

# ILCA World Championship



2017 LIGHTNING WORLDS, MASTERS AND SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS  
Salinas, ECUADOR, November 17-25 ©Manuel Medir/SalinasYachtClub



## November 25

- The breeze is lighter than it has been the rest of the event, building to 6kts right now as the sun is peaking out. All is set for an on time start for the final day of racing.



Our intrepid reporter and ILCA class president Todd Wake is on station, along with the signal boat. 10 minutes to the start, 4 legs, 270 degrees. Breeze still hovering around 6 knots.

- The start of R8 is in sequence, and will be under P flag. Breeze up closer to 8 knots.
- General recall in the first attempt at starting R8. Next start should be under U flag.
- Start of R8 take 2: Another general recall. Next start will be either U or Black flag. Not sure which yet. Photo is from before the start; pin end was very early. Now under AP to move the pin.



- Third attempt at the start of R8: Breeze up to 8.9 knots, line has been lengthened, U flag once again. Course dimensions remain unchanged.
- Another general recall. Onto the fourth attempt. For those of you who remember Houston 2012, somebody “goosed the moose.” Next attempt under black flag, we are in sequence.



- Fourth try at starting R8: Breeze up to 10.1 kts, boats are over.



- R8M1: A number of boats were BFD but RC will not disclose numbers at this time. They will be scored in Yachtscoring. These positions are just boat on boat, not accounting for who was over and who was not.
  1. Justin Coplan (USA)
  2. Patricio Fuentes (CHI)
  3. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  4. Dave Starck (USA)
  5. Victor Lobos (CHI)
- R8M2: Charlie red
  1. Patricio Fuentes (CHI)
  2. Justin Coplan (USA)
  3. Dave Starck (USA)
  4. Jeff Linton (USA)
  5. Raul Rios (PUR)
  6. Nick Sertl (USA)
- R8M3:
  1. Javier Conte (ARG)
  2. Justin Coplan (USA)
  3. Nick Sertl(USA)
  4. Natho Fuentes (CHI)
  5. Raul Rios (PUR)
- Fourth try at starting R8: Breeze up to 10.1 kts, boats are over.
  1. R9 in sequence, breeze up a little, P flag, 5 legger.
  2. Start of R9: General Recall.
  3. Take 2: U flag this time, breeze still around 10. Fleet is jumpy.
  4. Race 9 is started. Clear.
- Finish R8: A number of teams were BFD: this will be reflected in Yachtscoring.
  1. Javier Conte (ARG)
  2. Nick Sertl (USA)
  3. Justin Coplan (USA)
  4. Dave Starck (USA)
  5. Raul Rios (PUR)
  6. Felipe Robles (CHI)
  7. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  8. Patricio Fuentes (CHI)
  9. Victor Lobos (CHI)
  10. Claudio Biekarck (BRA)
  11. Gustavo Tamayo (COL)
  12. Jonathan Martinetti (ECU)
  13. Nico Fracchia (ARG)
  14. Mark Sertl (USA)
  15. Billy Martin (USA)



- R9M1:

1. Conte
2. Goldman
3. N Sertl
4. Beckmann
5. Rios

- R9M2:

1. Josh Goldman (USA)
2. Javier Conte (ARG)
3. Nick Sertl (USA)
4. Marvin Beckmann (USA)



*Team Conte wins race 9 and the 2017 ILCA World Championship!*

## CONTE TAKES HUGE WIN

Javier Conte and his team of Julio Alsogaray and Paula Salerno put on one of the most dominant performances in Lightning Class History. The Argentinian team, with their victory, became the first team since Tom Allen, in 1961 (the year of the inception of the ILCA World Championship) to hold the titles of North American, South American, and World Champions in the same year. The trio is a newly formed team, but not short on top level racing experience, with Conte holding an Olympic medal, and the team having 6 Olympic Games raced in all.

Conte and his team won 6 of the 9 races of the series, also scoring two threes, and discarding an OCS, a blemish from their first race of the series. The newly crowned champions started conservatively, using their speed and tactical experience to work through the fleet.

The young American team of Nick Sertl, sailing with John Mastrandrea and Dylan Farrell scored consistently in the top group and finished the event with only 40 points. Sertl and his team have been sailing together for years and showed consistently good starts and an ability stay out of trouble to notch five scores in the top three.

Snipe World Champion and former college sailor of the year candidate Raul Rios came in third, and with his new team of Sebastian Higuera and Nicolas Deeb, the Puerto Riquen team sailed to third place. Rios benefited from an ILCA outreach program designed to incentivize fleet growth in nations with little to no Lightning sailing; Rios sailed with a boat and set of sails that were new to him, and still found great success.

The Argentinian team follows Geoff Becker in winning the ILCA World Championship, and looks forward to their bid for gold at the Lima 2019 Pan-Am games. The South American championship, which Conte and his team won earlier this past week, served as the first country qualifier for the Lightning Class at this event, and Conte punched Argentina's ticket in an effort to defend fellow countryman Nico Fracchia's gold medal in the Lightning Class from Toronto 2015.

Salinas Yacht Club, the Ecuadorian Sailing Federation, and event chair Paco Sola did a spectacular job in their management, organization, and execution of this two week string of events. The next ILCA World championship will be held in 2019 in Finland, while the location of the 2018 South Americans is not yet determined.



*Your top 3 teams at the Lightning World Championship—Teams Conte, Sertl and Rios*

**November 24**



- 3 races coming today in champagne conditions! This is what Salinas is all about! 3 races on tap, RC at the course, and a throwout ready to come into play
- R5 is set to start at 1:00 EST. 4 legs at 270 degrees. RC is on station1. R9 in sequence, breeze up a little, P flag, 5 legger.
- 5 minutes to the start, class flag is up, and the first attempt will be under P flag. The RC is reading a very precise 8.37 knots of wind.



- Start R5: Breeze up to slightly over 10 kts. ALL clear and an awesome start for MacDonald (CAN)

- R5M1:
  1. Javier Conte (ARG)
  2. Nick Sertl (USA)
  3. Ched Proctor (USA)
  4. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  5. Mark Sertl (USA)
  6. Natho Fuentes (CHI)



- R5M2:
  1. Javier Conte (ARG)
  2. Nick Sertl (USA)
  3. Ched Proctor (USA)
  4. Mark Sertl (USA)
  5. Julio Velez (ECU)
  6. Jeff Linton (USA)
  7. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  8. Tom Allen (USA)



- R5M3:
  1. Javier Conte (ARG)
  2. Nick Sertl (USA)
  3. Ched Proctor (USA)
  4. Jeff Linton (USA)
  5. Julio Velez (ECU)

- Finish Race 5!
  1. Javier Conte (ARG)
  2. Ched Proctor (USA)
  3. Nick Sertl (USA)
  4. Jeff Linton (USA)
  5. Julio Velez (ECU)
  6. Daniel Mendoza (PER)
  7. Mark Sertl (USA)
  8. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  9. Rafael Quintero (ECU)
  10. Raul Rios (PUR)
  11. Natho Fuentes (CHI)
  12. Cristobal Perezn (CHI)
  13. Tom Allen (USA)
  14. Jeff Coppens (USA)
  15. Josh Goldman (USA)



Regatta contenders Justin Coplan, Billy Martin, Dave Starck, and Tito Gonzalez are deep in this one.

- Update on R6: Orange flag is up, the course is set, and Charlie Proctor would like everyone to know that they should go to Tufts University. This one is under P flag.



- R6M1: Conte is in third, but is UFD
  1. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  2. Nick Sertl (USA)
  3. Josh Goldman (USA)
  4. Jeff Linton (USA)
  5. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
  6. Victor Lobos (CHI)
  7. Dave Starck (USA)
  8. Peru 14478
  9. Nico Fracchia (ECU)
  10. Paula Douat (COL)
- R6M2
  1. Javier Conte (ARG) UFD
  2. Nick Sertl (USA)
  3. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  4. Josh Goldman (USA)
  5. Julio Velez (ECU)
  6. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
  7. Jeff Linton (USA)
  8. Natho Fuentes (CHI) UFD
  9. Felipe Robles (CHI)
  10. Nico Fracchia (ARG)
- R6M3:
  1. Javier Conte (ARG) UFD
  2. Nick Sertl (USA)
  3. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  4. Natho Fuentes (CHI) UFD
  5. Josh Goldman (USA)



- Finish of race 6!
  1. Javier Conte (ARG) UFD
  2. Nick Sertl (USA)
  3. Josh Goldman (USA)
  4. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  5. Natho Fuentes (CHI) UFD
  6. Julio Velez (ECU)
  7. Cristobal Perez (CHI)
  8. Felipe Robles (CHI)
  9. Raul Rios (PUR)
  10. David Starck (USA)
  11. Jeff Linton (USA)
  12. Claudio Biekarck (BRA)
  13. Ched Proctor (USA)
  14. Nico Fracchia (ARG)
  15. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)



- Start of race 6 TAKE TWO: UFD: Carlos Lecaro (ECU), Javier Conte (ARG), Natho Fuentes (CHI).
- Start of R7: We are in sequence, and the RC is wasting no time in going straight to the U flag for the prep signal1. Javier Conte (ARG).
- Start of R7: Breeze hovering around 10 knots. All clear.



• R7M1:

1. Tito Gonzalez
2. Javier Conte (ARG)
3. Juan Santos (ECU)
4. Dave Starck (USA)
5. Ched Proctor (USA)
6. Justin Coplan (USA)

• R7M2:

1. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
2. Javier Conte (ARG)
3. Dave Starck (USA)
4. Ched Proctor (USA)
5. Justin Coplan (USA)

- Finish of Race 7! Done for the day! Chaos at the finish, not sure of the number of 8, a huge gaggle after 11 and tough to tell who got who.

1. Javier Conte (ARG)
2. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
3. Ched Proctor (USA)
4. Juan Santos (ECU)
5. Raul Rios (PUR)
6. Dave Starck (USA)

R7M3:

1. Javier Conte (ARG)
2. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
3. Juan Santos (ECU)
4. Ched Proctor (USA)
5. Dave Starck (USA)

R7M4:

1. Javier Conte (ARG)
2. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
3. Juan Santos (ECU)
4. Ched Proctor (USA)
5. Justin Coplan (USA)

7. Larry MacDonald (CAN)
- 8.
9. Tim Scanlon (USA)
10. Victor Lobos (CHI)
11. Justin Coplan (USA)



## November 23

- Happy Thanksgiving from Salinas, Ecuador. Here's a picture of the 5K Turkey Trot group. They ran from La Chocolatera to Salinas Yacht Club.



- It's time to get rrrrrrrready to rrrrrrrumble for day 2 of the ILCA Worlds in Salinas, ECU. Racing starts in less than a half hour, the RC is setting the course, and teams are arriving in the course area. Keep up with live tracking below!
  - \* Orange flag is up. RC on station. 4 legs, 260 degrees, 5-6 kts wind. The skies are a bit more clear than the past few days, but with this has come lighter winds. Approximately 9 min. to the start of race 3. First start will be P flag.
  - Half the fleet was over on the last start: led to the AP. Next start will be U FLAG. Class flag goes up within 20 seconds.
  - Another AP at 2 seconds to "go" in the second attempt at starting race 1. Many boats near the windward end of the line were over again, even with the U flag. The pin was moved up slightly. One more chance for the fleet with U flag.
  - R3M1:
    1. Gary Hurban (USA)
    2. Ched Proctor (USA)
    3. Billy Martin (USA)
    4. David Starck (USA)
    5. Javier Conte (ARG)
  - R3M2:
    1. Gary Hurban (USA)
    2. Ched Proctor (USA)
    3. David Starck (USA)
    4. Billy Martin (USA)
    5. Tim Scanlon (USA)
    6. Javier Conte (ARG)
    7. Justin Coplan (USA)
  - 8. Mark Sertl (USA)
  - 9. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  - 10. Jeff Linton (USA)
- Regatta leader Raul Rios is deep after a tough first beat.
- R3M3: The breeze has built slightly, now 9-10. The sun has largely gone away and the groundhog day conditions are returning, just slightly later in the day than normal.
1. David Starck (USA)
  2. Ched Proctor (USA)
  3. Javier Conte (ARG)
  4. Gary Hurban (USA)
  5. Billy Martin (USA)
  6. Justin Coplan (USA)

- Finish of Race 3! Breeze has built to 10-11, a few whitecaps are starting to show up. By my mental math, Ched Proctor now has the regatta lead over Starck, who should not be in second.
  1. David Starck (USA)
  2. Ched Proctor (USA)
  3. Javier Conte (ARG)
  4. John Goldman (USA)
  5. Gary Hurban (USA)
  6. Billy Martin (USA)
  7. Justin Coplan (USA)
  8. Jeff Linton (USA)
  9. Mark Sertl (USA)
  10. Daniel Mendoza (PER)
- The start of race 4 will be under P flag, despite the fleet's jumpiness in the last attempts. 5 legs, 230 degrees.
- Start of R4: All clear, breeze up to 13 knots.



- R4M1: Breeze is up to 14, course lengthened a few meters
  1. Justin Coplan (USA)
  2. Carlos Lecaro (ECU)
  3. Billy Martin (USA)
  4. Tim Scanlon (USA)
  5. Javier Conte (ARG)
  5. Tim Scanlon (USA)
  6. Juan Santos (ECU)
  7. Felipe Robler (CHI)
  8. Ched Proctor (USA)
  9. Raul Rios (PUR)
  10. Larry MacDonald (USA)
- R4M2
  1. Justin Coplan (USA)
  2. Billy Martin (USA)
  3. Carlos Lecaro (ECU)
  4. Tim Scanlon (USA)
  5. Jonathan Martinetti (ECU)
- R3M4:
  1. Billy Martin (USA)
  2. Justin Coplan (USA)
  3. Javier Conte (ARG)
  4. Carlos Lecaro (ECU)
- R4M4:
  1. Billy Martin (USA)
  2. Justin Coplan (USA)
  3. Javier Conte (ARG)
  4. Carlos Lecaro (ECU)
  5. Tim Scanlon (USA)

- Finish Race 4: The race committee has been notified of a number of protests, and apparently the phrase “latin passion” held true at the first gate mark. These will be filed and posted on Yachtscoring, along with preliminary results.

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Billy Martin (USA)  | 8. Nick Sertl (USA)       |
| 2. Justin Coplan (USA) | 9. Olaf Dyck (ECU)        |
| 3. Javier Conte (ARG)  | 10. Cristobal Perez (CHI) |
| 4. Tim Scanlon (USA)   | 11. Ched Proctor (USA)    |
| 5. Carlos Locera (ECU) | 12. Raul Rios (PUR)       |
| 6. Juan Santos (ECU)   | 13. Josh Goldman (USA)    |
| 7. Mark Sertl (USA)    | 14. Daniel Mendoza (PER)  |

- **Masters Champion Proctor Leads Worlds**



International Masters' Champion Ched Proctor continued his reign of consistency to grab the lead at the 2017 Lightning World Championship. Proctor and his team of son Charlie and longtime crew Meredith Killion opened the day with a 2, being beat by only 2013 World Champion David Starck with an all star team of Ian Jones, and wife Jody Starck.

Longtime Lightning sailor Gary Hurban found the lead around mark 1, and held on to the gates, but after Starck split at the gate and found pressure and shift on the right side, both Hurban and Proctor were passed.

The sailors faced challenging 5-6 knot breezes with minimal oscillations to start the first race, but as the day went on, the breeze built to 12-14 knots, settling in to a direction of 230 degrees.

In the second race, Justin Coplan with Bill Wiggins and Danielle Prior worked their way up the middle of the course to lead at the first mark, but the young team of Billy Martin, Janel Zarkowsky, and Isabelle Ruiz de Luzuriaga ground down Coplan and passed him to lead around the third and fourth marks, as well as at the finish.

It was Javier Conte, however, who won the day, scoring a 3 in each race. While Conte is scoring an OCS right now, when a throwout comes into play, he will shoot up the leaderboard.

But, for now, Nick Sertl with John Mastrandrea and Dylan Farrell kept all of their scores in the top 11 to move into second, two points back of the much more senior team Proctor. Dave Starck, after winning the first race today, moved into third, seven points back of the lead.

Three races are scheduled for tomorrow, leaving the final two for Saturday. A throwout comes into effect after 6, so positions may become jumbled after racing tomorrow. The championship is still anybody's game and forecasted conditions for tomorrow should allow for more steady, fair, and top-level racing. Stay tuned to ILCA Media channels and tractrac to keep up with the racing as it happens!

- Yes, there was turkey, pie and football in Salinas!



## November 22

- It's Groundhog Day again in Salinas as we get ready for the first day of the World Championship. We are hoping for the sun to peek through but overcast skies and a moderate Southwest wind are likely. The undulating breeze and chop are a great test of skill. Will Javier Conte continue his dominance or will the arrival of David Starck change the game? Stay tuned for updates.
- Boats are heading to the course for a 1:30 start of race 1.



- Individual recall boats 38, 67 and 57: Martin (USA), Conte (ARG) and Ruhlman (USA). Only 57 returned to restart.



- Positions at R1M1:
  1. N Sertl (USA)
  2. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
  3. Billy Martin (USA) BUT is OCS
  4. Raul Rios (PUR)
  5. Javier Conte (ARG) is OCS
  6. Larry MacDonald (CAN)
  7. Claudio Biekarck (BRA)

- R1M2: the first gate
  1. Nick Sertl (USA) (Left gate)
  2. Billy Martin (USA) OCS (Right)
  3. Tito Gonzalez (CHI) (Right)
  4. Javier Conte (ARG) (Right)
  5. Claudio Biekarck (BRA)(Right)
  6. Raul Rios (PUR) (Left)

Most of the fleet headed left. The two OCS boats in the top group are throwing a monkey-wrench into things.

- Race 1 Finish
  1. Nick Sertl (USA)
  2. Raul Rios (PUR)
  3. Cristobal Perez (CHI)
  4. Juan Santos (ECU)
  5. Marvin Beckmann (USA)
  6. Claudio Biekarck (BRA)
  7. Javier Conte (ARG) OCS

UPDATE: 14947 has major equipment issue, potentially centerboard jam, could not round the gate and are still sailing downwind.

- Positions at R1M3:
 

It is a NEISA heavy top mark, with New England college sailors taking the top two spots! Nick Sertl has a substantial lead around the windward mark.

  1. Nick Sertl (USA) Harvard with crew from Brown & Harvard
  2. Raul Rios (PUR) Boston College
  3. Julio Velez (ECU)
  4. Cristobal Perez (CHI)
  5. Claudio Biekarck (BRA)
  6. Javier Conte (ARG) OCS
  7. Billy Martin (USA) OCS

8. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
9. David Starck (USA)
10. Ched Proctor (USA)
11. Larry MacDonald (CAN)
12. Billy Martin (USA) OCS
13. Sebastian Herrera (ECU)
14. Tom Allen (USA)



- The second race of the day will be 5 legs at 250 degrees. Slightly more breeze than the last one.

- R2M1:

Breeze is down to an average of 9.2 kts on the signal boat

1. Raul Rios (PUR)
2. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
3. Ched Proctor (USA)
4. Javier Conte (ARG)
5. Julio Velez (ECU)

- R2M3

1. Javier Conte (ARG)
2. Raul Rios (PUR)
3. Cristobal Perez
4. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
5. Ched Proctor (USA)
6. Julio Velez (ECU)
7. Paula Daouat (COL)
8. Nick Sertl (USA)
9. David Starck (USA)
10. Marvin Beckmann (USA)

- R2M2:

1. Raul Rios (PUR)
2. Javier Conte (ARG)
3. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
4. Ched Proctor (USA)
5. Cristobal Perez (CHI)

- R2M4

1. Javier Conte (ARG)
2. Raul Rios (PUR)
3. Cristobal Perez (CHI)
4. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)

5/6 TIED @opposite gates: Ched Proctor and Julio Velez

- Finish of Race 2!

1. Javier Conte (ARG)
2. Raul Rios (PUR)
3. Cristobal Perez (CHI)
4. Tito Gonzalez (CHI)
5. Ched Proctor (USA)
6. Julio Velez (ECU)
7. Paula Daout (COL)
8. David Starck (USA)
9. John Goldman (USA)
10. Nick Sertl (USA)
11. Marvin Beckmann
12. Alfredo Ochoa (ECU)
13. Billy Martin (USA)
14. Daniel Mendoza (PER)
15. Mark Sertl (USA)





## Rios Grabs Early Lead at Lightning Worlds

11/22/2017: "Groundhog day" overcast skies and 10-12 knot winds greeted the fleet at the 2017 Lightning World Championship, and Puerto Rico's Raul Rios sailing with Sebastian Higuera and Nicolas Deeb mastered consistency and speed to score a 2,2 on the opening day to take the lead over Chile's Cristobal Perez with Alfred Sherman and Alejandro Bacot.

In race one, the young team of Nick Sertl with John Mastrandrea and Farrell used conservative tactics to play the middle-left and take a lead at the top mark, which they would not relinquish the rest of the way around the course. Rios and team clawed at Sertl but could not get around him. South American Champion Javier Conte had a strong finish, but had his score wiped out due to an OCS.

Conte took race two, however, after passing Rios on the second beat. The pair started next to each other, with Rios slightly bow out and fast enough to force Conte to tack early. Rios followed to the right and ended up with a lead at the top mark and held steady through the run, but the experience of Conte and his team led to a pass. While Rios could not stay ahead of the Argentines, he held on to take a second, completing the top scoreline of the day.

Cristobal Perez and team closely followed Rios, as the Chileans scored a 3,3 to be in a tight second. Nick Sertl finished tenth in the second race, and with eleven points on the day, rounds out the top three.

Racing will continue at 1:30 EST tomorrow with races 3 and 4 scheduled. Stay tuned to ILCA media channels and live tracking to keep up with the racing as it happens!



- After the first day of sailing its time for some BBQ and music!

