

## 2011 South American and International Master Championships- Report

Day 1 - Wednesday, July 20, 2011

The International Lightning Class Association South American and International Master Championships kicked off today with two races completed. The Iate Clube Armacao Buzios - ICAB hosted a beautiful day of sailing with winds ranging from 14-16 the first race and picking up to 19-21 during the second race. 26 boats representing 7 Countries took to the line. An anxious group forced a general recall on the first start of the day. The "Z" Flag was hoisted and with the second try they were off.

Tito Gonzalez sailing with his son Diego Gonzalez Parro and Cristian Herman Sanhueza won the first race and finished second in the second race to lead the South American Championship after 1 day of racing. Right behind them with 4 points total is the Brazilian team of Claudio Biekarck, Gunner Ficker and Marcelo Batista da Silva with a 3, 1. In third, another Brazilian team of Thomas Sumner, Felipe Brito and Fillipe Gil sailed well with a 2, 4 today to finish the day with 6 points. Rounding out the top 5 is the Argentina team of Alejandro Cloos, Carlos de Mare and Julian de Mare with 13 points and Chilian Team of Felipe Robles, Pablo Lorca and Andres Guevara with 15 points.

The International Masters Championship is sailed concurrently with the South American Championship but is scored separately. Claudio Biekarck, Gunner Ficker and Marcelo Batista da Silva lead with a 1, 1. The USA team of Philip Lange sailing with his brother Jonathan Lange and Alister Thomson are in second with a 2, 5. Right behind them with 8 total points is another USA team, ILCA President, Rob Ruhlman sailing with his wife Abby and son Ryan. The USA team of Dick Hallagan, Hendrix TenEyck and John Steiner are in 4th with 11 points winning the tie breaker over Australian Ian Edwards, Watt Duffy and Andrew Lee who are in 5th.

Racing continues tomorrow with a 12:00 warning signal. Two races are scheduled. Watch the International Lightning Class Association website, [www.lightningclass.org](http://www.lightningclass.org) for live text coverage of racing.

The events have been made possible by support and grants received by the following sponsors:

- Brazilian Sailing Federation – CBVM sponsored by Bradesco Bank, CPFL, Travel Ace and Tamoyo.
- Rio de Janeiro Sailing Federation – FEVERJ
- City of Búzios Sports and Tourism Secretary's
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### **SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP - RESULTS DAY 1**

### **INTERNATIONAL MASTER CHAMPIONSHIP - RESULTS DAY 1**

*Photos courtesy of Nelson Veiga - Chopp Germania*



Photos: Nelson Veiga



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15333 - Claudio Biekarck - leading day 1 International Masters Championship

11011 - Tito Gonzalez and team - winning Race 1 of the South Americans and leading after 2 races.