



## 2023 Scandinavian Gold Cup and 5.5 Metre World Championship to be held in Porto Cervo

The International 5.5 Metre Class is delighted to return to Yacht Club Costa Smeralda and Porto Cervo for its principal championships in 2023. They were held by the club in 1984 and this year is only the second time the class has visited Porto Cervo in its long history.

The **Scandinavian Gold Cup** is one of the oldest competitions in sailing, dating from 1919 and has been raced for by the 5.5 Metres since 1953, so 2023 marks the 70th year of competition for the 5.5 Metre Class, though it's the 71st event (there were two events in 1986 and 2021 was cancelled).

The Scandinavian Gold Cup runs from 21-23 September in a unique format that only rewards race wins. After three races, only race winners proceed to the second stage and then the first to three wins takes the Cup. So, the event can be over after three races, but the maximum number of races is seven.

The **5.5 Metre World Championship** began in 1961, when the 5.5 Metre was still an Olympic class, and 2023 will be the 62nd championship. The 10-race series runs from 25-29 September.

In 2022 both the Scandinavian Gold Cup and the World Championship were won by Peter Morton's Jean Genie (GBR 42, Elliot Hanson, Andrew Palfrey, Sam Haines). Morton has since sold GBR 42 and has a new boat GBR 43 in build to defend these titles this September.

The 5.5 Metre class is not only attracting a lot of strong talent into the class at the moment, but it is also heading to many exclusive and glamorous destinations. Porto Cervo follows on from Pittwater in 2020 and Hankø in 2022, with New York coming up in 2024. For owners looking to sail in competitive fleets and great locations, the 5.5 Metre class is certainly the class to be sailing right now.

This construction class has been showing constant development, thanks to carefully advanced class rules, always offering state-of-the-art boats. At the same time the class formula has allowed for a wide range of boat ages, to compete effectively in International regattas, in many prominent locations.

The boats are a pure pleasure to sail. Anyone having experienced the unique upwind abilities and the challenge to handle the huge spinnakers downwind, will have understood, why so many regatta sailors have been attracted to these boats.

The 5.5 Metre Class was established in 1949 by the IYRU - today known World Sailing and an Olympic class from 1952 to 1968. The fleet generally sails in one fleet but in three divisions, which group boats in an appropriate way to appreciate the differences of age and construction.

The Class is divided into three divisions:

The **Modern** division includes all the boats with original measurement certificates dated after 1 January 1994.

The **Evolution** division includes boats whose original measurement certificate is dated between 1 January 1970 and 31 December 1993.



The **Classic** division was built between 1949 and 1969, mainly the Olympic era, with the number of boats built during this period was about 650. Within the Classic fleet some boats are modified and some not. Vintage Classic are characterized by a longer keel to which the rudder is attached. Modified classics have a separate rudder.

Before the World Championship there are class cups for the Evolution and Classic fleets, while there are separate divisions within the worlds itself, though all the boats will sail as one fleet with 60-year-old wooden carvel boats racing alongside modern hi-tech machines.

The events in Porto Cervo are the highlight of the 5.5 Calendar Category A events, taking in some of the iconic venues for the 5.5 Metre fleet. The 2023 calendar includes:

26-28 Feb, Australian Championship, Pittwater, Newport, AUS  
27-29 Apr, Alpen Cup, CVT, Torbole, ITA  
26-29 May, Open de France, Atlantique, FRA  
3-4 Jun, Italian Open, Mandello del Lario, Lago di Como, ITA  
9-11 Jun Robbe & Berking Sterling Cup, Glücksburg, FSC, GER  
22-25 Jun, North American Spring Regatta, Lake Huron, Midland Bay, CAN  
23-25 Jun, Salzkammergutpreis, AUT  
19-20 Aug, Swiss Open, Grandson, Lake Neuchâtel, SUI  
21-25 Aug, North American Fall Regatta, Lake Huron, Midland Bay, CAN  
25-27 Aug, German Open, DTYC, Tutzing, GER  
**20-29 Sept, Scandinavian Gold Cup / World Championship, Porto Cervo, Sardinia, ITA**  
14-15 Oct, Herbstpreis, Thun, SUI

The Notice of Race, entry form and further information are available in dedicated sections of the YCCS website.

#### **2023 Scandinavian Gold Cup**

[https://www.yccs.it/en/regattas-2023/international\\_55\\_metre\\_class\\_\\_scandinavian\\_gold\\_cup-3312.html](https://www.yccs.it/en/regattas-2023/international_55_metre_class__scandinavian_gold_cup-3312.html)

#### **2023 5.5 Metre World Championship**

[https://www.yccs.it/regate-2023/international\\_55\\_metre\\_class\\_\\_world\\_championship-3311.html](https://www.yccs.it/regate-2023/international_55_metre_class__world_championship-3311.html)

#### **Much more information about the 5.5 Metre class can be found at:**

<https://www.facebook.com/5.5Class>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSRy5MaygdLsP5hCsLWKACw>

<https://twitter.com/5Point5Metre>

[https://www.instagram.com/int\\_5.5\\_metre\\_class/](https://www.instagram.com/int_5.5_metre_class/)

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/fivepointfivemetre>