

Fortaleza Grand Prix 2009

25-29 November '09, Brazil, Fortaleza – FW Racing



Day Four - Alberto Menegatti grabs top spot

It is all change again at the top of the leader board at the Fortaleza Formula Windsurfing Grand Prix. Three good races from Alberto Menegatti (ITA 4) moved him into pole position going into the last day of the Wind Brasil formula grand prix finale.

Gabriel Browne (BRA 50) had an even better day - with two first places in races 11 & 12, and only the tie break separates him from Alberto.

The other contenders for a podium had an indifferent day - Wojtek Brzozowski (POL 10) being pick of the bunch, moving up one place in the overall rankings despite equipment failure in race 11. Steve Allen (AUS 0) had a patchy day and slips into third place overall. Wilhelm Schurmann (BRA 999), with a total of 20 points from today's 3 races, recorded his worst day so far, but remains in striking distance of the podium.

Going into the last day it is still anybody's title!

What about some of the other big names? Dennis Littel (NED 13) at last showed his real potential, winning race 13. Jesper Vesterstrom (DEN 111) suffered due to an "over early" at the start of race 12. Paulo Dos Reis (BRA 3333) spoilt a good start with a disastrous last race!

A special mention to Sarah Hebert (ARM 1), racing with the men, and completing every race in time, no mean feat in this company, and in the prevailing conditions.

Tomorrow schedule, local time, with live TV coverage -

Skippers meeting at 10h15,

Race #14: 11h15,

Race # 15: 12h15,

Prizegiving 12h50

Today's photos:

<http://www.windbrasil.com/formula/formula-fortaleza/openAlbum.php?id=83>

For full details - results, reports, photos - <http://www.formulawindsurfing.org/> where you can also follow the races as they happen via the "live ticker".

Day Three



Once again Wind Brasil Fortaleza delivered - only today the wind was more variable in both direction and strength! The racers will be happy with the decision to run 3 races today; gusty conditions are not everyone's favourite conditions. [more]But .. cream always rises to the top and consistency of performance is all important.

Race winners today were Steve Allen (AUS 0), Jesper Vesterstrom (DEN 111) and Alberto Menegatti (ITA 4)

Jesper had his best day of event so far - with a total on 9 pts scored for his 3 races; and with five more races to complete the series he could yet finish on the podium. The days two best finishers were Steve Allen and Wilhelm Schurmann (BRA 999) each with 8 points from today's races. Steve extended his lead at the top; and Wilhelm moved himself closer to a podium place. Alberto will be disappointed with his day, overall, although his race win kept him in second place. Gabriel Browne (BRA 50) and Wojtek Brzozowski (POL 10) will want to do better tomorrow if they are to maintain position or push for top place.

The schedule for the following days - 3 races on Saturday; followed by 2 on Sunday, when the racing will be covered live on TV, including the prize giving and podium straight from the finish of last race.

[Photos - Day Three](#)

Days One & Two

A day of mixed fortunes for many, but no complaints today from local hero Gabriel Browne (BRA 50) who leads the Fortaleza Grand Prix after 7 races.



A first and two seconds was more than enough to clinch top spot for "Biel" on **day one** when so many of the top ranked racers were having a day to forget, including reigning world champion Steve Allen (AUS 0)! Also winning races were Wojtek Brozowski (POL 10) and Wilhelm Schurmann (BRA 999) - but, winning titles is all about consistency. Wilhelm showed once again he has that quality; and Alberto Menegatti (ITA 4) must also be content knowing that at last he is proving, with consistent results, his true potential.

Four races on day two and 3 different winners - AUS 0, ITA 4 and BRA 3333.

World Champion Steve Allen seemed to be having a better day - with 2 firsts and a fourth, but then spoiled it with an OCS in the last race of the day! The pattern - 3 good races and one not so good - was repeated by each of the top 4 riders. However the major beneficiary of the 2 discards kicking in today was Wojtek Brzozowski who moved up the ranking into second place, separated from event leader Gabriel Browne by the tie break system.

Yet another tie break separates third and fourth - Alberto Menegatti keeping his place ahead of Steve Allen.

A very consistent performance keeps Wilhelm Schurmann (BRA 999) in contention for a podium finish; meanwhile strong wind specialist Paul Dos Reis (BRA 3333) at last hit form with a first place in the final race of the day.

[Photos - day two](#)

Wind Brasil - organised in association with ABWS - <http://www.windbrasil.com/>

