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January 22, 2013 - For Immediate Release

Strong Winds Challenge Crews at Quantum Key West 2013

--- Sailors get a workout as Division 2 completes three races

There were a lot of weary bones, aching muscles and exhausted bodies over at The Galleon Dock and Truman Annex on Tuesday afternoon. That's because the sailors on Division 2 of Quantum Key West 2013 completed three races on the second day of the 26th annual regatta.

Competitors in the Melges 24, Melges 32 and J/70 classes were all hopeful of having a 12-race series and Division 2 principal race officer Dave Brennan is trying his best to comply. With northerly winds in the 12-16 knot range, Tuesday provided a perfect opportunity to complete an extra race.

"It was a great day of sailing. The wind was fantastic and the race committee did a superb job of giving us some quality racing," Melges 24 skipper Brian Porter said.

Porter and the Full Throttle team are engaged in a good battle with Alec Cutler and his crew on hedgehog at the top of the Melges 24 class, second-largest of the regatta with 23 boats. Porter posted a solid line of 2-3-1 on Tuesday, but has not been able to completely overcome a seventh suffered in Race 1 that resulted from a poor start.

Cutler, a resident of Pembroke, Bermuda, won Tuesday's first race and has also posted three seconds in totaling 10 points – four better than Porter.

"We have good speed and so do they. It's all about minimizing mistakes and right now they are making fewer than we are," Porter said. "Getting off the line is huge in this fleet and we've had a couple rough starts."

J/70 is the largest class in the regatta with a whopping 38 boats and features several top-notch sailmakers such as Kerry Klingler, Tim Healy and Dave Ullman. However, an upstart team of recent college graduates is leading the fleet after two days and five races.

Brothers Cole and James Allsopp grew up sailing together before heading off to College of Charleston and the Naval Academy, respectively. Cole is driving while James is handling the bow aboard Moxie, which closed with a fourth and third on Tuesday to overtake Ullman, the Day 1 leader.

"I can't say enough about the crew work. I'm not starting very well, but those guys are bailing me out," said Cole Allsopp, who has former College of Charleston teammates Zeke Horowitz and Brendan Healy aboard as tactician and trimmer. "Brendan is really dialed in on making the boat go fast, Zeke has been putting us in the right places while James does an amazing job of trimming the chute."

Cole Allsopp said Moxie was among the last boats to come off the start line in Race 5, but managed to fight through the fleet to third place. "We are catching boats around the corners and passing boats all around the track," he said.

Bombarda holds a narrow one-point lead over Mascalzone Latino in the Melges 32 class after both Italian entries won races on Tuesday. Skipper Andrea Pozzi took up the sport of sailing just over a year ago and is doing only his second regatta with the current crew on Bombarda, which features two talented professionals in tactician Lorenzo Bressani and trimmer Frederico Michetti.

"Lorenzo is doing a really good job of calling the shifts while Andrea is driving very well," Michetti said. "In such a small fleet, it's almost like match racing. The racing is really difficult tactical-wise, especially with the wind changing so much in both direction and intensity."

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There has been considerable trading of places in Farr 40 class, which has six well-sailed boats. Jim Richardson steered Barking Mad to a second and third on Tuesday to take the lead away from John Demourkas and Groovederci. Skipper Wolfgang Schaefer has Struntje Light in second place, two points behind Barking Mad and just one ahead of Groovederci.

“Our fleet may be small in numbers, but the boats that are here are high, high quality,” Barking Mad tactician Terry Hutchinson said.

Barking Mad was named Lewmar/Navtec Boat of the Day by virtue of winning the close competition atop the Farr 40 fleet. Hutchinson noted that all four races have been won by boats that did not lead at the first weather mark.

“Our boat-handling was better today than yesterday, which it needed to be,” Hutchinson said. “We started the boat well and were very fast upwind. We’re not so great downwind so that is something we need to work on.”

Ran, a Swedish entry skippered by Niklas Zennstrom, made a strong move in IRC 2 (52 Class) by posting a first and a second on Tuesday. British professional Adrian Stead is calling tactics on Ran, which jumped from fourth to first in the overall standings with 10 points. Azzurra, the Argentina entry skippered by Alberto Roemmers, is two points astern in second after winning the fifth race.

“In this fleet, it’s about making the fewest mistakes as possible and we have sailed rather cleanly,” said Zennstrom, a Swedish native who is co-founder of Skype. “Our maneuvers have been solid and our tactics have been strong. This is our third season in the Super Series and we are getting to know the boat and how to sail it.”

It’s a match race situation in IRC 1 with 72-footers Bella Mente and Shockwave engaged in a heavyweight fight. Skipper George Sakellaris (Framingham, Mass.) and the Shockwave team got the better of things on Tuesday, winning both races. Upon returning to the dock, Bella Mente skipper Hap Fauth (Minneapolis, Minn.) stood up and applauded Sakellaris.

“We’re having a lot of fun racing against Bella Mente. The boats are evenly matched, both in terms of performance and crew work,” said Sakellaris, who has legendary sailmaker Robbie Doyle as tactician. “I think it’s good training for both teams.”

North Sails professional Steve Benjamin and his crew aboard the Carkeek 40 Spookie have dominated the High Performance Class, winning two races in moderate breeze on Monday and two more in heavier air on Tuesday. Decision, a newer and lighter version of the Carkeek 40, has finished second in three of those starts.

There’s a new leader in Swan 42 class as Apparition jumped all the way from sixth place after winning Race 5 and taking second in Race 4, both in photo finishes according to skipper Ken Colburn. Hoss (Philip Williamson, Forth Worth, Texas) and Arethusa (Philip Lotz, Newport, RI) are tied for second, one point behind Apparition (Dover, MA).

“There were lots of changes of leads and the key was to be patient and play the shifts,” Colburn said. “Positions kept changing as the fleet would split and get back together. Our team did a great job overcoming a lost jib halyard at the start of the first race, which was an ominous way to begin the day.”

Teamwork has posted two bullets and two seconds in building a four-point lead in PHRF 1. Skipper Robin Team only does three regattas per year, but always has his J/122 well prepared and sailed by a well-oiled team.

“We’re fast and the crew work has been impeccable. We’re going really well both upwind and downwind,” said Teamwork tactician Jonathan Bartlett, a North Sails pro. “Robin is quite amazing for someone who doesn’t get a lot of practice with starts and mark roundings. He’s just incredibly skilled considering the small amount of time he races.”

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Regatta dates are January 20 – 25, 2013.

Key West Race Week is also supported by *The Florida Keys & Key West Tourism Council*. The *Historic Seaport at the Key West Bight* is the Official Marina. The *Ocean Key Resort and Spa* is the Official Hotel. *Sapporo USA* is the Official Beer.

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The racing will be conducted under permit in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The sanctuary protects 2,900 square nautical miles of critical marine habitat, including coral reef, hard bottom, seagrass meadow, mangrove communities and sand flats.

Event information, past results and photos: www.Premiere-Racing.com

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For more information and coverage of Quantum Key West Race Week 2013:
Web Site: www.Premiere-Racing.com

[Key West Race Week Photo Gallery](#)

Photographs are available to qualified media.
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Quantum Key West 2013 as of Tuesday Jan 22

Place, Yacht Name, Yacht Type, Owner/Skipper, City, State, Country, Results, Total Points

KWRW Division 1 Course

High Performance Class (HPR - 9 Boats)

1. SPOOKIE, HPR Carkeek 40, Steve & Heidi Benjamin , Norwalk, CT, USA, 1-1-1-1; 4
2. Decision, HPR Carkeek 40, Stephen Murray , New Orleans, LA, USA, 2-2-2-4; 10
3. Chessie Racing, Farr 400, George Collins , Miami Beach, FL, USA, 6-4-4-2; 16

IRC 1 (Mini Maxi Class) (IRC - 2 Boats)

1. Shockwave, Reichel/Pugh mini maxi, George Sakellaris , Framingham, MA, USA, 1-2-1-1; 5
2. Bella Mente, Judel-Vrolijk Mini Maxi, Hap Fauth , Minneapolis, MN, USA, 2-1-2-2; 7

IRC 2 (52 Class) (IRC - 6 Boats)

1. Rán, TP 52, Niklas Zennstrom , Southampton, Hampshire, UK, 5-2-1-2; 10
2. Azzurra, TP 52, Alberto Roemmers , Porto Cervo, Sardinia, Italy, 1-6-4-1; 12
3. Quantum Racing, TP 52, Doug DeVos , Ada, MI, USA, 4-1-5-3; 13

Farr 40 (One Design - 6 Boats)

1. Barking Mad, Farr 40, James Richardson , Boston, MA, USA, 1-4-2-3; 10
2. Struntje light, Farr 40, Wolfgang Schaefer , Lueneburg, GER, 5-1-1-5; 12

3. Groovederci, Farr 40, John Demourkas , Santa Barbara, CA, USA, 2-2-3-6; 13

Swan 42 (One Design - 7 Boats)

1. Apparition, Swan 42, Ken Colburn , Dover, MA, USA, 7-3-2-1; 13
2. Hoss, Swan 42, Glenn Darden / Philip Williamson , Fort Worth, TX, USA, 3-1-3-7; 14
3. Arethusa, Swan 42, Philip Lotz , Newport, RI, USA, 6-4-1-3; 14

KWRW Division 2 Course

Melges 32 (One Design - 11 Boats)

1. Bombarda, Melges 32, Andrea Pozzi , Milano, ITA, 1-8-6-1-6; 22
2. Mascalone Latino, Melges 32, Vincenzo Onorato , Milano, ITA, 6-10-1-2-4; 23
3. Swing, Melges 32, Keisuke Suzuki , Nishinomiya, Hyogo, JPN, 5-4-8-4-2; 23

Melges 24 (One Design - 23 Boats)

1. hedgehog, Melges 24, Alec Cutler , Pembroke, BER, 2-2-3-1-2; 10
2. Full Throttle, Melges 24, Brian Porter , Lake Geneva, WI, USA, 7-1-2-3-1; 14
3. West Marine Rigging/New England Ropes, Melges 24, Bora Gulari , Detroit, MI, USA, 6-4-1-4-4; 19

J 70 (One Design - 39 Boats)

1. Moxie, J 70, Cole / James Allsopp , Annapolis, MD, USA, 5-10-14-4-3; 36
2. USA 69, J 70, Joseph Colling , Bath, OH, USA, 2-2-15-11-13; 43
3. Helly Hansen, J 70, Tim Healy , Newport, RI, USA, 23-14-3-3-1; 44

J 70 (Corinthian) (One Design - 12 Boats)

1. Spring (COR), J 70, David Franzel , Somerville, MA, USA, 3-5-4-2-1; 15
2. B Squared (COR), J 70, Brian Elliot / David Hyer (T) , Sayville, NY, USA, 1-1-9-1-4; 16
3. Nostalgia (COR), J 70, Blake & Lud Kimbrough , Newport, RI, USA, 4-6-1-7-2; 20

KWRW Division 3 Course

J 80 (One Design - 4 Boats)

1. Vayu 2, J 80, Ron Buzil , Evanston, IL, USA, 1-1-1-2; 5
2. Participant III, J 80, G. John Krediet , Stamford, CT, USA, 2-2-3-1; 8

PHRF 1 (PHRF_ToT - 6 Boats)

1. Teamwork, J 122, Robin Team , Lexington, NC, USA, 1-2-1-2; 6
2. White Gold, J 44 MOD, James D. Bishop , Jamestown, RI, USA, 3-1-5-1; 10
3. Lake Effect, J 111, Robert Hesse , Youngstown, NY, USA, 2-3-2-4; 11

PHRF 2 (PHRF_ToT - 8 Boats)

1. Rush, J 109, Bill Sweetser , Annapolis, MD, USA, 2-1-2-1; 6
2. Tangent, Cape Fear 38, Gerald Taylor , Annapolis, MD, USA, 5-5-1-2; 13
3. Rhumb Punch, Farr 30, John and Linda Edwards , California, MD, USA, 1-3-5-7; 16