



2016 SOL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Comments on Racing and Results

CORPORATE OPEN GOLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The official results for this Championship have been posted and the PRIZES announced here:

<http://www.sailonline.org/board/thread/14761/2016-championships-final-results-and-p/?page=1#post-14761>

The four races belonging to this new format have maintained some of the initial promises. The main one and quite unique to this series has been the absolute need of constantly keep the hands on the helm. The races of the COGC have slowly secured to themselves the name of "SUPERSPRINTS".

Also: the four races were held with four different start times, to be fair to all areas of SOLing. Another maintained promise will be the innovative symbolic prize that will be delivered to the overall winner around the end of 2016: One gram of pure 999 GOLD !!. The only not too much maintained promise has been the participation numbers: after an interesting start they did fall for various reasons.

The four courses have been accurately selected by the Board in areas where the weather would allow fun and speed, in order to make possible the above mentioned continuous concentration on the boat.

The Q1 race was held on the Bosphorus, where the two legs are rarely pure reaching, but often pure tacking and then jibing. **Rumskib** took the race with flawless sailing. **Kenza** and **Dingo** shared the podium. Participation was quite successful: 162 boats were listed in this race.

In Q2 we raced in the Vancouver waters. **Zero** demonstrated here to be the 2016 number 1 SOL Sprinter, by winning the race in powerful manner. **Atlet** and **bonknhoot** shared the podium, with **kenza** in fourth, placing already a good stake of consistency over the final series rankings.

In Q3 the Finnish lakes saw a splendid victory by **bonknhoot**, followed by **kenza** (again on podium) and **WINDEGG** in third this time. The SUPERSPRINTS definitely at this stage demonstrated that the concept of "hands on till all the time" was an innovative one. Participation started to fall: only 97 boats. This race was held in the middle of the European night, and the majority of SOLers are there.

The last race in Q4 was PURE MADNESS through the Stockholm archipelago. Great fun though: good wind and the seacart 30 to complete the stage. **WINSTON_4** took an UNBELIEVABLE victory (not his territory), followed by **rumskib** and **CollegeFund**, who did run an excellent race with an imaginative course to the finish that really paid off.

The Series results show that in SOL and in general with series formats that do not allow discards consistency is the only strategy that pays at the end.

Kenza (Russian Fed.) is the final winner through super consistency (2 – 4 – 2 – 5 – Total 13)
He wins the ONE GRAM OF 999 GOLD + Championship CUP + One year SYC Membership extension

Winston_4 (Italy) stepped up in second place thanks to the last race victory (6 – 9 – 5 – 1 Total 21)
He wins Championship SILVER medal + One year SYC Membership extension

Atlet (Sweden) was strong third on podium (7 – 2 – 4 – 13 Total 26)
He wins Championship BRONZE medal + Six months SYC Membership extension

To be mentioned that **RainbowChaser** (G.Britain) took 4th place, with one point only over **SCARABOCCHIO** (Italy) in 5th.

Remaining TOP 10, with excellent overall performance were:

LittleSurprise (USA)
Bimmer (Denmark)
Bonknhoot (Switzerland)
MustangMark (G.Britain)
Brandystrega (Italy)

The COGC in its present format will not be replicated in 2017, but some of the unraced SUPERSPRINT courses that were prepared for this series might well appear in the Sprint Championship here and there.

Thanks for racing the COGC in 2016

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