

11-12 Oct. 2004, Fall Regatta, Reichenau:

Constituting a leg of the German Cup for 470s, this regatta attracted mainly sailors from Germany but also others from Switzerland, Holland, and Denmark. As the Finn Swiss Championships were taking place at the same time, the venue hosted some 80 boats in total. Organization was by the local club and included dinner and some rock music on Saturday and a nice breakfast buffet on Sunday. Overall, the whole event proved to be quite fun.

470s raced over the weekend with two races on each day. The wind conditions were quite nice allowing some good sailing. On both days wind was from south-southwest, blowing 1-2bft on Saturday and 4-5bft on Sunday. Racing area was on the widest part of the Obersee, towards Steckborn, where the wind seemed stronger and more constant. Race committee did a great job of setting up the course, especially providing almost perfect starting lines. Course was the old Olympic triangle with one triangle, one loop, one triangle and a short beat to the finish, taking a little more than 1hr to finish for 470s.

Day 1: There were three starts on this day but the last race was abandoned on the first downwind leg, due to dying wind. Starts were relatively easy as the line was perfectly square and boats could spread. Both races saw SUI 4 leading the pack with incredible upwind speed. They were chased closely by two young german teams GER 4930, the Rieger brothers and GER 4553, the Eiermann brothers. This leading group also included GER 4944, SUI 64 and SUI 1328. In both races of the day the wind stayed constant and no side of the course was really favored. The upwind legs were mostly about boat speed and catching the few gusts on the course.

Day 2: Despite great wind conditions today, 470s sailed only two races. With constant and strong winds the game was again about good boat speed and handling. The Rieger brothers proved today that they are as fast as they were in lighter conditions. Winning both races comfortably they also secured the overall win despite an OCS on day 1. Behind them SUI 64, GER 4930, and GER 4944 fought a close battle for the runner up position providing some exciting racing. Today was really a fun day to sail and provided all sailors with great training for strong winds.

After 4 races and 1 discard, the top 10 looked like:

1. GER 4930	Rieger/Rieger	3pts
2. SUI 4	Dürig/Meier	8pts
3. GER 4944	Lutz/Hohberg	9pts
4. GER 4553	Eiermann/Eiermann	10pts
5. SUI 64	Soyer/Sprecher	14pts
6. GER 4937	Bauer/Schneider	14pts
7. GER 4888	Meilchen/Justen	15pts
8. GER 4949	Lempertz/Hettich	21pts
9. SUI 1328	Fischer/Mülhauser	22pts
10. GER 4881	Doffing/Lerch	24pts