

RYA Press Release

4 December 2011



Richard Langdon/Skandia Team GBR ©

Solid start for GBR Match Racers

British sailors Lucy Macgregor, Annie Lush and Kate Macgregor battled the heat and shifting and light wind conditions to ensure a 'pleasing' start to their match racing World Championship title defence in Fremantle on Sunday (4 December).

Skandia Team GBR's defending titleholders got their regatta underway when Group B of the Elliot 6m Women's Match Racing event took to the Inner Harbour course for the first time today. The British 2012-selected trio picked up three wins and one loss before a lack of wind put paid to their remaining two scheduled matches, which will now be held on Tuesday (6 December).

The Macgregor sisters and Lush opened their campaign up with victory over the Spanish crew, helmed by Silvia Roca, and followed it up with a second win over Denmark's Trine Abrahmsen.

The host nation's Olivia Price took the only point off of the British trio on their opening day, with the Poole-based trio bouncing straight back to take their third win against Anna Kjellberg.

"We were really pleased with our first day," explained 25-year-old helm Lucy.

"It was a tricky day today – even when we were a couple of boat lengths apart, the races were never over. You were always having to look behind you."

“To take three wins out of that is as good a start as we could have hoped for,” she continued, “although with eight knots max on the course today we’ll be hoping for a bit more wind on Tuesday!”

“The loss against Olivia was pretty frustrating but it was a wacky, shifty race to the point where we had our spinnaker up on the second beat, so that was a bad race really in terms of the course, but not too disappointing and I suspect that everyone will have a race a bit like that at some stage.”

Their remaining two matches scheduled for the late afternoon, against Croatian and Peruvian opposition, were rolled over to Tuesday when the afternoon sea breeze failed to appear.

Although a rest day for Macgregor, Lush and Macgregor, Monday (5 December) will see Skandia Team GBR sailors in action the start of competition in the RS:X Women’s, 470 Men’s, Finn and Laser Radial fleets.

Laser Radial racing gets underway at 1200 (local), RS:X Women and 470 Men at 1230 and the Finn class at 1300.

For the latest news and information from the British Sailing Team at the Perth Worlds visit www.skandiateamgbr.com or follow us on Twitter (@SkandiaTeamGBR).

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Photo: GBR Match Race Girls. **Credit:** Richard Langdon/Skandia Team GBR

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