



## News from Mirror World Championships

#5—10th August 2005



### Mirror World Championships- Östersund, Sweden 2005

Monday sailing was painful, with the race officer trying to start the fleet in wind that went to zero about 2 minutes before the start. With approximately 80% of the fleet still to cross the line within the minimum start time the race was blown and restarted a while later. This next race proved to be a nightmare for most – the wind was fine until the leading boats rounded the windward mark whereupon it died. This left all but 10 boats still going up the last beat. Only after the full two hours was the race blown with the leading boat about 3 minutes away from the finish – a close thing. I imagine one boat getting 1 point and the rest 100 ?!

You can see Tubthumper being squeezed on the line in one of the very light wind starts.

The next day (Tuesday) again light to zero wind and rain. Our guys played cards while it rained and then with a soccer ball when the rain cleared. We have an international following here – Brits, Hollanders a French guy and others....!

After a wait until 2 in the afternoon the wind came through and they managed three interesting races, only getting off the water at about 7 (it stays light here until about 10). With the late finish, the international evening (our chance to present the information about the next Mirror World Championships in PE) was postponed until Wednesday evening and the lay-day moved back a day. This because the forecast is for good wind on Wednesday and lighter winds thereafter.

The results after five races are (102 entries):

Taariq and Kareemah – 32  
Waldo and Scott – 41  
Fuad and Francois – 42  
Brennan and Ricky – 44  
Nigel and Candice – 51  
Marvin and Roscoe – 67  
Eric and Charl – 71  
Robert and James – 74  
Kuba and Daniel – 87  
Gary and Megan – 88  
Gareth and Abigail – 90  
Henio and Keenan – 97

Seiraj Jacobs and Ashton Sampson, from our America's Cup team, joined us on Tuesday afternoon and will help our guys for the remainder of the event. They are both top Mirror sailors and have competed in many world championship events. Seiraj having done the best with an overall finish of 5<sup>th</sup> at Saldanha in 1999.

We are definitely quite a bit slower up the beats – we timed our fastest boat losing 2 minutes on the leaders each beat. It is also interesting that our guys seem to collect together during the race, indicating a general trend. I am sure that it isn't our sailing skills, we need to find out the reasons why.

More information see [www.mirrorworlds2007.com](http://www.mirrorworlds2007.com) or follow the links from [www.mirror.org.za](http://www.mirror.org.za).

