



KITEBOARD PRO WORLD TOUR

NOVEMBER 2009 EDITION

2009 EVENTS

DUNKERQUE, FRANCE
SHIPPAGAN, CANADA
DAKHLA, MOROCCO

YOUR
WORLD
TOUR
TRAVEL
MAGAZINE

INTERVIEWS

HANNAH WHITELEY
JESSE RICHMAN
GISELA PULIDO

JENNA & HENRY TREK ACROSS GREENLAND
& LEANDERS TRAVEL JOURNALS

Photographer: Julien Gazeau


WELCOME TO KPWT MAGAZINE. YOUR WORLD TOUR TRAVEL MAGAZINE

Thank you for your support and all the response I have received over this year on the tour.

I have been in close contact with the KPWT team, its superstar riders and the kiteboarding brands and I hope to further this relationship into the future.

This issue, KPWT MAG has followed the events held in Dunkerque, Shippagan and Dakhla. I interviewed two World Champions Jesse Richman, Gisela Pulido and UK rider Hannah Whiteley in France.

I have also added an exciting story from an exploratory Jenna Viney, who snow-kited across Greenland. Leander has kept you up-to-date with his surf reports and I have continued with my location articles, with travel tips and news from each spot on the tour.

Stay in touch with the KPWT Magazine and lets look forward to an exciting end to the 2009 year. There will be another issue released at the end of Morocco with results, next year's events and so much more surrounding the exciting lifestyle on the KPWT. 

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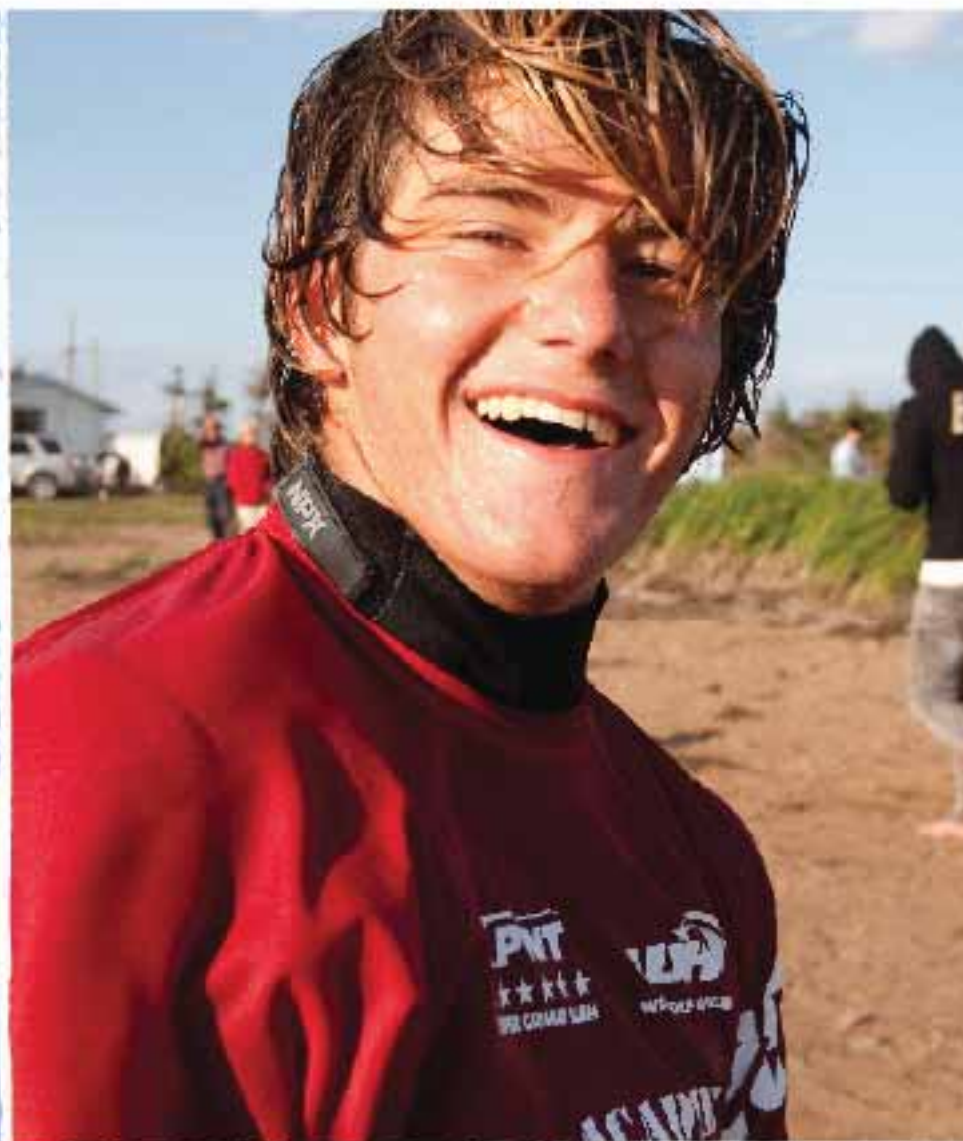
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DUNKERQUE, FRANCE

51°2'18"N, 2°22'39"E

Traveling on the train from Lille to Dunkerque on the northernmost tip of France I was left wondering how this town, that began its history as a simple fishing harbour and a favourite pirate's haven would look after being literally raised to the ground during World War 2.

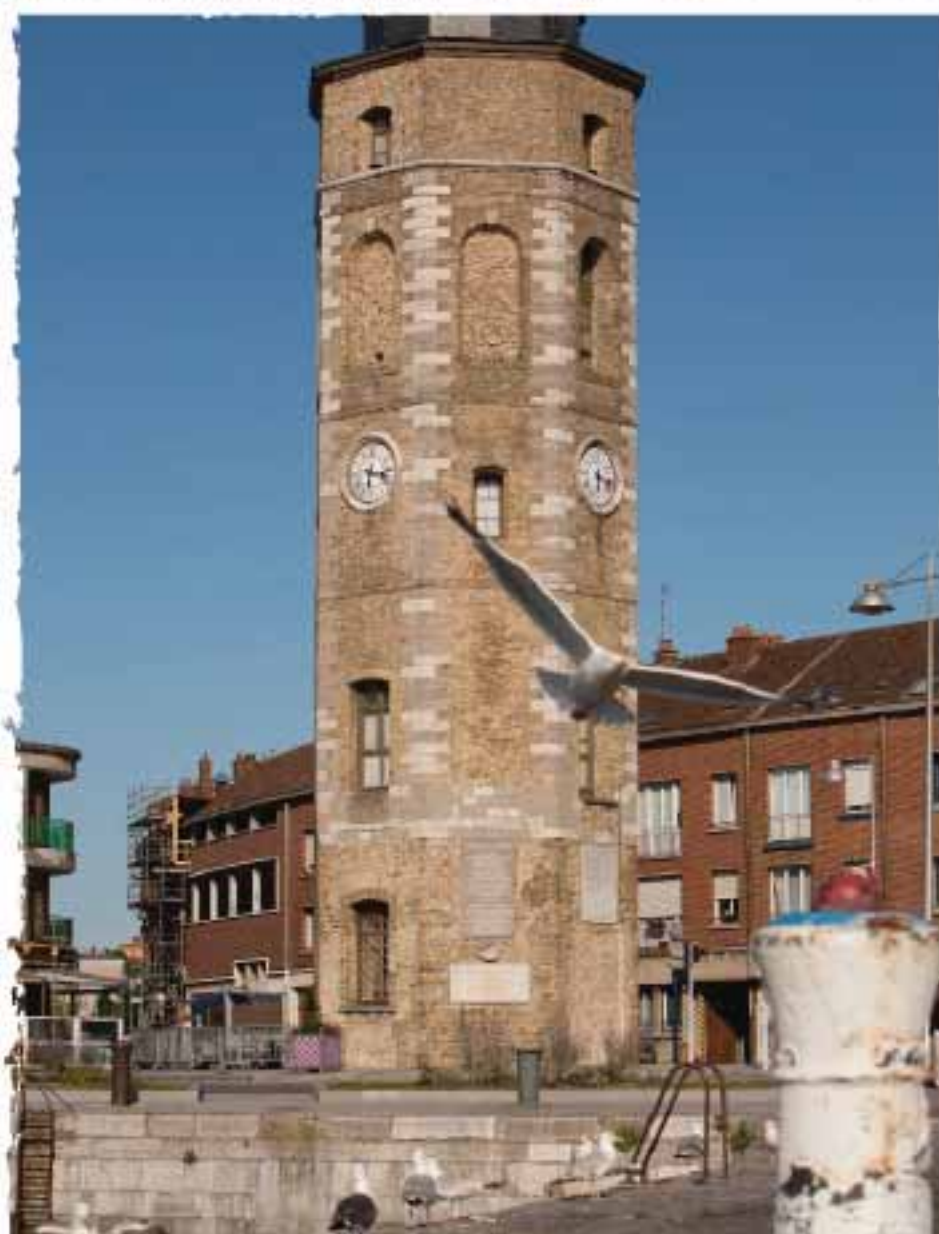
I arrived to find a town that had re-birthed itself as a popular seaside resort and major international port! It became clear that the colourful and historical past had blended itself well with the current needs of modern society while still maintaining its natural beauty and history.

Running along the shores of the North Sea are hectares of wild and unspoilt coastal dunes and 15 kilometers of beaches, a paradise for water sports and nature lovers. There are over a hundred sports clubs, with excellent facilities so virtually any sport is possible even if you are trying it for the first time!

Dunkerque is really peaceful early in the morning and a walk along the promenade to watch the sunrise is something special. I did this walk every morning to the event site and absolutely loved it! In the evening the promenade lights up with boisterous restaurants and beach bars that are open late for the younger crowd and those on holiday.

I popped into a local restaurant for the most perfect steak "poivre" with frites – delicious and a must for all visitors! A word of warning if you are new to the town, the temperature drops hand-in-hand with the sun and a jacket is always an essential when staying out all night!

I myself was left with fond memories of lying in a hammock in the garden of the magnificent old French home that we stayed in, writing articles and reports on this historical kitesurfing town in France. 🙌



TRAVEL TIPS

CURRENCY

Euro

LOCATION

51° 2' 18" N, 2° 22' 39" E (10kms from the Belgium border)

LANGUAGES

French/ English

THINGS TO SEE/DO

Watersports/ Beach walks along the coastline/ Dining on the promenade/ The Musée des Beaux-Arts has a large collection of Flemish, Italian and French paintings and sculptures/ Dunkirk Carnival (Jan/Feb)

GETTING THERE

Ferry Connection with Dover, England.

Train from Lille is an hour or you can catch a train directly from Paris.

DUNKERQUE
KITESURF PRO
WORLD CUP 2009
 11TH - 15TH AUGUST



FRANCE EVENT 2009

Dunkerque was proud to host the French leg of this year's tour at Dunes de Flandre. The event took place at the first European kite park, Ronde du Kursaal.

Registration day saw all the riders slowly arrive into Dunkerque and make their way to the KPWT office to register for this exciting event here in France. Over 50 international riders registered for their respective disciplines.

Local rider Antoine Auriol (FRA, KITELOOSE) registered and has only fond memories of Dunkerque after coming second in the national competition for Windsurfing when he first started his love affair with wind many years ago!

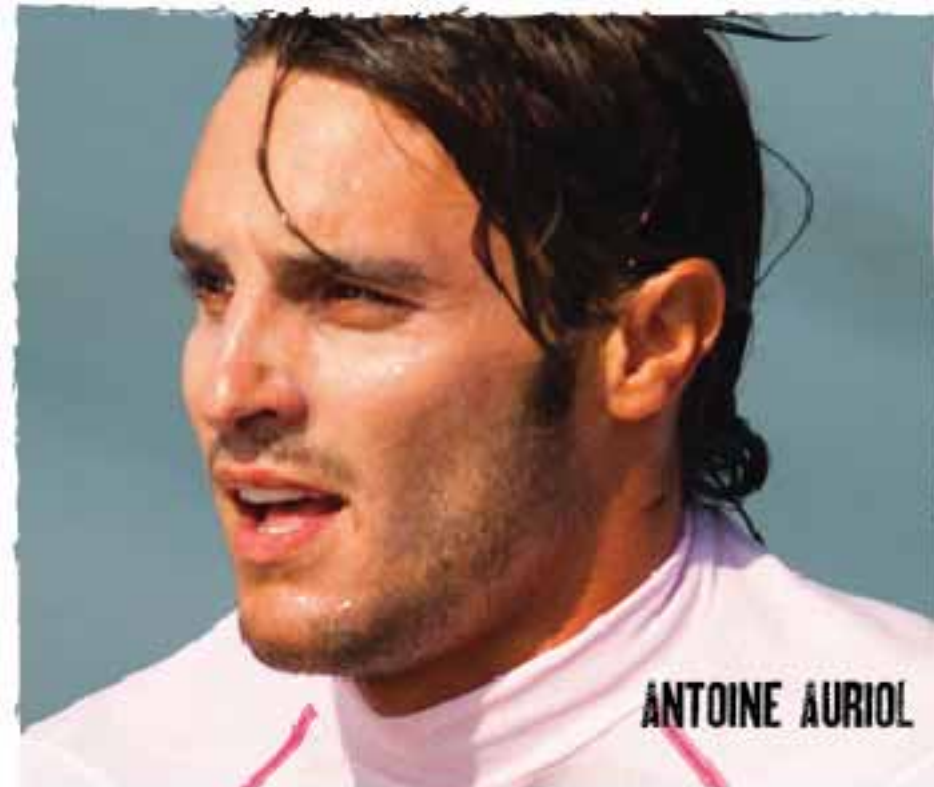
The opening ceremony was held at 18h00

in front of the Ronde du Kursaal and all the riders, local organizers and the KPWT team attended, to celebrate kitesurfing in Dunkerque!

Day One on the KPWT Dunkerque Kitesurf Pro 2009 and the wind just didn't reach the required speed to start the competition. This did not stop anyone from enjoying the activities arranged on the promenade.

Day Two and the wind, as forecasted arrived just after lunch. The planned course races were quickly substituted for freestyle, as it was now a good South West blowing an average of 15 knots.

The first heats kicked off around 1pm and saw Petr Tyushkevich (RUS, FLEXIFOIL) face the local Martin Debruyne (Triple-C). Petr started with a cool 313 followed by a smooth slim chance and held strong throughout his heat, leaving his opponent floating in the first round.



Vincent Tiger (FRA, F-ONE) matched up against Pierre Romain (FRA, NORTH) for the heat of the day in my opinion. Both looking quite good, but I think Vincent's blind judge 3 took the round from Pierre and he progressed.

During the heat Vincent was flying downwind and everyone held their breath thinking he was going to cross over the competition area and into the "arrest" zone that the water police had demarcated. He pulled out last minute thank goodness!

The freestyle heats were stopped, as the wind had dropped off a little and the race director quickly shifted to course racing. The course was set out in a "banana" shape and the riders pumped their bigger kites and prepped their racing boards for the start. 2 laps of 6 minutes were run and only one race was completed.

Day Three and the low pressure had crept over and the low lying clouds only lifted around 13h00. Announcements were made every hour on the conditions, but unfortunately the wind didn't arrive and no kitesurfing was possible.

That didn't stop the many people that came down to enjoy the sun. The local organizers, Dunkerque Flysurfing Club really know how to keep you entertained, with or without wind.

Day Four started at 16h00 and the Race Director decided to finish the freestyle single elimination. Wind had increased and was reaching 18 knots South West. The race director ran 7minute heats, with 3minute intermissions.



The first few heats saw Victor Hays (FRA, CABRINHA) against another French rider, Julien Kerneur (FRA, TAKOON) who both looked in good form. Julien held strong and landed a smooth slim chance, but after seeing a huge back mobe from Victor, it looked certain that he would progress.

The heat of the day for me however was called off just as it was getting good. Jesse Richman (HAW, CABRINHA) faced Christophe Tak (BEL, LIQUID FORCE). Jesse's move of the heat was a perfect back mobe, but Christophe was looking so good. He made a blind judge 3 look easy, followed by KGB Grab and a sick little mobe.

Day Five began with the wind averaging 16 knots, South West on low tide around 14h00. The sun was out, not a cloud in sight and the spectators were on the beach ready to enjoy the kitesurfing action!

The highly anticipated heat between Tak and Richman started off proceedings and what a heat it was.





COURSE RACING

Tak began with a stylish low mobe switch followed by a 313. Jesse looked to be feeling the pressure a little, but landed a smooth double s-bend handlepass that seemed to settle his nerves. He went on to a front mobe, slim chance and blind judge 3 with excellent kite position and good style. Unfortunately today looked to be Tak's and he went through the motions, performing an array of tricks including a back mobe 5, blind judge 3 and a tomahawk. He progressed into the quarterfinals to face Michael Shitzhofer. (AUS, JN). His dream of reaching his first semi final on the KPWT was ended though by Shitzhofer, who was again looking strong in his heats.

For the women, Gisela Pulido (SPA, AIRUSH) faced Sarah Demdoun (FRA, CABRINHA) in the first quarterfinal.

Gisela looked comfortable and seemed to have rested her knee well after her injury in Germany. She flew through Sarah, who just never seemed to settle in. She went on to face Ania Grzelinska (POL, NORTH) in the first semi final for the ladies single elimination.

At 16h00 conditions got really good and wind had picked up to over 20 knots. The semi final between Tiger and Shitzhofer looked as if they were both overpowered on their 10 meter kites! Getting huge air and strong maneuvers to entertain the many spectators that had come down to the beach to enjoy the festivities and the kitesurfing!

The other side of the women's table saw Kari Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE) up against

Hannah Whiteley (UK, JN). They both used the

wind well to perform a cool board-off each, but Kari landed a very stylish S-Bend to blind that looked to win her the heat, and into her first KPWT Freestyle Final against Gisela Pulido. Gisela again proved too strong for the ladies within the freestyle discipline and took the ladies single elimination in Dunkerque.

The men's final was between Petr Tyushkevich (RUS, FLEXIFOIL) and Michael Shitzhofer. Petr had been consistently strong throughout his heats, knocking out Leander Vyvey (BEL, JN) in the quarter-finals. His trick of the day must have been a front mobe with a very late rotation. The final was an absolute spectacle between two world-class competitors! And the winner is, Petr Tyushkevich!

After the single elimination was completed, the race director decided to take advantage of the good wind and run the juniors division.

Day Six and Course Racing was the call for the day! The first race started at 14h07 and the course was set out over 2 laps that were roughly 10 minutes each. The wind was blowing over 20knots, which pushed the riders' endurance rather than tactics. Jesse Richman reached the upwind buoy first, followed by Abel Lago (SPA, RRD), Olivier Dansin (FRA, NORTH) and Antoine Auriol. They picked up super speed on the downwind and charged the buoy for the second lap.

"WHAT A FUN RACE, THE WIND WAS QUITE STRONG AND IT WAS QUITE TRICKY TO KNOW WHERE THE SAND BANKS ARE. MY FINS ARE OVER 30CM LONG SO YOU NEED TO WATCH OUT FOR THIS!" RICHMAN



CHRISTOPHE TAK



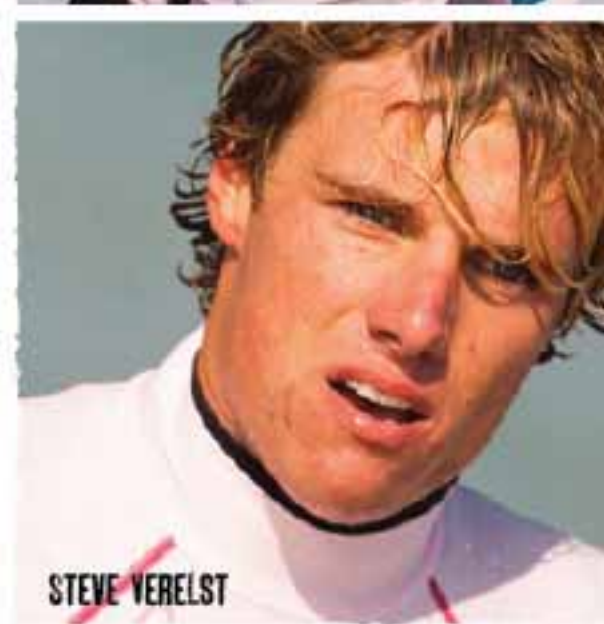
KARI SCHIBEVAAG



MICHAEL SHITZHOFFER



SARAH DEMDOUM



STEVE VERELST

Race was on and Richman reached the finish line in first place after 18 minutes of speedy racing! In second place, not too far behind was Lago. Dansin seemed to have third place in his sights, but on the home straight he crashed a couple of times allowing an excited Lukasz Ceran (POL, NORTH) through.

The race director then moved the upwind buoy a little further away and the wind had increased to 22 knots so the course time was relatively similar to the previous race. The second race started at 14h52 and off they went! Jesse Richman once again charged the upwind buoy in first place, followed tightly by Auriol and Abel Lago! Downwind was exciting, as the wind was strong and the riders were using every bit they could to build up good speed. Antoine Auriol raced well and was looking good, but third place seemed to be a curse for the riders today and he crashed just before the finish line! He recovered well and managed to still place fourth.

Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE) did tremendously and held strong to place first in both races and show her dominance in this discipline.

The day ended at 18h00, and prize giving took priority on the main stage! Spectators gathered closely to see the Champions of the KPWT Dunkerque Kitesurf Pro 2009 receive their trophies!

Thank you to Christophe Hugoo and his team for a highly successful event on the KPWT 2009.



RESULTS

FREESTYLE

MEN

1. Petr Tyushkevich
(RUS, FLEXIFOIL)
2. Michael Shitzhofer
(AUS, JN)
3. Steve Verelst
(BEL, BEST)

WOMEN

1. Gisela Pulido
(SPA, AIRUSH)
2. Kari Schibevaag
(NOR, OZONE)
3. Ania Grzelinska
(POL, NORTH)

COURSE RACING

MEN

1. Jesse Richman
(HAW, CABRINHA)
2. Abel Lago
(SPA, RRD)
3. Antoine Auriol
(FRANCE, KITELOOSE)

WOMEN

1. Kari Schibevaag
(NOR, OZONE)
2. Ania Grzelinska
(POL, NORTH)
3. Ainhua Garcia
(SPA, AIRUSH)

HANNAH WHITELEY

ED: Hey Hannah, welcome to the KPWT Magazine! I saw you for the first time at the KPWT event in Sylt, Germany and you looked quite relaxed and confident. How did you find the event?

HANNAH: Hiya! Yes the KPWT in Germany was my first international event. I thought it was a brilliant event, lots to do and see and some great wind. It was such a good experience to compete against world-class riders – you learn a lot and meet lots of new people :) I try to keep relaxed when competing and believe in myself even if I think I'm not kiting so well. There is no point in getting yourself worked up about it – whatever happens, happens.

ED: You travel to the events with your entire family... Tell me a little about them?

HANNAH: We are all from the northwest of England, South Manchester. My Mum, Dad, Jill, Pete, my two brothers Joseph and Max and my sister Polly and I decided to all do a road trip down to the event, stopping off in Amsterdam and other places to make it more of a holiday. Plus my Dad and bro both kite so they were well up for a trip.

ED: How long have you been competing? Where did it all start with you?

HANNAH: I have been competing on the British circuit (BKSA) for two-and-a-half years now. It all started with my local kite shop



sponsoring me when I could stay up wind kiting! Alex from the shop encouraged me to compete in the Amateur Ladies and I was up for it, but just slightly worried about the fact that I couldn't even back loop at this point. A pop jump was as good as it got! I did my first comp when I was 15 and it was a total embarrassment – I could only do a toeside and pop jump in my heat and came last! But this made me so determined to improve and learn more tricks. Over the summer I learnt a lot of new tricks really quickly and I ended up winning all the remaining comps and managed to take the Amateur Ladies Title in 2007... I was so pleased.

ED: I have watched a lot of your heats on tour and I really like your style and your commitment. What are your goals for the 2009 year?

HANNAH: I really wanted to win the British Championships in the Pro Ladies, which I have already done, unofficially. I still have one competition to go, but I cannot be beaten for the overall title. Same question: British Champion last year, but this feels amazing as I got so close to becoming British Champion last year but just missed out on the last event by making some bad decisions before my final. I also want to do some more KPWT events.

ED: And tell me, outside of kiteboarding what are your passions?

HANNAH: Trampolining and I love inline skating. It's so great to be down at my local skate park, obviously when it's not windy! It really psyches me up and there are some amazing skaters there, especially some of the girls.

ED: Who are your sponsors?

HANNAH: CrazyFly Boards, JN-Kites, Prolimit, Animal and Kiteitright.

ED: Spending time on the tour this year and meeting all the 'superstars', who do you most like to watch on the water?

HANNAH: In the girls I think Gisela is sick to watch... She seems to be so far ahead.

ED: I have seen a few guys giving you some real attention. Any boys that have stolen yours?

HANNAH: Haha! Not just yet ;-)

ED: Looking at the draws at the events, who do you try and 'avoid' the most?

HANNAH: Gisela is always a good one not to be in your first heat!

ED: I want some inside information on the tour...

Funniest character? Richard Mellon

Most serious? Hmmm could be Jason Mc

Practical joker? Jan Marcos R

Cooliest kitesurfing style? Mike S

Playboy? Leander V

Most annoying? Jason Mc hehe. Love you really.

Cutest Couple? Kari and Abel

Most intimidating? Me!! Coolest guy on the KPWT? Danilo N

Alcoholic? Jesse R! Lol

ED: Thank you for your time Hannah, I wish you all the best! Anything you would like to add?

HANNAH: It's been great on tour at the KPWT so hope to see you guys again soon! I would like to thank my sponsors for helping me and of course a big thanks to my Mum and Dad... They're awesome! 🍷



C4

Defining the future.



Team Rider: Mark "Murphy" Zach



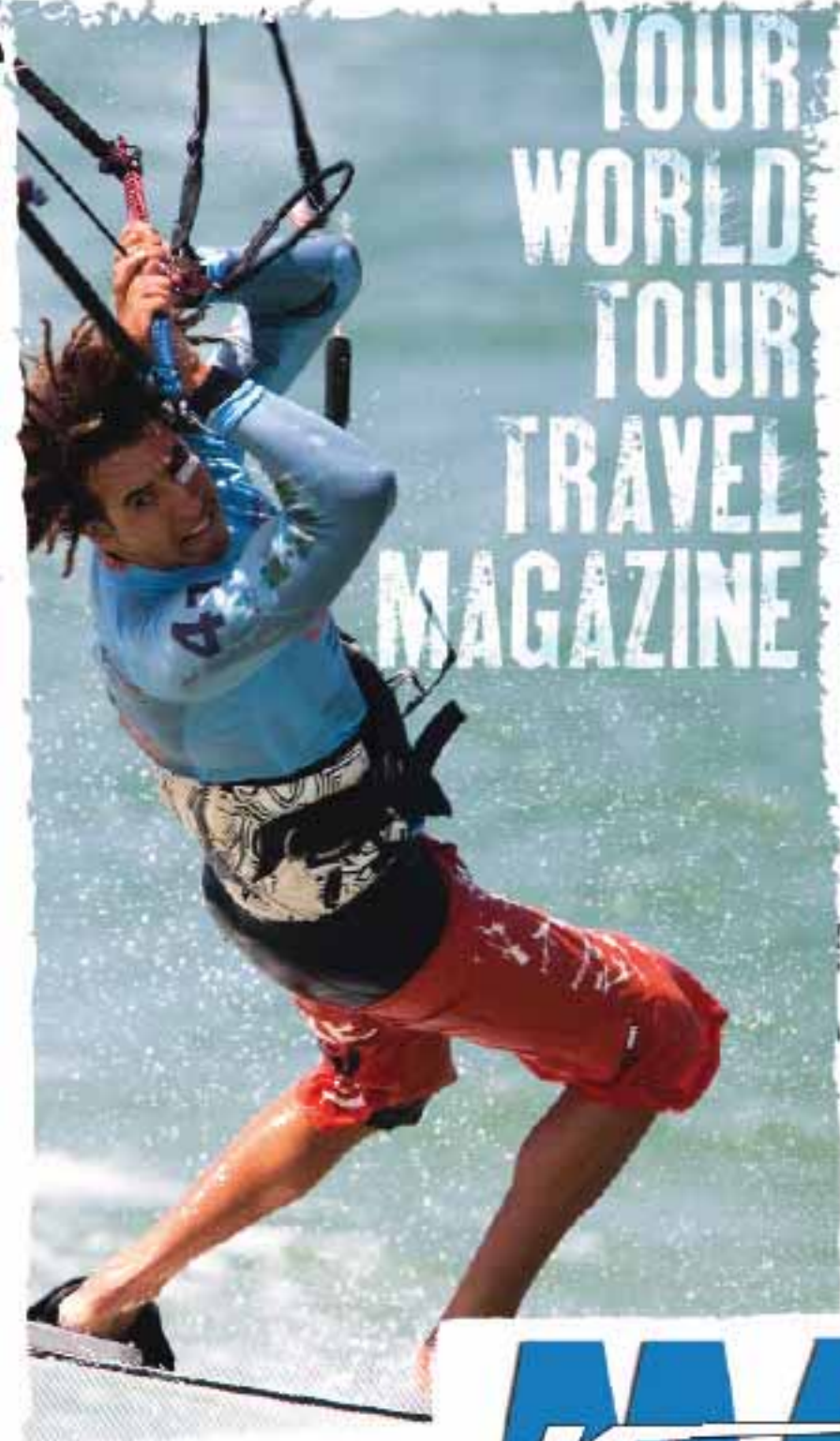
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DUNKERQUE, FRANCE

Leander Vyvey
gives us the
inside scoop on
the Dunkerque
event

For the fourth stop of the Kiteboard Pro World Cup 2009, we headed to Dunkerque, France. I think this is an awesome destination, because it's only about 50 km from my house in Belgium. Dunkerque is a quiet village, with very strict rules for kiteboarding.

They want kitesurfing to develop on their beaches, in a very safe way. They've setup a strict zone, with full time surveillance. Bobo Corneil went for a ride on the registration day (and forgot about the strict zone!) 3 policemen ran up to him and

made him pull safety within 5 seconds!

I stayed at the competition side in a campervan, right in front of the contest area, together with the Austrian, Mike Shitzhofer!

Unfortunately we didn't have the best weather for this week and the wind forecast did not look promising. We were told by the locals, that is very unusual for this time of year, but we didn't care too much as there were endless amount of restaurants along the beachfront, where we could get great food and relax.

We waited some days for wind, did some >>



races and had sufficient conditions for freestyle on the fourth day! There was a very light wind for the first round, picking up at the end of the single elimination.

There was a good amount of spectators along this northern beach in France and some great action for the finals freestyle! Unfortunately for me, my super low wind skills were not so good in the first rounds and I made it only 5th. No wind anymore for a double elimination and as we had to wake up early and wait for wind.

Anyway, some great memories from this event, with excellent activities and plenty of spectators! **Next stop: CANADA** 🇨🇦

GOING GREEN

Jenna & Henry

After graduating from The Culinary Academy in Cape Town, Jenna didn't take long to gain an established reputation in the food industry as a creative, passionate foodie, with an energetic and enthusiastic attitude. Together with her craving for adventure, she spends her life between the Arctic and Antarctic, running

the logistics, managing and cooking for extreme luxury camps, as well as a private chef for high profile celebrities such as Sir Richard Branson, anywhere interesting in-between. Even when Jenna is not working, she can be found either desperately looking for polar bears in Northern Norway or Kite Skiing across the Greenland icecap





enjoying the challenges of survival in subzero temperatures. Jenna's abilities and experience in providing fabulous food in extra ordinary places is unsurpassed and inspirational.

Henry is a polar/ mountain guide leading trips all over the planet including Kilimanjaro (avoiding all the crowds), Rwenzories aka the Mountains of the Moon, Northern Ethiopia, High Andes and basically anywhere else that is cold - see henrycookson.com for complete biography.



THE TRIP

We had a 25 day, 400km round trip. To cross the whole icecap is about 500km as the crow flies from west to east.

However conditions were so bad getting up onto the ice cap - zero visibility, crevasses that you could not see due to flat light, negotiating solid blue ice mounds several meters high (sort of like a frozen sand dune) with troughs in-between them filled with snow up to your waist.

It was also annoyingly warm for the work rate we were doing, me pulling around 90-100kg and Jenna 40-50kg - one day we did 3kms in 7 hours of dragging.

Henry was at a 45-degree angle most of the day trail blazing through the snow, temperature only being 15 degrees Celsius. The snow from the blizzard was melting on our clothes making us wet (we were generating so much heat) and therefore increasing the danger of hypothermia.

We went up onto the ice cap and pushed about 150km inland and just kited about honing Jenna's skills when she was not having a tantrum (being typically South African, being stubborn and not listening!)

GEAR & CONDITIONS

All gear was stashed in pulks that you drag behind you - these in turn are attached to a kiting harness, normally a Dakine seated one. We had 4 kite sizes each dependent on the wind strength and or the weight of the load it has to drag.

About 55% of the time you could kite. Kiting in low winds can prove hard for the less experienced - temperatures rarely got much below -20 degrees which was unseasonably warm, a trip that left 2 weeks after us had



FUNNY STORIES

Top a blow up male sex doll called John! We thought 2 people in a tent would be a bit cozy so decided a 3rd member would liven things up a bit and help mediate if any fights!! He ended up being pretty useless as he just sat around all day doing nothing then eventually got a puncture - think Jenna sat on him.

Jenna refused to bring a she wee so had to go outside every time she wanted to go to the bathroom. This was something she really regretted when the nights' were especially cold. Henry would just use his pee bottle in his sleeping bag - a very delicate operation that takes a bit of courage and plenty of skill to do as the consequences can be huge. You can also use the now full pee bottle as a hot water bottle. However, one night Henry woke to find his stomach was wet - seemed the thread on his pee bottle had finally given out and was leaking (slowly!)

-30 temps before the wind. Ate loads of chocolate, pork scratchings (which we fought over), pasta, chocolate pudding, hot chocolate, not much coffee as a diuretic and you are always battling dehydration.



FUTURE PLANS

Heading down to Antarctica for 2 months, then heading to the North Pole in April, Russia in June and hopefully make it down to the south pole at the end of 2010. ✓





JESSE RICHMAN

OK Jesse, I have interviewed you before so not getting into the core of kiting, I want to know about you and your plans for the future...

ED: First off, last year you won the overall title for KPWT. How did your life change after such a successful year?

JESSE: Winning the Tour last year was a really big accomplishment for me. I feel like it gave me a spot in the sport, like I might actually be able to make a career out of it. Now my life consists of travelling constantly and venturing to new parts of the globe.

ED: I see you get labelled a US rider often. Where are you actually from and how often do you get to go home?

JESSE: I am from HAWAII... The best place on the planet!! Usually I get a few days here and there, but this summer I have had almost no time at home. It's a hard trade off, but when I get to spend all my time hanging out with the South African editor of the KPWT Mag, I think to myself that it could be worse :)

ED: I remember you said you finished two years of studying in just a few months. What happened there?



JESSE: School is definitely a hard thing to get through when trying to be a professional kitesurfer. I did it for a while, but when I started travelling a lot I switched to Internet school for more freedom. Then at the beginning of this year I knew I had to get it out of the way because there was no chance I could travel this much and stay on top of my classes, so I studied really hard for a few months and finished high school!!!

ED: Let's talk about your favourite locations to kite?

JESSE: Maui!! It is so awesome being in Hawaii. The best spots in the world are places where the kiting is sick, but also a nice place to be. A few other spots that I have come to enjoy are Western Australia and Indonesia. There are a ton of places that I still want to go, but honestly all I want to do is be at home in Maui!

ED: You seem to be pushing your Course Racing this year, what's happening with your Freestyle?

JESSE: I have definitely taken on too much... I am trying to compete at the top level of three disciplines and it has proved to be pretty difficult. I am doing a lot of development with Alex Aguera in Maui and making some sick race boards and trying to find time to train in the Freestyle and Waves, but to do it all is a lot. As long as it gets super-nuking windy I am having fun in the Freestyle and all we need is some crazy-making waves and I am loving life.

ED: You are a world-tour rider for Cabrinha. What does this involve?

JESSE: Having such a solid brand behind me makes what I do possible. Without the great gear I would not be able to be where I am now.

ED: What have you got planned for your future?

JESSE: Hmmmm... This really IS the question. I am not sure what I feel like doing in the future. I know that I want to go back to school and not sure what I want to study or what I want to do. Right now I am just taking it one day at a time.

ED: You are of driving age now. What will be your first car? Maybe we can encourage a sponsor

JESSE: Come to Maui and you will see... I am running over 200HPs in my crazy little turbo-charged Rocket 03 Black VW GTI 20th Anniversary Edition! Number 950 out of 4000! I like my car... It is fun and it goes fast!

ED: Time for some Inside Info on the tour...

Funniest character? Thomas Cocquelet

Most serious? Bruno Sroka

Practical joker? Victor 'The Frenchy' Hays

Coolest kitesurfing style? Stefan Permien

Playboy? Antoine Auriol

Most annoying? Hard... I would say equally tied between Cameron Dietrich and Richard Mellon

Cutest couple? There are so many on the tour... Ha!

Most intimidating? Petr Tyushkevich walking with Alex

Cutest girl in Kitesurfing? Well I would say the top five chickas!

Biggest party of the year on the KPWT? Every night!!!

ED: I have really enjoyed spending time with you on the tour this year... When are you coming to Cape Town?

JESSE: When are you coming to Maui?? Actually don't come to Maui, no one come to Maui, it sucks and everyone should never come... Ever!

ED: Thanks a lot bud, it has been a pleasure. 🐦

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richard@kpwtmagazine.com





MAAG

KPWTT

KITEBOARD PRO WORLD TOUR



SHIPPAGAN, CANADA

47°44'38"N. 64°43'4"W




Millions of immigrants helped build Canada which today welcomes people from more than 150 countries every year. Alas I was not one of them as my visa through France was refused at the last minute! What a disappointment having to miss visiting the North American continent and adding this intriguing little town lying nestled in the province of New Brunswick to my list of conquered territories!

Shippagan is part of an archipelago of three islands located at the very north of New Brunswick. These islands are very close to each other resulting in the creation of idyllic lagoons and over fifteen miles of magnificent sandy beaches. Water sports enthusiasts are offered an abundance of sites where there are consistent winds coupled with a variety of riding conditions from waves to glassy flat water.

This charming City shaped by the sea is home to New Brunswick's largest fishing fleet and every resident is proud of their rich fishing heritage. A visit to the famous Red Lighthouse Aquarium and Marine Center in New Brunswick is a must or simply join the thousands at the annual Festival of Fisheries and Aquaculture!

This destination is recognized as the best place to learn and practice kiteboarding in Canada. In fact, the constant daily winds, the shallow water lagoons and the warm water of the Baie des Chaleurs make the perfect blend for wonderful kiteboarding conditions.

The authenticity of the town with its sea views, natural environment and vibrant urban life creates a special quality of lifestyle that invites a return visit. For those who missed the wonder of this captivating City - I will be back to experience your charm and beauty so that I too may add them to my collection of visual treasures. 



TRAVEL TIPS

CURRENCY

Canadian Dollar (Most businesses accept US DOLLARS)

LOCATION

47° 44' 38" N, 64° 43' 4" W

LANGUAGES

New Brunswick is Canada's only bilingual province (French/ English)

THINGS TO SEE/DO

Hiking, Aquarium, WaterSports, Museums, Historical sights and the famous wooden salt-shaker tower
Lighthouse established in 1869.

Blazej Ozog from Poland performing a grab in his heat against Jesse Richman

ACADIE KITEBOARD PRO 2009

CANADA EVENT 2009.

Welcome to the North America stage of the 2009 KPWT.

Registration day saw over 35 internationals from 15 different countries all making the trip to compete for the respective disciplines: Wave Masters, Freestyle, Kiteboard, Course Racing and Sliders.

There was huge excitement amongst all riders and everyone involved for this new stage on the KPWT. Shippagan is renowned for good wind, flat water and some good waves.

Day One on the KPWT Acadie Kiteboard Pro 2009. Unfortunately as anticipated, the wind never arrived from the forecasts of cyclone "Bill" and the riders used this opportunity to take to the water and test the

waves. Many local riders have also come to the competition to test themselves against the World's best. There are some big local names William Acosta (CAN, STARKITES), Simon Gill (CAN, DAKINE) and Eric Gerard (CAN, CABRINHA) who are here to test their abilities against the world's best. We saw this in Germany 2009, when Mario Rodwald and Stefan Permien, used their local knowledge to dominate the freestyle in Sylt.

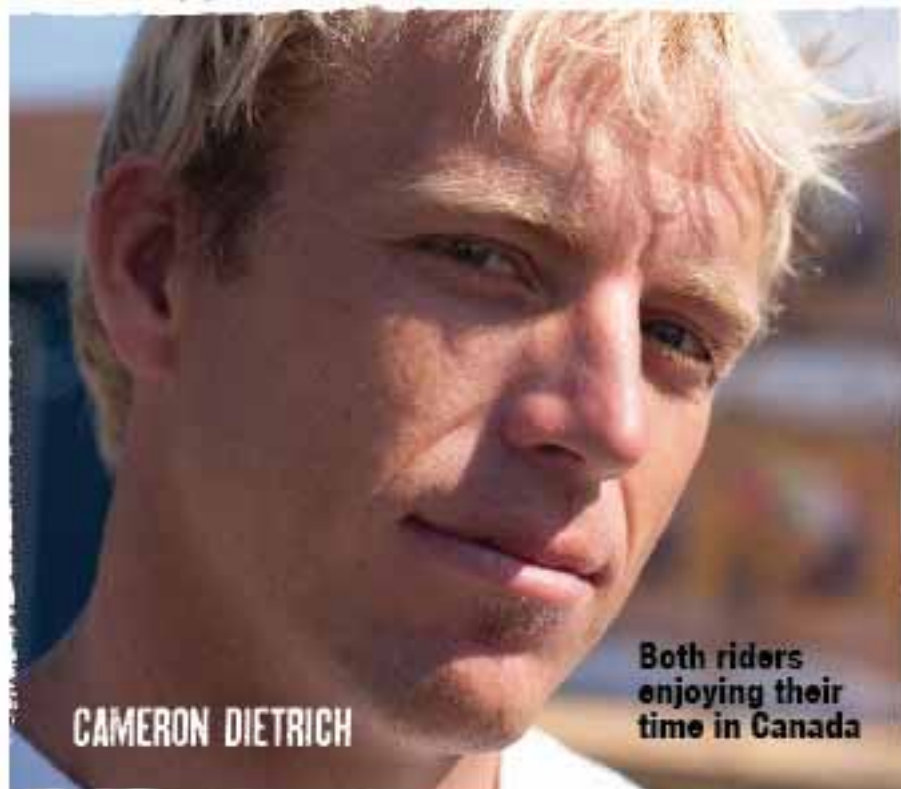
A barbecue was hosted in the evening, to celebrate the success of yet another KPWT stop for 2009.

After an excellent opening ceremony on the morning of Day Two, including all the riders, the mayor of La Meque and the teams, the first day of competition began!

Over 25 international riders were registered to compete in the Course Racing discipline and all looked eager to get started.



MITU MONTEIRO



CAMERON DIETRICH

Both riders
enjoying their
time in Canada



There are many spots on offer around the Chiasson office and a bus for the riders was on standby in anticipation for the first race and where it will be.

Course Races were ready for a 3pm start near the lighthouse in front of the Chiasson Office.

The local TV channel broadcasted the races live and showed the locals what KPWT has to offer.

Each race was run over two laps and a distance of 4.5km. The wind was at 12-14knots and blowing from the southeast.

The course was set out in a triangular shape and took the winner of each rider no longer than 22 minutes.

Day Three started with huge excitement after a good forecast for the day.

The Skippers meeting was held at 07h00 and the race director gave the green flag to start with the freestyle single elimination.

And what a day it was for Stefan Permien! He was in sublime form and looked at home in these conditions. He defeated the likes of Leander Vyvey (BEL, JN), Michael Schitzhofer (AUS, JN), and Jesse Richman (HAW, CABRINHA), meeting Vincent Tiger (FRA, F-ONE) in the final!

The final was epic and the riders were getting great power and performing some smooth strong moves.

Tiger launched himself into a HUGE kiteloop, followed by a stylish front and back mobe. It just didn't seem enough to defeat the man of the day whose array of tricks from back mobes to kiteloops and a stylish sbend-pass, was deserved of the freestyle singles title!

The women's final was between the Wave Master World Champion, Kirsty Jones (UK, NORTH) and Kari Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE), who has now reached her second final in a row on the 2009 KPWT.

And congratulations to Kari Schibevaag for winning her first women's freestyle single elimination on the KPWT.

Day Three was a big day within the Freestyle discipline, with good wind and conditions to run both the single and double elimination. The wind picked up to over 45 knots, North West on a flat lagoon!

Jesse Richman fought back after placing third in the single elimination to face Stefan Permien in the final.

Jesse won the first final with some huge megaloops and solid front and back mobes. In the second final, the wind increased up to 50 knots and the riders were out on their 7's and getting BIG air and loads of power to perform their tricks. Permien and Richman both pushed themselves to their limits, with Permien landing some crazy unhooked tricks in these conditions and taking the title.

SLIDERS



"IT WAS A GREAT SHOW FOR ALL, AS THE WIND WAS AT A GOOD SPEED AND THE FLAT LAGOON WATER PROVED TO BE THE IDEAL SURFACE TO LAND SOME COOL TRICKS."

Day Four started early again at 07h00 with swells up to 1.5 meters and a strong wind of 40 knots resulting in Wave Masters being the call for the day.

Most riders chose their 5-7 meter kites and used the power well to get the most out of the waves. Abel Lago (SPA, RRD) lost early in the single elimination to Cameron Dietrich (HAW, CABRINHA), who went on to face Jesse Richman in the losers final. Mitu Monteiro (CV, F-ONE) showed his dominance in this discipline, performing some smooth bottom turns and strong cut backs to take the single elimination from fellow islander, Jan Marcos Riveras (DOM REP, STARKITES).

Abel in the double, rode like a man possessed and slowly progressed his way through the rounds, meeting Mitu in the final.

He took the first final with some powerful turns and energized riding, being the first to take a heat from Mitu this year in the Waves. Mitu rode very well in the second final with some intelligent Wave Riding, using the power of the kite as little as possible and pushing his board to the absolute limit, riding strapless.

A big mention needs to go out to Kari

Schibevaag who is really starting to show how hard work can pay off. She defeated Kirsty Jones in the single and double elimination final and will stand the first place podium in the Freestyle and Waves!

Day Five was a day for the KiteLoop contest, with a good strong 30 knots of wind blowing. The competition was held in front of the Windsurf Kitesurf Club of Eric Girard.

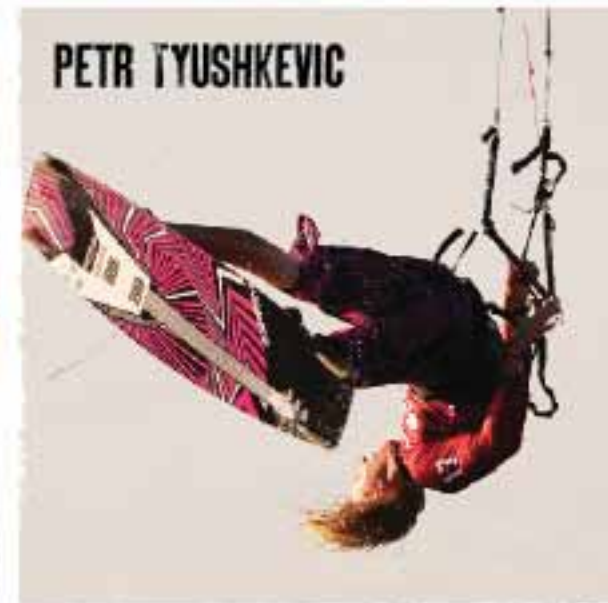
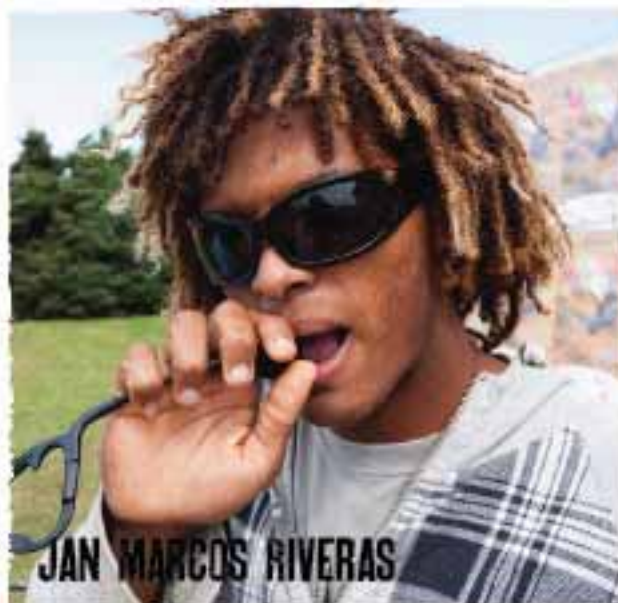
It was a spectacle today with all the pro riders pushing themselves in these strong conditions.

Stefan Permien (GER, THUNDERKITES) took the KiteLoop double elimination with Jesse Richman coming in a close second.

Kirsty Jones managed to perform the best outright kiteLoop in the women's division and will take her first title in this discipline.

The sliders competition started off around 18h30, with a 15 knot North Westerly blowing. The race director held an expression session of 45 minutes, one heat and 7 riders. The riders had to perform their best moves on the slider, kicker and fun-box provided!

It was a great show for all, as the wind was at



a good speed and the flat lagoon water proved to be the ideal surface to land some cool tricks.

Day Six and the wind just didn't arrive today to the disappointment of the Course Racers.

The **KPWT ACADIE KITEBOARD PRO 2009** managed to complete 5 disciplines over 6 days and 4 spots in the Shippagan area. A huge success!

The closing ceremony took place from 20h00 at the Pavillon Aquatique restaurant in Shippagan and was followed by prize giving. ✓

RESULTS

RANKING SLIDERS

1. John Robichaud (CAN, LIQUID FORCE)
2. Cameron Dietrich (HAW, CABRINHA)
3. Jesse Richman (HAW, CABRINHA)

COURSE RACING

MEN	WOMEN
1. Abel Lago (SPA, RRD)	1. Kari Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE)
2. Bruno Sroka (FRA, CABRINHA)	2. Kirsty Jones (UK, FLEXIFOIL)
3. Julien Kerner (FRA, TAKOON)	3. Michelle Langteigne (CAN, KITEBROKER)

FREESTYLE

MEN	WOMEN
1. Stefan Permien (GER, THUNDERKITES)	1. Kari Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE)
2. Jesse Richman (HAW, CABRINHA)	2. Kriss Kinn (US, BEST)
3. Vincent Tiger (FRA, F-ONE)	3. Kirsty Jones (UK, FLEXIFOIL)

WAVE MASTERS

MEN	WOMEN
1. Mitu Monteiro (CV, F-ONE)	1. Kari Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE)
2. Abel Lago (SPA, RRD)	2. Kirsty Jones (UK, FLEXIFOIL)
3. Jan Marcos Riveras (DOM REP, STARKITES)	3. Kriss Kinn (US, BEST)

NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE REGION CABO DELGADO



Gear to pack: kites in the range between 9 and 13 meters, freestyle and wave board, reef shoes are recommended in some spots, but generally not really necessary, a wet suit is just extra weight in the luggage, you might feel like needing a shorty only after 3 to 4 hours in the water during the winter months (June to August) when the temperature of the water drops to about 24° C

Air temperature is around 30° C practically Year round. **The only venue in the area is Pirate Kites www.murrebue.com email: info@murrebue.com cell Carlo +258/823805790** located in Murrebue 20 minutes drive from Pemba, direction Mecufi, 4x4 needed. Lessons are available and limited Kite rental.

2 MAIN SEASONS

North East trades (Kasi Kasi) from November

to March, it is effected by the rain season (when it rains the wind stops) which is in the same period, however, generally blows rather constantly and we experience very little rain. The average wind during the season is around 18 knots.

South East trades (Cusi) from April to September, it just blows! The average wind is around 20 knots, ranging from 15 to 30 knots. The swell is swinging in from the south constantly.

Specific forecast for Murrebue and statistics are available on wind finder at the address **http://www.windfinder.com/forecast/murrebue_beach_pemba**

GETTING THERE

Pemba is the optimum base to start a trip in the region, there is an international airport with flights to Johannesburg, Dar el Salaam and

Nairobi, best place to stay near Pemba is Il Pirata, right on Murrebue spot.

Best contact to organize a trip in the area is Kaskazini Tour Operator and Tourist Information, www.kaskazini.com info@kaskazini.com they can organize all sort of accommodation, transfers, car rental with or without driver.

For budget travels there is a wide choice of very cheap local Bus and collective taxis (Chapas) going practically everywhere.

A trip to Cabo Delgado Mozambique, will offer plenty wind, amazing, never sailed before spots and loads of adventure.

SPOTS: SOUTH TO NORTH

Mecufi: 1 hour drive south of Pemba, is placed on a river mouth, offers a unique situation of flat water on the actual mouth, only a few meters away from a solid 6 feet wave, south of it there is a very interesting surfable shore break area for about 2 km on a sandy beach, before the reef starts again.

When you go to the spot you are the only one sailing there, you must be aware of the tide situation, bring drinks and food, best to go with a local. Trust me, as soon as a kite is up in the air, a large and very enthusiastic crowd gathers up and any other activity stops!

Murrebue 20 Min drive from Pemba, direction Mecufi, home of the Pemba Open. The best served spot in the all region, safe parking, restaurant, accommodation, beach shower, rescue boat, kite school, safe storage and rental (Pirate Kites). Amazing beach, 10 Km. approx, wide lagoon with shallow water, side/side on shore winds in any season, the spot goes, depending on the tide, from glass flat, to flat water to choppy, on the reef there is always nice swell forming 4 to 6 feet waves. The spot is as safe as it can get, sandy bottom, no obstructions, reef of rocks in the way and good service on the beach, help is always present to pump kites, launch, land and retrieve.

The Light House: only a 10 minutes drive from Pemba marking the entrance of Pemba Bay, one of the largest in the world, has a unique situation offering the

swell a perfect close to shore break point just perfect in any season.

With an average of 5 foot waves, it gets a massive 8 feet when the swell hits hard. Best at low tide, waves break on top of a sharp reef, so is not really recommended for inexperienced riders. ✓



SHIPPAGAN, CANADA

Leander Vyvey
gives us the
inside scoop on
the Shippagan
event

This is one of the places I was really looking forward to! Shippagan, Canada is a small fishing village with plenty of amazing spots to kitesurf.

Antoine and myself rented the best little house possible, which was right in front of the kite spot and had everything we needed.

The freestyle event was held at a great spot, with super flat water.

On the day of competition, the wind was super strong and quite gusty and it had been a while since I had taken the 7 meter out and I was nicely powered.





JOCHUM & NESLER
KITESPORTS & OUTERWEAR



We had some great heats but Stefan Permien kicked me out in the early rounds. He went on to take the freestyle event here in Canada so I didn't feel too bad.

Course racing was definitely most fun to watch here at Shippagan.

There were so many plants and weeds that covered the course. Some of the riders got catapulted over their boards when riding through it.

A kiteloop and sliders contest was held here, with some good wind for kiteloops and 3 nice sliders from the local guys! For the last discipline we moved to another spot, about 40 minutes drive, to catch some waves!

It was amazing to ride in so much wind (about 35 knots), but unfortunately the waves were not always very big. Mitu proved himself worthy once again and took 1st place! 🏆



DAKHLA, MOROCCO

23°43'0"N. 15°57'0"W

I decided to take the long and adventurous route to Dakhla, which involved a hair-raising 20 hour flight into Casablanca followed by a 23 hour drive with a carefully prepared road map that turned out to be useless as every road sign was in Arabic! For those who don't know, Dakhla is an unspoilt spot just south of Morocco at the edge of the Sahara desert.

My co-pilot and I took the seaside route, using the Atlantic coastline as our trusty guide. Many of the towns we passed through bustled with activity, some late into the night so cautious driving is essential while you dodge cars, motorbikes, donkeys, people and cyclists, none of whom seem to have a worry in the world. We laughed at a truck packed to the roof and beyond with a bicycle tied at the very top the unstable cargo, until we drew closer and noticed a poor little donkey wedged in as tight as possible in the back, bumping its head against the side of the truck!

Some useful driving tips: If you want to overtake and cannot see ahead the car in front indicates left if it is safe to pass and right if it is not. The other is always fill your tank when you can as there are not many petrol stations through the Western Sahara! Never panic if an approaching car flashes their lights and slightly swerve into your lane, they are just making sure you are not dozing off!

There were times when the coastline was on our right with NOTHING on the left apart from miles of outstretched desert, not forgetting the 20 or more border control check-points plus the odd camel. Eventually our rental car slid its way right onto the lagoon bringing us safely through to Dakhla Attitude, a kiting holiday spot for tourists. The trip to this magnificent spot was well worth it! The sometimes waist deep lagoon is perfect for kiting with shallow waters on very flat surfaces with a water temperature of 25°C and constant winds of 15 to 25 knots, mainly North East. Sleeping in bungalows tucked away up the side



of a small cliff or camping in the dunes and waking up by the sea is unforgettable.

To experience a little bit of Dakhla life I visited a market run by the locals and spent an evening filled with the most amazing colours and smells with white houses on meandering streets filled with colourful Sahrawi women. Positioned on a beautiful bay it is a paradise for fishermen, divers and water-sports enthusiasts.

Here you can find a beach with no foot-prints. That night, playing some tunes on my guitar under a full moon in a place that is filled with possibilities and isolated beauty, will stay etched in my memories forever. ✓



TRAVEL TIPS

CURRENCY

Moroccan Dirham

LOCATION

23° 43' 0" N, 15° 57' 0" W

LANGUAGES

French/ Moroccan Arabic and English

GETTING THERE

There are flights 3 times a week from Casablanca. Or you could rent a car and drive through the entire country ;-)

FA E S G



Your editor decided to interview the five-time World Champion, but avoided the usual kiting questions and found out what Gisela is truly about.

ED: First off, you've been the World Champion five times and you are not even 16 yet! Where to from here?

GIGI: Well to be honest I still want to keep winning. I always push myself and want to keep on competing as best as I can. I love to put on a show! After school maybe a Journalism Degree, the Olympics, windsurfing...

ED: I have seen you at all the KPWT events this year, but you seem to be dealing with a knee injury. In Tarifa you could hardly walk but you still won the Freestyle! What exactly is going on and why are you pushing yourself?

GIGI: I landed quite badly at the event in Germany while training. I stretched a ligament in my knee and went over to Barcelona for rehabilitation after the event. I thought I was feeling good in Tarifa, but my knee didn't respond as I would have liked. I still won the event, but had to take a month off again in Barcelona to make sure it was better and I could compete at my best.



ED: All this travelling... Do you ever get tired? And how do you keep up with your studies?

GIGI: At the beginning of the year I am usually really excited and pumped to show everyone what I am made of, but at the end of the season I am quite tired. I spend the winter in Tarifa training and going to school, but summer is work work work ;-)

ED: Most of your travelling is done with your dad, so where is your mom?

GIGI: Mum works in Barcelona for a construction company that builds bathrooms. It was really good to see her for a month and a half while I was there rehabilitating. I really miss her in the summer when I am travelling the tours.

ED: You were so young when you first started ripping it up. It seems you have been brought up on the tours! Any chance for boys in your life? I know another young world champ from Hawaii...

GIGI: Ha ha ha! NO WAY! I am still concentrating on kitesurfing, my studies and my future. Maybe when I get a little older. I have made many friends on the tour and back in Tarifa so they keep me company and give me the support I need. Jesse – if that's who you mean – is a great competitor and has a huge future so I'll keep my eye on him ;-)

ED: Anything you would want to change in Kitesurfing?

GIGI: I have a problem with the fact that the tours seem to be against each other. The rankings are strange and I am not sure on the points systems. I just want to have fun, compete and give the most excellent show I can.

ED: I think you are the only woman I have seen tear a handle pass to shreds! What manoeuvre are you working at the moment?

GIGI: More handle passes, like a switch handle pass and double handle pass.

ED: There appear to be huge changes and new rules applied to Course Racing. What do you see for the future of this discipline?

GIGI: I concentrate a lot on my Freestyle training as I think it is the most exciting to watch and have fun with. I think that they are trying to push Course Racing into the Olympics, but I am sure it's not going to happen for a VERY long time.

ED: Is there a life after kitesurfing for you?

GIGI: Yes for sure! I still have three years left at school and after that I would like to study Journalism, maybe even work for your magazine ;-). I also love to surf a bit and snowboard, but I try to keep the extreme sports down to a minimum because I don't want to get injured! I have also started a Kite School in Tarifa and it is going really well, so check out my website:

www.glselapulido.es 🍷



MOROCCO EVENT 2009

KPWT Magazine welcomes you to the 6th stage of the 2009 tour in Dakhla, Morocco. Dakhla is on the Western Sahara Coastline and boasts a 50km lagoon, good wind and flat water.

Over 45 riders from 20 different countries made the trip to Dakhla and to try and further their KPWT points.

Registration night Dakhla city welcomed the KPWT and its riders in extravagant style. The opening ceremony was held at the main square in the city centre and invited all to share in the KPWT experience.

Day One and the first heats for men's freestyle started the competition and conditions

were perfect! Competition area was on the flat Dakhla lagoon, with an average of 20 knots throughout the day.

The heats were run over 7 minutes with 3 minutes transition time and 2 riders on the water. An exciting match up in the second round was between Vincent Tiger (FRA, F-ONE) and Stefan Permien (GER, KITEFACTORY). This heat could very well have been a final with both riders pushing themselves, with strong power moves and stylish old school tricks. Permien advanced to face Matthieu Judic (FRA, CABRINHA) in the quarterfinals.

Jesse Richman (HAW, CABRINHA) faced Leander Vyvey (BEL, JN) in a well-contested final with both riders using, the now 25 knot wind, to get some good power and perform an array of old and new school tricks.

For the women, Gisela Pulido (SPA, AIRUSH) faced up against Kari Schibevaag (NOR,



OZONE). Gisela was once again unstoppable and took the single elimination.

The junior competition then took centre stage at 17h30 and the young riders looked excited to get their chance to show off their skills and have some fun on the water.

Day two of this fantastic event and all are excited to get back on the water and have another crack at the title in the double elimination.

The wind today was at an average of 17knots, but picked up in the afternoon to a little over 20 knots. Wind direction is north east, blowing down the West Coast from the Canary Islands.

After some excellent performances yesterday by Jesse and Leander, today was a day for Victor Borsuk (POL, NAISH). He lost in the first round of the single elimination, but fought his way to the semis in the double and faced Stefan Permien in a closely contested heat. Borsuk settled for 5th spot, but what a strong performance by the Polish rider today! Jesse faced Leander once more in the men's final and what a well-contested final it was. Both riders took their 8meter kites out and looked well powered to perform their moves, with a good combination of power and some cool old school tricks. Jesse came out top once again and won his first Freestyle title for the year on the KPWT.

For the ladies, Leticia Quesada (SPA, OZONE) was kiting well and faced Kriss Kinn (US, STRIBOG) for the third spot on the podium. Unfortunately for Quesada, Kinn was in no mood to give up her position and



progressed into the next heat against Kari. Unfortunately Gisela was once again too strong for the ladies and went on to take her fourth Freestyle Event for 2009.

Lets not forget the fighting spirit of little Forest Bakker (FRA, FLEXIFOIL). He woke up with a high fever and only decided to compete very late in the day. He was placed fourth in the single elimination and managed to win four heats in a row and take the junior title away from Kamil Gadjinski (POL, NORTH).

Day Three was the perfect day for racing and the wind averaged 15 knots and up to 18 knots in the afternoon. The triangle course was set up and 2 laps had to be completed. The distance between the starting and upwind buoy was 2.5km and both laps were completed in about 20 minutes.

In race one Jesse was looking strong on the upwind buoy, breaking away from the pack and finishing the first race at least a minute before second placed Bruno Sroka (FRA, CABRINHA).

For the last 2 races the course was moved further inside the lagoon as low tide had crept in. The course was changed slightly and the distance between the start and upwind buoy was 1.5km and each rider had to complete 4 laps to finish.

Day Four and wind was at a good speed and the race director decided to set out the course for 3 more races. Wind speed was at a constant 14knots and the course was again set out in the shape of a triangle. 3 laps were



to be completed over a 4,5 km course. Jesse started where he left off and took the first race, followed closely by Bruno.

Bruno looked determined though to win a race here in Dakhla and really gave everything he had in the next race to put one over his young friend and team rider, Jesse.

After the Course Races, the wind had increased to 17 knots average and the race director moved the competition area in front of the judge tower and decided to run the Kiteloop discipline.

Day Five and the bus arrived at Dakhla Attitude to take the riders to the city and an excellent wave spot on the coast. The waves broke right to left and seemed to hollow out nicely when the tide dropped a little. The sets averaged 1.5 meters and the wind increased to 15 knots.

The wind dropped below competition standards and light had diminished late in the afternoon so the day was called off after completing the first 2 rounds.

Day Six and the Dakhla Attitude have built 2 sliders and one high kicker for the new discipline introduced onto the world circuit this year. The race director ran 2 heats and

the 2 riders with the highest score progress to the final heat. This is a definite discipline for the spectators and the riders were launching themselves at the sliders and kicker as hard and high as possible! There was not enough time to finish the final as the news arrived that the wave spot was working. The riders prepped their gear and quickly made their way to the beach to continue with the single elimination.

The second round began with 1 meter swells and 15 knots. A great heat was the semi-final between Abel Lago and Mitu Monteiro who both looked in great shape, selecting good waves, turning smoothly and strong cut backs. Mitu edged himself into the final in a VERY closely contested semi final! Well done to both riders for this enjoyable heat!

The second semi final was between Jan Marcos and Jesse. The sun was setting and provided a beautiful backdrop to this thrilling semi, with Jan Marcos progressing.

Day Seven was the final for the men's sliders started the day, where a 20 minute heat was completed and four riders participated. Stefan Permien, Jesse Richman, Cameron Dietrich (HAW, CABRINHA) and Leander Vyvey. Jesse was on fire and performed a



SOUFIANE HAMAINI



LETICIA QUESADA



VINCENT TIGER



NURIA GOMA

smooth flat 3 on the main slider and an Indie Glide on the kicker. Stefan did not make it easy though landing a full slide blind and surface pass. He also did a really good front spin off the kicker. Jesse edged him in the end and found himself as the **WORLD CHAMPION** for sliders 2009!

The riders then moved to the wave spot and battled in the final few heats for the Wave Master Champion in Dakhla. Jesse Richman edged Abel Lago (SPA, RRD) in the losers final and made his way to the podium. The final between Mitu Monteiro (CV, F-ONE) and Jan Marcos Riveras (DOM REP, STARKITES) deserved every eye that was peeled to the beach. The final was a 15 minute heat with the top 3 waves scored. And the winner in Dakhla is Mitu Monteiro!

All riders rushed back to Dakhla Attitude for the prize giving and closing ceremony to this magnificent event here in Morocco! Thank you so much to the sponsors, the local organizers and the RIDERS for their support and participation in this magnificent event here in Dakhla. 🍀

RESULTS

FREESTYLE

MEN	WOMEN
1. Jesse Richman (HAW, CABRINHA)	1. Gisela Pulido (SPA, AIRUSH)
2. Leander Vyvey (BEL, JN)	2. Kari Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE)
3. Petr Tyushkevich (RUS, FLEXIFOIL)	3. Kriss Kinn (US, BEST)

SLIDERS

MEN	WOMEN
1. Jesse Richman (HAW, CABRINHA)	1. Gisela Pulido (SPA, AIRUSH)
2. Stefan Permien (GER, KITEFACTORY)	2. Kriss Kinn (US, BEST)
3. Leander Vyvey (BEL, JN)	3. Kari Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE)

WAVE MASTERS

MEN	WOMEN
1. Mitu Monteiro (CV, F-ONE)	1. Kirsty Jones (UK, FLEXIFOIL)
2. Jan Marcos Riveras (DOM REP, STARKITES)	2. Kari Schibevaag (NOR, OZONE)
3. Jesse Richman (HAW, CABRINHA)	3. Nuria Goma (SPA, LIQUID FORCE)

DAKHLA, MOROCCO

**Leander Vyvey
gives us the
inside scoop on
the Dakhla event**

In the middle of the Moroccan Sahara, there's a small town, Dakhla. About 30km from the center, a lagoon is shaped from the ocean and creates one of world's best places to kite. I had heard allot about this place and many of my friends have been there.

When I arrived there were no bungalows available for riders, so we had to sleep in 5 persons tent. Apart from a few crabs, mice and a very humid mattress, it was awesome and a great opportunity to get to know some other riders better. We started the competition with very solid wind, about 25 knots and picking up. My knee





>> was really bothering me, but I got to use a perfect knee protector from Petr Tyuskevich, a new competitor on the tour and also a very good friend.

My first heats were good and I managed to pass Mike and Petr before I got into the finals against Jesse. For some reason I was not too motivated in the final and I hurt my knee while landing the second trick.

In the double elimination I had to face Petr and later also Jesse again for the first place. I had a very good heat, a little underpowered, but landing some of my best tricks

The Wave spot was about a 40 minutes drive from the freestyle area. It looked like an awesome spot for waves. Great long waves and a good wind side-off from the right. It was super to see everybody perform in these wave conditions that were on offer.

The week was really tiring, with wind every day. An awesome place, with good local food and most of all, a very nice atmosphere!

NEXT STOP... Brazil!!! 🇧🇷



**NEXT ISSUE
OUT
5 FEBRUARY**

**YOUR
WORLD
TOUR
TRAVEL
MAGAZINE**



www.kiteboardfederation.com
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