



**For Immediate Release:** Zhik SB3 World Championships 2011 Event Preview

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Racing for the 2011 Zhik SB3 World Championships 2011 begins on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May and runs until Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May hosted by the Royal Torbay Yacht Club in Torquay, UK. 103 entries represent 14 nations. 2 fleets will compete in 2 days of qualifying races, before splitting into Gold and Silver Fleets for the finals races. 14 races are scheduled for the Championships. The first race will start at 1100 hrs on Monday on the beautiful waters of Torbay.

The sun has shone as measurement, registration and launching of the 103 boat fleet was undertaken. Now that this is all but complete, there is great anticipation as the fleet make their final preparations to their boats for the start of racing on Monday. The line up of Olympians (past and present), National, European and World Champions will compete for the title of Zhik SB3 World Champion and the honour of lifting the stunning Waterford Crystal World Championship Trophy and receiving a full crew compliment of Zhik ISOTAK range on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

There is one thing that is guaranteed at this event, competition is going to be fierce and as ever in the Laser SB3 fleet, consistency will be essential. Roger Hudson (RSA) and his crew on Musto Race Ahead will be battling to improve their three previous Laser SB3 World Championship 2<sup>nd</sup> places. Jerry Hill (GBR) will defend his 2010 Laser SB3 World Championships title with original crew member Grant Rollerson and Matt Alvarado, a new "Sad Old Bloke" for 2011. Joe Llewellyn (GBR) middle man for Jerry Hill last year now campaigns his own boat in the Championship from his home Club, the Royal Torbay YC.



The Australians have launched an assault on the 2011 World Championship and field a team of 4 entries, 2 of which are definite contenders for the Championships title. Glenn Bourke (AUS) returns to the class after a 3 year absence and will undoubtedly return to form in no time at all. Moth World Champion and twice 49er World Champion Nathan Outteridge (AUS) will sail with Olympic Medallist Ian Brown and 2010 ISAF Sailor of the Year and 2010 Laser World Champion Tom Slingsby.

Possibly considered the “wildcard entry,” Robert Greenhalgh (GBR) will race Joe Wood’s Laser SB3 “Red” with Shane Hughes, Jerry Eplett and Kirsty Skinner. All eyes will be on Robert to see if he can transfer his one design fleet racing and offshore experience to the Laser SB3 class. Rodion Luka (RUS) will helm Oleg Zherebtsov’s Laser SB3 “Team Russia” and will be looking for an improvement on his 8<sup>th</sup> place in 2010. Team Russia have been training hard and deserve a good result.

Craig Burlton (GBR), 2009 Laser SB3 World Champion is considered by many “the boat to beat” at any Laser SB3 event. With his regular crew of Stephen “AB” White and Adam Heeley, Gill Race Team are sure to feature in the top results. Fellow Gill boat, helmed by Geoff Carveth, winner of the 2008 World Championships and 2011 Pre World Championships, seem to be in the groove for a good week of competition at the front of the fleet.

The 2011 World Championships has received fantastic support from many sponsors, including title sponsor Zhik. The Royal Torbay Yacht Club lead by chief event organiser Adrian Peach have made a tremendous effort in organising what looks to be a great event.

Stay tuned and follow the action at:



Website: [www.ZhikSB3Worlds2011.com](http://www.ZhikSB3Worlds2011.com)

Facebook: [www.Facebook.com/ZhikSB3Worlds2011](http://www.Facebook.com/ZhikSB3Worlds2011)

Download the event app [here](#)

## **ENDS**

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## **Notes to the Editor**

### **Zhik**

Zhik is known for producing the most technically advanced sailing gear for World & Olympic champions. Zhik's product design and features are developed in conjunction with an amazing team of champion sailors resulting in product innovations never seen before in the sailing clothing market. Over the past two years, Zhik has been able to add on a range of keelboat products ensuring that keelboat sailors also get to experience the Zhik difference. [www.zhik.com](http://www.zhik.com)

### **Laser SB3**

The Laser SB3 was designed by Tony Castro and launched in 2002. In 2007 the Laser SB3 was awarded ISAF Recognised Status and the first World Championships were held in Ireland in 2008. The boat is a strict one design



class, economic to buy and campaign, easy to sail with a simple deck layout and electric downwind performance delivered by the generous sail plan. The boat has a lifting keel, can easily be launched from a slipway and towed behind a car.

For more information visit [www.lasersb3.com](http://www.lasersb3.com)