



RYA Press Release

23 January 2009

49er pair bid set sights on World Cup double

Paul Campbell-James and Mark Asquith will be gunning to get their 2009 off to a flying start by claiming back-to-back ISAF Sailing World Cup wins when the Rolex Miami Olympic Classes Regatta gets underway on Monday (26 January).

The Skandia Team GBR 49er pair triumphed in emphatic style at the first round of the inaugural World Cup series at Sail Melbourne last month, wrapping up victory by a massive 21 points, and they will be looking for a repeat of that form over the six days of racing in Biscayne Bay.

All 10 Olympic and three Paralympic Classes being contested at London 2012 will be competing in Miami, including an Olympic Classes debut for the new women's match racing discipline.

Great Britain will have three crews taking part in the match racing, skippers Lucy Macgregor, Mary Rook and Charlotte Lawrence, leading their three-person teams in Laser SB3s, standing in for the Elliott 6m – the chosen boat for London 2012 – in this first regatta. Lucy will actually go head-to-head against her younger sister Nicky in Miami, Nicky sailing with Mary Rook.

World bronze medallist Andrea Brewster, another podium finisher in Melbourne, goes in the Laser Radial class as does Beijing 2008 470 women's helm Christina Bassadone, who swaps the double-hander for the single-hander for this event.

Heading the Radial fleet will be newly-crowned Olympic champion Anna Tunnicliffe (USA).

Nick Thompson leads the Skandia Team GBR representation in the Laser Standard while John Gimson and Ed Grieg will enjoy their first Grade One regatta outing since teaming up in the Star.

Beijing Paralympians Alex Rickham and Niki Birrell compete in the SKUD and John Robertson and Hannah Stodel hook up with guest crew Alex Wang-Hansen in the Sonar class as Stephen Thomas recovers from shoulder surgery.

The Rolex Miami Olympic Classes regatta runs until Saturday 31 January. The seven-round ISAF World series reaches its climax at the Skandia Sail for Gold regatta next September.

Stay up to date with the latest from Miami and learn more about the sailors taking part at www.skandiateamgbr.com

Skandia GBR Rolex Miami OCR entrants:

49er:

Paul Campbell-James/Mark Asquith
John Pink/Rick Peacock
Dave Evans/Simon Hiscocks

Laser:

Nick Thompson
Robert Godwin

Laser Radial:

Christina Bassadone
Andrea Brewster
Rosie Chapman

Star:

John Gimson/Ed Greig

Women's Match Racing:

Charlotte Lawrence/Lavinia Paternoster/Liz Rushall
Lucy Macgregor/Annie Lush/Ally Martin
Mary Rook, Rebecca Marriott/Nicky Macgregor

2.4 Metre:

Megan Pascoe

SKUD:

Alex Rickham/Niki Birrell

Sonar:

John Robertson/Hannah Stodel/Alex Wang-Hansen

ENDS

For more information, please contact:

Karenza Morton
RYA Racing Communications Officer

T: 02380 604219

M: 07769 505203

www.skandiateamgbr.com