

Media Monitoring

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Monsoon Cup To Decide Winner Of World Match Racing Tour

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 16 (Bernama) -- The race for the World Match Race Tour Championship is expected to come right down to the finish line at the Monsoon Cup in Terengganu, with the top five leading teams all mathematically capable of being crowned the 2006-2007 tour season champion.

The race for the title will be a battle among Ian Williams who skippers Team Pindar, Mathieu Richard of Saba Sailing Team, Paolo Cian of Shosholoza, Bjorn Hansen of Team Apport.net and Sebastian Col of Areva Challenge.

Going into the Vitoria Brasil Cup, the penultimate race of the World Match Race Tour being held in Brazil from Nov 14 to 18, Team Pindar (Ian Williams) heads the leaderboard with 130 points, ahead of the in-form Mathieu Richard who is trailing by just seven points.

With the Monsoon Cup offering a total of 200 championship points, all five teams still have a chance to be crowned champion at Pulau Duyong, Terengganu. The final round results must be counted in the total scores for the 2006-07 season along with the scores from the best scores from six other rounds.

According to a statement from T-Best Events Sdn Bhd, organisers of the event, the 15th and final round of the World Match Race Tour 2006-07 will take place from Nov 28 to Dec 2 at the Terengganu Heritage Bay Club & Marina in Pulau Duyong, Terengganu, and is the richest event in the world, offering RM1 million in prize money.

The World Match Racing Tour is the world's leading professional sailing series, featuring America's Cup teams, skippers, Olympic Gold medalists and World Champions in the ultimate one-on-one test, a "race of truth" and regarded as the Formula One of sailing.

Leading contenders for the title:

130 - Team Pindar (Ian Williams)

123 - Saba Sailing Team (Mathieu Richard)

106 - Team Shosholoza (Paolo Cian)

96 - Areva Challenge (Sebastian Col)

79 - Team Apport.net (Bjorn Hansen)

66 - PST (Peter Gilmour).

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