

Media Monitoring

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Sunday, 02 December 2007

Ian Williams of Team Pindar, who yesterday won the 2006-07 World Match Racing Tour, crowning him ISAF Match Racing World Champion, today triumphed in the finals of the Monsoon Cup, held in Kuala Terengganu in Malaysia. The fifteenth and final stage in the 2006-07 World Match Racing Tour, Williams and his team fought off match racing veteran, former World Champion and 2005 Monsoon Cup winner Peter Gilmour (AUS) 3-1 in the best of five finals this morning. Having already secured the World Championship by defeating closest rival Paolo Cian (ITA) in the semi-finals yesterday, Williams' triumph in the Monsoon Cup, which has the largest prize purse of any event on the Tour, is the perfect ending to a victorious weekend.

Williams, who is sponsored by print and electronic media company Pindar, has had an incredible year, leading the World Match Racing Tour for 10 out of the 15 months it has been running. Williams and his team of Bill Hardesty, Mark Williams, Mark Nicholls and Simon Shaw have won events in St Moritz, Bermuda and now Malaysia during the Tour. Each team counts their best eight events, which must include the Monsoon Cup, worth double points, towards their score for the World Championship. As no Briton has ever been crowned ISAF Match Racing World Champion before, Williams is undoubtedly Britain's best ever match racing sailor.

Ian Williams, 30, from Southampton, UK, commented: "Winning the Monsoon Cup is just the icing on the cake this weekend. Whilst we celebrated our World Championship victory yesterday, we knew there was still work to be done in the remaining round of this event. The Monsoon Cup is the best event on the Tour, with a purpose built brand world class venue, and this weekend has been brilliant. Sailing in 12-14 knots, with blue skies, we've had some great, although occasionally tricky conditions, and really been able to get the most out of these boats in order to push ourselves to the top. We're blown away."

Andrew Pindar, Chairman of the Pindar Group commented: "What a fantastic weekend for Ian and his team. We at Pindar are very proud of their achievements, to win the most coveted title – the World Championships – and also the final event of the Tour, really proves their talent at this level. Congratulations."

Team Pindar World Match Racing Tour Results 2006/7

- 1st – Monsoon Cup 07
- 5th – Brazil Match Race 07
- 12th – Bermuda Gold Cup 07
- 6th – Latium Match Cup 07
- 1st – St Moritz Match Race 07
- 3rd - Danish Open 07
- 2nd - Troia Portugal Match Cup 07
- 10th - Match Cup Sweden 07
- 11th - Match Race Germany 07
- 3rd - Monsoon Cup 06
- 4th - Allianz Cup 06
- 1st - Bermuda Gold Cup 06
- 10th - St. Moritz Match Race 06
- 5th - Danish Open 06
- 9th - Portugal Match Cup 06

Kate Fairclough