

2007 Roses Masters Worlds - Regatta Report #2

The regatta continues, with four of the six racing days completed. The winds have been different each day, though mainly sea breezes from the southeast. On Tuesday, wind was lighter than the first two days, at 7 to 12 knots, with enough wave action to keep things interesting. Amnon fought to a 10th place in one race, and Derek Stow to a 25th, while I remain mired in the 50's in our 75 boat Grandmaster division. After a long-planned lay day on Wednesday (perfect planning, as the wind was absent), Thursday was even lighter but variable, challenging the Race Committee. My group of standard rig grand-masters got in only one race, which finally started after we'd been waiting 5 hours. None of the CPYC crowd did well in that race, even though the wind picked up to 12 knots and gave us some nice planing and hiking by the end. Among other Americans, Bill Symes has worked his way up to 6th in our division and Peter Seidenberg continues to lead the great grandmasters. Results for each division are on www.rosesworlds2007.com

On the lay day, Amnon drove Nigel Thomas, Isabel, and me around the twisty roads of the Costa Brava, which well deserves its label of the "wild coast." We admired the giant rock formations on the Cap de Creus (the northeast corner of Spain), a mountaintop monastery with stunning views called Sant Pere de Rodes, and lunched in the very cute little fishing village of Cadaques, near the home of Salvador Dali in the even littler Port Lligat. Photos to follow, as it doesn't seem possible to email them via the limited computer facilities of the neighborhood Wimpy's internet point.

Lunch, like most of our meals here, was fish. Really fresh, really well-prepared fish--dorada, sardines, hake, octopus, squid--grilled, fried, boiled, raw, it is excellent in these parts. And Roses itself continues to impress us: a five mile long beach curving around the Bay of Roses, with a fine old town full of tiny streets with dozens of restaurants. a tourist town well worth a visit, even if you are not racing Lasers. All very seasonal, though: everything seems to close down for the winter in a week or two.

Two more days of racing. Still plenty of time to show these oldsters what I can do, right???

Halsey Bullen