



## Let's go



The J80 European championship has actually started. We'll have to wait till Sunday for a training race which will take place before the opening ceremony with official personalities, but crews and volunteers are already hard at work.

The first boats arrived in Saint-Cast last Friday for mast fitting and launching. These operations will go on up to 7 pm this Saturday.

Ashore, under the tents of European village, crews get their participants' kits including polo shirts, water bottles, flags, dodgers before submitting the official proceedings : sails rating, weighing (each crew must weigh less than 350 kg or around 840 lb).

Volunteers are also hard at work : catering, boat reception and trailer management, welcoming of the competitors, operating the giant screen on the podium...

## On Sunday

The J80 European championship will be officially inaugurated on Sunday 3 July.

The competitors will first race in a training run from 3 pm. First exhibition for the public !

At 6 pm, the local traditional band Bagad Salicornes will march on the port with pipes, drums and local bombardes (sort of typical Breton clarinet).

The official opening ceremony will start at 7 pm with many personalities representing the local institutions and the world of sailing.

## The volunteers of the day



**Marie-Luce and René-Paul (sandwiches).**

Each day throughout the week of the Europeans a hundred volunteers will be at work. Marie-Luce et René-Paul started the job on Saturday morning. Their mission : preparing the sandwiches for the other volunteers.

“I read an announcement in the town magazine and I didn’t hesitate to answer “yes””, Marie-Luce says. René-Paul is a member of the local boaters association. “I’m here to help the organizers because we’ll all know that it is difficult to find volunteers at the present time. And I hope to meet some good people !”

“Good luck to all the competitors !”, Marie-Luce declares.

## France has solid ambitions



**From left to right : Philippe Michel, Damien Fleury, Simon Bertheau, Simon Moriceau, Hugo Abeguile, Vincent Guillarm.**

Will France succeed Spain on the highest step of the European podium on Friday July 8 ? The three most competitive French teams are coached by a dedicated national technical advisor from the Fédération française de voile (FFV).

“Through the Spi Ouest France and The Grand prix de l’Ecole navale, the French fédération of sailing has decided to back the three best French teams. The goal is to claim the titles”, explains the coach, Philippe Michel. “French J80 teams are usually on the podium but it’s years since one climbed onto the highest step. We have here a good opportunity.”

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