



VNR

America's Cup World Series – OMAN

Saturday 27 February 2016

Louis Vuitton America's Cup Oman

00:00

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: Sir Ben Ainslie, Skipper Land Rover BAR, english

„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 clinch 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.

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 the kiwis to cross the finishing line third.



Original Sound: Glenn Ashby, Emirates Team NZ english

„I had a fantastic race the first race and not too bad in the second one. Unfortunately in the third one we got bounced around a little after being in good shape, but it is all about learning and we are still at the top at the moment so all to play for tomorrow.“

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

