



## **RYA Press Release**

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### **GBR Junior sailors on top of the world with Gold, Silver and Bronze medals**



RYA National Junior Squad sailors lead the charge at the Allen & Magic Marine RS Feva Worlds (22-29 July 2011) with the podium overrun by the nation's most promising young sailors as they sealed the gold, silver and bronze medals on the final day of the regatta.

The double handed dinghy event was held at the Royal Maas Yacht Club, Bruinisse, in Holland and welcomed 158 boats from 13 countries across three different continents. Teams from as far as Australia and Hong Kong made the trip for the first time in the event's history; however it was Britain's young guns that were just too strong for the international competitors as they dominated with some spectacular sail racing in what was seen as a strong breeze regatta.

Event victory and RS Feva Word title was awarded to RYA National Junior Optimist Squad sailors Matthew Whitfield (Penarth YC) and Scott Wallis (Spinnaker SC). The pair was able to pull together a string of consistent scores across the 11 races leaving them to take Championship honours in emphatic style.

Followed closely behind in second was RYA National Junior Feva Squad members and last year's 2010 World Champions Owen Bowerman and Charlie Darling. The duo from Hayling Island Sailing Club were jostling for top spot all week with their fellow GBR team mates, however ended up 12 points behind with a well-deserved silver medal.

Rounding off the GBR medal haul was Robert Baddeley (HISC) and James Taylor (Burghfield SC) with a hard thought bronze medal.

Anna Prescott and Jess Eales, both from Lymington Sailing Club, finished just outside the medals in the girls fleet in fourth.

The RYA Feva National Junior Squad was well represented at the annual event with the majority of boats making the final gold fleet, rounding off a fantastic showing at the event for the team.

Roy McCubbin, RYA Double Handed Pathway Manager, commented: "It's fantastic to have three British boats on the podium at such a competitive event. We are starting to see the ability in this class grow very quickly which I think has been demonstrated by the standard of racing at this regatta. It was a tough week with strong winds, a very big fleet and the level of competition was very tough. Internationally the class is improving year on year and in particular at this event the Italian team provided some stiff competition for our British sailors.

"Congratulations must go to Matt and Scott for winning. I am pleased to see that all their training over the winter months has paid off. I know the RYA coaches have been working hard all season with the sailors so it's great to see everything fall into place. It is also a brilliant achievement for Owen and Charlie to medal at the event for the second consecutive year running which indicates real promise for the future.

"The sailors have all shown great potential and I look forward to seeing their progression as they move forward in their sailing careers," concluded McCubbin.

For more information about the event and for full results visit <http://www.rsfeva.org/worlds>

For further information regarding the RYA Racing programme or for further details on future regattas, please visit the [RYA Website](#).

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