

VNR

America's Cup World Series – OMAN

Saturday 27 February 2016

Land Rover BAR with skipper Ben Ainslie was the boat of the day. 2 victories and a third place earned the British contender 28 points at the gulf of Oman for the Louis Vuitton America's Cup Qualifiers.

Original sound: Ben Ainslie, Skipper Land Rover BAR

„Yeah, it is a good day for the team and it's been quite a long time since we were racing last, so get back on the world series and have a good opening day was important for us.“

With winds of 7 knots the heat was on from race 1 in front of the capital Muscat. The first of 3 races saw an excellent start of the Swedish Artemis Racing and Emirates Team New Zealand with the up-coming, young skipper Peter Burling, who managed to clench victory before defending champion Oracle Team USA and Land Rover BAR UK.

Due to rather moderate wind conditions the start proved to be key to success. Ben Ainslie and Dean Barker managed an early escape at the start of race 2. Using the entire width of the corridor within the boundaries, hence little manoeuvres these 2 boats kept sailing ahead of the pack. Land Rover BAR UK claimed victory, runner-up Softbank Team Japan scored important points and the French Groupama Sailing Team with back-up skipper Adam Minoprio came in third. The best result for the French so far.

Original sound: Adam Minoprio, Groupama Sailing Team, english

„Our learning curve is the steepest here, we are the newest team and we are going to be catching them up very quick.“





Reigning champion Jimmy Spithill made with the start of race 3 clear, that he would not give in without a fight. However during the course of the race at gate 3, the Britons with Ben Ainslie used their right of way to pass Oracle Team USA to finish first and claim second victory of the day. The Swedes took advantage of the match race between Dean Barker and Peter Burling to cross the finishing line third.

The second race day – Super Sunday will award double points at the gulf of Oman on the road to Bermudas in 2017.

