

# Spain Is Best of Eight Nations In European Championship

*Eight Snipe nations sent 53 boats for racing on Spain's Mar Menor.*

Fernando Rita and A.M. Andreu, representing the host country, won the XIX European Championship without having to sail the last race. Fifty-three boats representing eight Snipe nations competed for the championship which was sailed September 6-12 in the waters of the Mar Menor, and organized by Real Club de Regatas de Santiago de la Ribera (Murcia) Spain.

Rubio and Solana, also representing Spain were second. Former European Champion Finn Hanssen with Erling Nesse of Norway was third. Early leader Roquette of Portugal finished fourth, and Denmark's all-time great Jan Persson, sailing with his son as crew, was fifth.

**Race 1** started in winds of Force 1 with 50 boats on the line. Grand Numa lead the fleet and headed in the direction of the coast. The wind shifted, favoring those near the committee boat side of the course. With fantastic speed and good tactics, the first race was a Portugese festival. The first three places were Roquette, Borralho, and Guerra.

**Race 2:** With Force 2 winds, the committee set a perfect line for the 14:54 start. The wind continued to shift throughout the race. In what was almost a photo finish, Roquette was again the winner, with Rita of Spain second. In third place, only 10 feet behind the leaders, was Spain's Mainemare. Hanssen of Norway finished fourth.

**Race 3** was started at 17:37 with wind at Force 2, and 53 boats on the line. Rita/Andreu would have to move with authority if they wanted to gain the title of new European Champions. But the Roquettes had the same desire. Rita/Andreu crossed the line at 19:00 and the last boat finished at 19:12. Roquette was second and Hanssen third.

**Race 4:** The day began with a splendid sun and no wind, but about 14:30 the wind went from Force 0 to 3-4 in just a few minutes. The race began at 15:05 with 52 boats starting in the Force 3 winds. The wind increased to Force 4 which should favor the Northern Snipes, but Rita led all the way. Rubio followed around the course to finish second. Jansen of Norway

moved up from eighth place to finish third.

**Race 5:** 52 Snipes started at 17:25, with the wind blowing Force 4. Early leaders were Camino, Spain; Jorisch, Sweden; and Rasmussen and Persson of Denmark. By the second beat Rita and Camino moved to the front with Persson in third. They finished in that order with Lahti of Finland fourth, and Sweden's Forsberg fifth.

**Race 6** began at 12:28 on the 11th with Force 1 wind. With little wind, the Portugese recuperated, and the battle between Roquette and Rita began again. Rita was first at the first mark followed by Roquette, Dematte of Italy, Rubio, and Ramada of Portugal. The finishing order was: Roquette, Rita, Rubio, Gerra, and Hanssen.

**Race 7:** His finish in race six gave Rita the championship without his having to sail in the last race. Competition for other places in the top five was still close between Roquette, Rubio, Hanssen, and Jansen.

The last race began with winds of Force 3, and only 48 of the 53 Snipes on the line. The leader, Spain's Camino, was disqualified, changing the finishing positions for the race to Jan Persson, Denmark first; Guerra, Portugal, second; Hanssen of Norway, third; and Andersen, Denmark, fourth. Rubio's fifth place, and Roquette's 11th reversed their standings for the championship, and Hanssen finished third overall.



XIX CAMPEONATO DE EUROPA  
(Top 25 of 53 Boats)

Boat	Skipper/Crew	Country	Places	Points	Finish
23203	F. Rita/A. Andreu	Spain	14-2-1-1-1-2-ns	26	1
19223	R. Rubio/R. Solana	Spain	4-17-5-2-11-3-5	51.7	2
24967	F. Hanssen/E. Nesse	Norway	15-4-3-5-8-5-3	53.4	3
25767	T. Roquette/P. Roquette	Portugal	1-1-2-29-rt-1-11	55	4
25704	J. Persson/J. Persson	Denmark	9-9-9-14-3-nf-1	70.7	5
25981	G. Guerra/J. Conde	Portugal	3-8-pms-12-21-4-2	75.7	6
25535	B. Jansen/J. Jansen	Norway	5-13-31-3-18-6-6	82.1	7
22382	P. Brodsted/Erhardi	Denmark	6-25-14-11-14-11-7	98.7	8
21422	J. Mainemare/R. Marques	Spain	12-3-4-37-39-12-12	110.7	9
12296	D. Borralho/J. Oliveira	Portugal	2-12-23-7-23-14-29	113	10
26650	S. Valjus/R. Valjus	Finland	28-16-7-4-11-41-16	114.7	11
24761	I. Camino/J. Gutierrez	Spain	16-7-21-10-2-31-dq	118	12
25528	S. Andersen/S. Bulow	Denmark	19-7-19-34-19-ns-4	134.7	13
26474	P. Jorisch/Gert Fougt	Sweden	17-32-25-20-10-19-9	136	14
26097	Ericsson/B. Engstrom	Sweden	27-19-24-8-17-15-18	137	15
22011	P. Ferrer/E. Boissier	Spain	10-27-28-17-13-9-rt	140	16
26639	H. Evers/P. Evers	Denmark	25-15-29-25-6-29-8	143.7	17
25684	J. Ramada/J. Ramada	Portugal	29-26-20-13-30-7-14	145	18
25752	F. Lopez/M. Fontenla	Spain	18-37-8-16-31-24-16	146	19
25138	J. Lahti/J. Heijo	Finland	20-30-43-39-4-13-19	159	20
25476	B. Forsberg/M. Forsberg	Sweden	49-39-13-6-5-28-34	159.7	21
26349	G. Dematte/D. Dematte	Italy	7-28-27-30-25-10-37	163	22
25705	O. Lorentzen/K. Fossum	Denmark	22-pms-22-22-22-8-41	173	23
26599	Otto Book/Inger Book	Norway	43-21-37-9-15-34-21	173	24
26093	P. Lundh/S. Lenving	Sweden	34-18-7-47-38-26-17	176	25