

RYA Press Release

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Goodchild wraps up latest RYA Match Racing triumph

Reigning RYA National Youth Match Racing champion Sam Goodchild has booked his place in the 2009 RYA National Match Racing Championships Grand Final after sweeping to qualifier two success last weekend (23-24 May).

The Bristol-born Goodchild, 19, was crowned Britain's top under 20 match racer as he and his team trounced all before them to wrap up the 2008 National Youth title without dropping a single race in three days of racing at the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy last August.

And he was in equally clinical form at Queen Mary as he and teammates Dave Chapman, Tom Altmann, Nick Wilkinson and Finlay Curren enjoyed a five-out-of-five round robin cleansweep on Saturday before light winds scuppered any chance of sailing on Sunday.

With Oxford SC's Goodchild topping the table with a 100 per cent record, Rob Gullan snatched second spot with four wins out of six, edging Katie Archer into third place on account of beating Archer in their head-to-head contest.

Team Goodchild are now poised to make their assault on the overall 2009 RYA National Match Racing Series title when the Grand Final takes place at QMSC between 9 – 11 October.

In total seven qualifying rounds, including the RYA Youth, RYA Women's and BUSA Match Racing Championship events, will be contested between April and September before the top British crews from each event are invited to do battle at the Series Grand Final.

The 2009 Championships will be contested in the RYA's fleet of J80s with a maximum of 12 skippers accepted for each of the qualifying events.

For more information and to download entry forms visit www.rya.org.uk and click on 'Yacht Racing' then follow the Match Racing links to the National Match Racing Series section.

2009 RYA National Match Racing Championships Series Qualifier Two results:

1. Sam Goodchild, Dave Chapman, Tom Altmann, Nick Wilkinson, Finlay Curren
2. Rob Gullan, Ben Ainsworth, Andy Eggett, Sam Maxfield, Maria Stanley
3. Katie Archer, Nicky Muller, Lauren Martel, Jeremy Elliott (Sat), Nick Bubb (Sun)
- 4= Mary Rook, Nicky Macgregor, Bethan Carden, Claire Stroppe, Sue Monson
- 4= Nick Phillips, James Boyce, Sarah Hornby, Andrew MacKay
6. Mark Lees, Shane Terry, Roddy Lacey, Paul Lees
7. Mark Tighe, Nick Blevins, Patrick Jolly, James Harris
8. Mark Flanders, Robert Goodhew, Paul Weeden, Nick Goodhew

2009 RYA National Match Racing Championships Series event dates:

Qualifier 3 – Port of Plymouth Sailing Association (PPSA) - 19/20 July

RYA Youth National Match Racing Championship – QMSC – 29 - 31 August

RYA Women's National Match Racing Championship – QMSC – 4 - 6 September

Qualifier 4 – QMSC - 26/27 September

RYA National Match Racing Championship Finals – QMSC – 9 – 11 October (invitation only)

Ends

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