

PRESS RELEASE

The International 420 Class Open European Championships, organised by the Turkish Sailing Federation and hosted by the Istanbul Sailing Club, will be held at the Kalamış facilities of the Istanbul Sailing Club.

In addition to successful sailors from Europe, participants from New Zealand and Argentina will also compete in the championship, which will host 130 boats from 15 countries.

Nazlı İmre, president of the Sailing Federation, held a press conference at the Kalamış facilities of the Istanbul Sailing Club on the 24th of July, 2007, and provided some information about the championship.



Also attending the press conference were Nino Shmueli, President of the International 420 Class, Erol Türkmen, president of the Istanbul Sailing Club, and sailor, Kemal Muslubaş, who will represent Turkey at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Nazlı İmre noted that the championship was the first large event to be held in Turkey for the 420 class, and added, "We will organise the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship at the Heybeliada Naval School in 2010. While Istanbul is preparing for the Olympics, we have completed our preparations. We are waiting for other sports and the city of Istanbul to become ready."

Nino Shmueli, provided information about the class and noted that this class the best two-person dinghy for youth sailors.

Shmueli clarified the schedule and said that qualification races will be held between open boats on the first two days of the competition. Open boats will be divided into gold and silver fleets according to their qualification rankings, and will continue the

competition separately. Meanwhile, there will be no qualification races for female boats, who will complete the event with two races each day.

Kemal Muslubaş, who will represent Turkey in the Laser class at the 2008 Olympic Games, spoke about the championship in general, and then added the following for eligibility for the Olympic games: "The Istanbul Sailing Club, with the support of the Turkish Sailing Federation, has always been at the forefront of Olympic sailing. We have begun to reap the fruits of this support with our Olympic eligibility that we achieved during the interval from the 2004 Athens Olympics to the 2008 Beijing Olympics."

The International 420 European Sailing Championship will end on Thursday, August 2nd