ISRAEL DOMINATES THE WORLDS

For 338 athletes from across 30 countries the 2017 Techno 293 World Championships will be a week to remember.

The whole event began in light wind of five to six knots, but then conditions progressed and got windier across the final two days - making a total of 11 races for the Youth Boys and 10 races for all the other fleets.

Even though the largest fleets belonged to European powerhouses Spain, France and Italy, it was Israel who managed to dominate the whole competition and came victorious in every single category.

Speaking about her win, Junior Girl winner Ella Benbenisti, who was leading throughout the week of racing, said: “It was very fun, I enjoyed it. The weather was good and it was nice to get to that position and it ended up well.” Second was Mak Cheuk-Wing from Hong Kong and third Yana Reznikova from Russia.

Over in the Junior Boys the Frenchmen Gaspard Carfantan and Jules Chantrel came third and second. With Daniel Basik-Tashtash from Israel dominating the fleet to claim the crown.

Even though the weather conditions were changeable, it suited some racers such as French Youth Girl Enora Tanne, who said that she liked the whole experience in Salou. “Well, I liked it because there was a lot of wind and there were conditions like that I liked,” Tenora clarified. “I like 10 knots (wind speed), but I managed to do good starts in more wind so I finished well.” Enora came in third. With Maya Ashkenazi from Israel in second.

For Maya, the week was also about having fun and meeting people that they otherwise wouldn’t - and this resulted in making friends from around the world. “It was good, yes. The wind was good, I like a strong wind. The sun and the friends were good, I had fun.”

Fellow Israeli, Linoy Geva was the Youth Girl gold medal winner, and she displayed the virtue of working hard and sticking to her guns throughout the week of racing. After suffering from a poor start, she described how she managed to turn it all around.

“In the start it wasn’t good,” Geva said. “I started the competition in 6th place and then yesterday I had a good day and today I won the competition,” she finished.

The Youth Boy fleet was once again dominated by the Israeli windsurfers. With Roi Hillel winning the title, followed by Amit Gan and Eyal Zror.

Some of the biggest names in the competition might not have won, but this will pave the way for future Olympic names to get the exposure and experience they need to improve their craft.

Will Israel continue its dominance next year? We’ll learn in August when the Worlds come to Liepaja, Latvia.

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