



THE INTERNATIONAL SPEED WINDSURFING CLASS

An ISAF International Class

ISWC class report 2008

The second year of ISWC as an international ISAF class saw a structural change from a world championship series towards a one-off world championship and one-off continentals while still maintaining a "world cup tour ranking". This results in a world champion crowned at the world championship and a world cup winner at the end of the year, being the most successful sailor over the season and showing the greatest support for the class events.

This structural change has been proven to be successful, with more competitors taking part in the one-off worlds and continentals as well as in the whole tour.

The world ranking now includes 10 events with more than 250 sailors from all continents in the ranking, and the 2008 production world championship in Ireland still to come.

Special attention has been drawn to the use of production equipment. Not less than 10 companies are supplying special speed windsurf boards, and several more brands offer a variety of semi-customs or non-registered boards.

Approximately 80% of all sailors are using production equipment, and we expect this percentage to rise over the next years, being a reason as well to have a separate production world championship event.

Another important part of ISWCs work was to support national organizing in setting up speed events, and we hope to see more national events on next years tour.

Records and Champions.

In March Antoine Albeau (FRA) set a new outright world record of 49.09 kn. A new record (to be ratified) has since been set by a kiteboarder, Antoine remains the fastest windsurfer.

World Champions, Fuerteventura: Antoine Albeau (FRA) - av 40.5kn; and Karin Jaggi (SUI) – av 35.53kn.

Markus Schwendtner
Tour Manager

