

Porto Rotondo. 11<sup>th</sup> September 2004 - FIRST PRESS RELEASE -

The Porto Rotondo Yacht Club hosts the 6MJI European Championships for the second time in its history. These fantastic yachts from various countries in Europe include several boats from the 1930s, such as Bobkat II (Class C, 1931), Nancy (class C, 1932) and Dan (class C, 1930), competing for the European title in the Gulf of Congianus.

Sponsored by Omega, the event started this morning with the Marina's Cup, which involves two days of tune-up races to allow the competing yachts to get to know the regatta area. The European championship will therefore start on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> with two races planned for each day of the regatta. Today's race started at 1:00 p.m. in good weather [wind 7 knots E-SE - 105°], but was then cancelled due to lack of wind. The boats returned to port at 4:00 p.m. Tomorrow sees the second day of the Marina's Cup followed by the awards ceremony and the Official Opening Ceremony of the European Championship.

European Championship 6MJI - 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September

Porto Rotondo, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2004 - SECOND PRESS RELEASE -

The second day of the Marina's Cup saw a weak changeable wind which severely tested the racers' abilities and nerves, not to mention the race organisers. It was, however, possible to complete at least one of the races.

On completion of the two-day tune-up races, the crews took part in a Welcome Cocktail on the terraces of the Club House, organised by the Porto Rotondo Yacht Club and by Omega, the official sponsor of the event. The Marina's Cup was won by the yacht Nancy US 60 with skipper Pom Green at the helm, while the winner of the Modern category was Bravade VI F 116 skippered by Jaques Fauraux. Final results: Nancy US 60, Bravate VI F 116, Fleau SUI 77.

Tomorrow the European Championships starts with 12 yachts racing for the European title.

Porto Rotondo, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2004 - European Championship 6MJI - THIRD PRESS RELEASE -

The first day of races in the European Championship 6MJI and the wind did not fail the crews of the 12 yachts who had been waiting for it to arrive for several days: blowing E-SE, changing direction between 050° and 120°, 8 knots. The yachts managed to complete two splendid races over a banana course in the splendid stretch of water between Mortorio and Capo Figari. The standings after the second race saw Moderne Notorious - Swe 114 - helmed by Carl Gustaf Piehl at the lead in the Modern category, followed by Fleau - Sui 77 - Bernard Haissly and May Be XIV - Swe 115 - Fredel Patrick. The Classic category saw Nancy - US 60 - skippered by Pom Green ahead of Dix Aout - Fra 111 - Pierre Paul Heckly and Bobkat II - US 54 - Doug Peterson, confirming the excellent results of the previous day, the closing race of the Marina's Cup which bears the name of Marina Carpaneda at the helm of Dan - D 43, a splendid Classic 6MJI from 1930.

Porto Rotondo, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2004 - European Championship 6MJI - FOURTH PRESS RELEASE -

The second day of races in the European Championship 6MJI and the differences in the competing crews could now be seen. The race course was off the coast of Montorio, the sea was rough and the wind SE 160° max 18 knots, the wind turning to North West during this, the second day of racing. The yachts raced against each other creating some spectacular chases and exciting gusts of stern wind. In the Classic category, the crew of Nancy US 60 were clearly the leaders, with Pom Green at the helm, winning all four races to date, followed by DAN D-43 skippered by Marina Carpaneda and DIX AOUT FRA-111 - Pierre Paul Heckly, the victim of vang problems. The Modern category was dominated by the Swedish: MAY BE XIV SWE-115, BERTA SWE-121 and NOTORIOUS SWE-114 were clearly in the lead on equal points, thus making the final two days even more exhilarating. The spectacle and excitement in the waters of Porto Rotondo is therefore guaranteed.

Porto Rotondo, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2004 - European Championship 6MJI - FIFTH PRESS RELEASE -

After the much enjoyed traditional Sardinian dinner with dancing and local folklore songs organised by the Yacht Club of Porto Rotondo and Omega, the crews of the 12 yachts were all present and correct for this morning's racing. The weather conditions were particularly harsh for the competitors and the Regatta Committee, who were forced to make continuous changes in course due to the many increases in wind (N-NE veering to E, finishing with the usual NW Mistral), wind force 7 and 8 knots with peaks of 18 knots towards the end of the second race, making this, the third day of the European Championship 6MJI, very interesting and enjoyable. The standings had changed by the end of the day in the Modern category, but were confirmed in the Classic category with NANCY clearly in command. Tomorrow, the seventh and eighth races in this thrilling European Championships 6MJI.

Porto Rotondo, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2004 - European Championship 6MJI - SIXTH PRESS RELEASE -

The last day of the European Championships 6MJI and the tension and curiosity to learn who the winners would be of the two titles (Classic and Modern). Attended by many personalities from the world of Yacht Clubs and classic sailing, the 6 metres JI is a class where the crews still abide by the traditional rules of navigation, refusing those dictated by the fierce competition typical of other categories.

This morning, the Regatta Committee started the first of the two races at 11:48, after placing the field in the Gulf of Congianus. The sea was quite calm, wind 265° at 12 knots. In the first race NOTORIOUS (SWE-114) - Carl Gustaf Piehl crossed the line ahead of COURAGE VII (GER-104) - Alba Batzill and MAY BE XIV (SWE-115) - Patrick Fredel in the Modern category, while the classic race was won by DIX AOUT (FRA-111) ahead of NANCY (US-60) and BOBKAT II (US-54), sending Pom Green's yacht into second place for the first time during these championship races.

The second and last race of the day and this event started at 1:20 p.m., with a light NW wind (18 knots), which gradually strengthened to 14 knots during the second part of the race. The Modern category was led by FLEAU (SUI-77) skippered by a former European Champion, followed by NOTORIOUS and BERTA (SUI-121). In the Classic category, DIX AOUT, the yacht belonging to the President of the Yacht Club de France, was ahead of DAN - Marina Carpaneda and BOBKAT II belonging to the famous designer Doug Peterson.

The event's programme included the Omega Gala Evening at the Yacht Club of Porto Rotondo, where Notorious and Nancy celebrated winning the titles of European Champions Class 6MJI; the event will end tomorrow with the awards ceremony on the Club terrace.

Porto Rotondo, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2004

The European championship 6M S.I. ended this afternoon at the Porto Rotondo Yacht Club. The awards ceremony was altered at the very last minute due to bad weather, making the ceremony even more fun and with a definite intimate atmosphere. A fine end to an event which saw well-known personalities from International and European sailing, such as Pom Green with his NANCY, Doug Peterson with BOBKAT II (which had just come out of the Argentario shipyards where it had been for restoration, the President of the YCPR Gian Battista Borea d'Olmo having helmed it for one day), DIX AOUT belonging to Pierre Paul Heckly, President of the Yacht Club de France twinned with the Yacht Club Porto Rotondo. Not to mention DAN belonging to Luigi and Marina Carpaneda, another splendid 6 metre S.I., much admired during the seven days of this championship at the Molo di Levante (East Pier).

The awards ceremony was presided by the Managing Director of Swatch Group Italia, Julian Gould, representing Omega, the official sponsor of the event, and took place on the top floor of the Club House. Receiving the Challenge for the Classic category was the crew of NANCY, which will hold the Giovanelli Cup for 12 months, and NOTORIOUS in the Modern category, taking the President Woodrow Wilson Trophy to Sweden.

Thanks to Omega, sponsor of the event and who gave the winners a generous prize, for its invaluable collaboration and to Yacht Digest, the media partner of the event. Thanks also to Moby Lines, the official ferry boat company, to Marina di Porto Rotondo s.r.l. and to the Porto Rotondo Consortium.