



## PRESS RELEASE

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82nd Warnemünder Woche

### Jean-Michel Lautier Became J/22 World Champion

As of today, the new world champion of the J/22 has been determined. On two of the four days of the World Championchips, Jean-Michel Lautier convinced with a strong performance. Due to lack of wind, the other two days were not sailed.

The new World Champion in the J/22 class is Jean-Michel Lautier. During the Warnemünde Woche, the J/22 World Championship started on July 10th with four races, which Lautier and his two fellow sailors Guiseppe D'Aquino and Denis Neves all finished with a first place. On the second day of the World Championships, three races were held in light winds around eight knots, of which Lautier again won two. A split sixth place became his strike result. Yesterday as well as today due to insufficient wind, no further run could be sailed. Lautier (France), who started under the Dutch flag, already became Vice World Champion in Travemünde in 2015 and Vice World Champion in Scheveningen in 2017. This year saw his crowning with the World Championship title in Warnemünde.

The winning boat of the world champion is already 22 years old. In many classes this would be considered outdated. The J/22 are different: "We call our boat 'the old lady'. Nevertheless, she is still quite competitive", said the new world champion Lautier laughing. "That's what makes the class so exciting. The boats are very robust and simple. Here it doesn't matter who has the latest material." Overall, Lautier and his fellow sailors were very satisfied with the event. "It was wonderful here in Warnemünde. We had great weather, not always the

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best wind, but we still managed seven races. We will surely tell our grandchildren about this regatta.” Vice World Champion was Reiner Brockerhoff from the Duisburger Yacht-Club. The World Championship fifth of 2017 sailed with his French crew under the French flag. Johan Koppernaes from Canada finished the event in third place. Martin Menzner from Kiel finished fourth, as he did once before at the 2015 J/22 World Championships in Travemünde. “It was bad luck that we could only sail two days of the four World Championship days, but on both days it was quite well mixed”, said Menzner after the Siergerehrung. Dirk Jan Verdoorn from the Netherlands finished fifth, followed by Mike Farrington from the Cayman Islands in sixth place. Mathias Rieck from Warnemünde, who competed for the North German Regatta Club, finished seventh.

Today, the waiting time on the water was no problem for the class. On the contrary: The mood among the sailors was so good that they took advantage of the forced break to take a swim in the Baltic Sea. The award ceremony in the evening took place in the presence of Mona Küpper, the president of the German Sailors' Association, who in her greeting emphasized the importance of the Warnemünde Week as the third largest sailing event in Germany. Peter Ramcke, the Sports Director, was very satisfied with the course of the event: “We have once again demonstrated that we can organize such a high-class event as the J/22 World Championship with a lot of charm.”

A total of 31 crews from six nations were guests at the J/22 World Championships in Warnemünde. The highest number of participants were from Germany with 17 boats, followed by the Netherlands with ten boats.

### **J/22 World Championship final top 10 results:**

1. Jean-Michel Lautier (WVB) - NED 1273: 1, 1, 1, 1, (6.5), 1, 1, 1
2. Reiner Brockerhoff (DUYC) - FRA 1444: 4, 2, 3, (5), 1, 2, 3,
- 3 Johan Koppernaes (NSC) - CAN 1644: 2, 4, (9), 3, 4, 4, 4
4. Martin Menzner (KYC) - GER 1327: 6, 5, 2, (14), 2, 3, 11
5. Dirk Jan Verdoorn (WVL) - NED 1295: 7, 8, 5, 6, 11, 10, (12)
7. Mathias Rieck (NRV) - GER 1450: 10.5, 3, 13, 7.5, 3, 11, (21)
8. Bram Verwijns (RSZV) - NED 1223: 9, 7, 6, 2, 9, (17.5), 17

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9. Daniel Lötzbeyer (SCPS) - GER 1497: (19), 11, 12, 12, 6.5, 6, 9

10. Rudi Mayr (UYCWg) - AUT 1680: 14, 9, (16), 16, 8, 5, 6

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