

Kiel, Germany, Day 1: An OK Day

June 20, 2009

Kiel, Germany

Today was the first day of racing at the Kiel Week , the sixth leg of the ISAF World Cup Series. And what a day it was!! I finished the day with a 9, 2 in the two races and am overall quite happy with the results. We are sailing in two fleets, 75 boats total. I was in the yellow group today and we got in two races, and the blue fleet only got in one race.

Training Day Photo: Luther Carpenter

The day was heavily influenced by the clouds, the cliffs, and the rain squalls that rolled through the course. The first race was setting up with pressure left, and not much but a big cloud on the right hand side of the course. I had a great start and headed out left. I got the left shift and tacked over, only to look under my boom and see three-quarters of the fleet on the right hand side pointing almost in the same direction as me on the opposite tack…not good for me. I rounded at the top mark in the mid-20’s but battled back to finish 9th.

The second race was much better. I got a great start off the line, tacked on the first shift and was sailing in the pressure. I made one little mistake up the first beat when a puff hit me which was initially a knock, but came back as a lift half way through my tack. But again, I sailed the top of the beat well and rounded second and held onto it for the rest of the race.

We have one more day of split

fleet racing (assuming we can get four races total) before we split into the gold and silver fleets. You can see the results [here](#).

I will have another report tomorrow. The forecast for tomorrow is for less breeze so hopefully we will get in the required races.

I would like to thank Carmeuse for their continued support of my campaign towards the 2012 Olympics in London, as well as US Sailing Team AlphaGraphics.

Sail Hard,

Anna