromi Fukuda/Rie Kimura	Japan	27-(14dsq)-25-26-ret-18	140
34 Yuki Iwasaki/Ayuko Iwaki	Japan	(36)-22-29-29-31-27	145
35 Yoko Swki/Michiyo Yamashita	Japan	23-31-32-32-32-(36)	150
36 Annette Halvorsen/Lill Halvorsen	Norway	(40)-36-21-20-41-37	154
37 Kyoto Katsumata/Hitomi Tokoro	Japan	34-(35)-28-31-35-30	158
38 Sachiko Kuwahara/Tomo Watanabe	Japan	26-37-(38)-27-34-38	162
39 Keiko Omori/Sachiko Murosawa	Japan	29-33-34-(37)-37-32	165
40 Tomoko Shimizu/Hiroko Doi	Japan	35-26-26-(23dsq)-28-41	165
41 Hanae Yamakawa/Yuko Takahashi	Japan	39-(40)-35-36-39-39	188
42 Cecile Marchais/Anne Romain	France	41-38-41-38-40-(43)	198
43 Tomoko Magota/Mayumi Tako	Japan	ret-39-42-39-(dnf)-31	200
44 Tomoko Ishikawa/Hiromi Ida	Japan	42-41-40-ret-42-(ret)	209