



Matt Bugg at the IFDS Worlds 2012

7 January - 15 January 2012, Charlotte Harbour, USA

Australian Sailing Team Report by Craig Heydon



Matt Bugg racing in the 2.4mR class in Charlotte Harbour

Thursday, 12 January 2012

Australia's leading Paralympic class sailors have hit the water at the 2012 IFDS World Championship in Punta Gorda, Florida. Australia has four crews competing at the event, including Skud 18 crews Daniel Fitzgibbon and Liesl Tesch, and Ame Barnbrook and Lindsay Mason, 2.4mR sailor Matt Bugg and the Sonar crew of Colin Harrison, Stephen Churm and Jonathan Harris.

Light winds restricted racing on day one of the World Championships with the 2.4mR class the only fleet to see any action, completing two races. Tasmanian sailor Matt Bugg finished the opening day with a seventh and a 16th in the 22 boat fleet which features a number of former World Champions and Paralympic Games medalists.

The 2.4mR class completed three races on day 2, and combined with the two results from day one Matt Bugg is currently in 12th overall. With considerably stronger winds than the opening day Bugg finished with a 12th, ninth and a 12th with tight racing a highlight of the day.

"I wasn't all that happy with how I sailed today," said Bugg. "I'm now 12th overall so I've dropped a place since day one but tomorrow I'll stick to my game plan and execute it."

Friday, 13 January 2012

In the singlehanded 2.4mR class Matt Bugg had his best day of the regatta so far with an eighth and a fifth. Bugg, competing in his third IFDS World Championships, moved from his overnight 12th to be 10th after the opening seven races. The Tasmanian sailor was in the mix all day, consistently battling with the leaders in the highly competitive fleet.

"Today was a much better day, I had a plan and stuck to it and basically obeyed the simple rules of sailing," said Bugg. "I ended up eighth and fifth, so I stayed in the top 10 which was my plan so I'm happy."

Saturday, 14 January 2012

Matt Bugg sits just outside the 2.4mR class top 10 in 11th overall following a seventh and a 16th on day four. Bugg is just two points off 10th heading into the final two races for the 2.4mR fleet.

"My day was ok, it was really tough out there, really shifty with the wind coming and going and unfortunately the luck didn't go in my direction," said Bugg. "Tomorrow the aim is to get back into the top 10."

Sunday, 15 January 2012

The 2.4mR class completed one race on Saturday with Australian Matt Bugg crossing the line 12th. Bugg is now in 11th overall heading into the final race of the 2012 World Championships. Racing in the 2.4mR class was again incredibly close with just 10 boat lengths between first and 12th at the end of the race.

"It was very shifty today with 30 degree shifts from one side to the other," said Bugg. "We unfortunately went to the right hand side and the breeze came to the left and that was on the first beat and from then on I tried as hard as I could to make up the points that I could but I ended up coming 11th. "I'm currently sitting in 11th overall and 12 points off 10 so tomorrow I'll try as hard as I can to get back into the top 10," he said.

Monday, 16 January 2012

2.4mR sailor Matt Bugg saved his best race till last with an impressive third place in the final race, his highest finishing position of the regatta. The Tasmanian sailor's third secured his 11th place finish overall with Bugg picking up six top 10 finishes during the week in a very competitive 22 boat fleet.

"I'm absolutely thrilled with today's racing," said Bugg. "Today was the first time that I've gotten onto the podium in a World Championship race and I am looking forward to doing it more and more in the future."



Matt Bugg racing in the 2-4mR class in Charlotte Harbour – photo Richard Scarr

IFDS Worlds 2012 Results

Position	Bow	Sail	Name	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Race 6	Race 7	Race 8	Race 9	Race 10	Race 11	Points
1	13	FRA 13	Seguin, Damien	[23/O CS]	2	4	3	1	3	3	3	2	2	1	24.0
2	06	NED 12	Schmitter, Thierry	4	9	2	1	3	[11]	1	5	4	3	9	41.0
3	14	CAN 99	Tingley, Paul	1	1	5	[13]	7	1	6	8	3	9	7	48.0
4	15	GBR 100	Lucas, Helena	3	8	9	11	2	[13]	4	2	1	10	2	52.0
5	04	GER 1	Kröger, Heiko	6	4	10	2	4	[12]	2	6	6	4	8	52.0
6	09	USA 88	Ruf, John F.	5	[11]	8	5	5	5	8	10	5	7	5	63.0
7	08	GER 44	Kloetzing, Lasse	2	5	[14]	12	8	4	13	1	10	8	6	69.0
8	19	USA 137	LeBlanc, Mark	13	3	1	7	[14]	6	7	13	9	6	13	78.0
9	02	NOR 1	Erikstad, Bjornar	[23/O CS]	7	3	6	13	15	10	12	8	1	4	79.0
10	03	NED 1	Kol, Barend	11	6	6	4	6	7	11	[15]	14	5	10	80.0
11	01	AUS 1	Bugg, Matt	7	[16]	12	9	12	8	5	7	16	12	3	91.0
12	21	USA 142	Rosenfield, Charles	8	10	13	[15]	15	2	14	11	15	11	11	110.0
13	22	FIN 164	Salomaa, Niko	12	[23/D SQ]	15	14	10	16	9	4	7	14	12	113.0
14	05	PUR 1	Reguero, Julio	15	12	11	10	11	10	12	9	12	13	[23/D SQ]	115.0
15	23	CAN 23	McRoberts, Jackie	10	13	16	16	16	9	[23/D NS]	18	11	15	15	139.0
16	11	NED 11	Rademaker, Andre	9	14	7	8	9	14	15	[23/D NC]	23/D NC	23/D NC	23/D NC	145.0
17	16	USA 118	Ripley, Timothy	14	17	18	[23/D NF]	23/D NC	17	18	16	18	17	14	172.0
18	12	CAN 12	Lavallee, Christine	18	15	[20]	18	17	18	17	17	20	18	16	174.0
19	17	USA 121	Hill, Joseph	19	18	[23/D NF]	23/D NC	23/D NC	19	16	14	13	16	17	178.0
20	10	CAN 88	Wong-Sing, Aaron	20	19	17	17	18	20	20	19	17	[21]	18	185.0
21	20	CAN 39	Peloquin, Doris	16	21	21	[23/D NF]	23/D NC	21	19	21	19	19	19	199.0
22	18	CAN 18	Kobayashi, Audrey	17	20	19	19	[23/D NF]							