

Marie Fauré

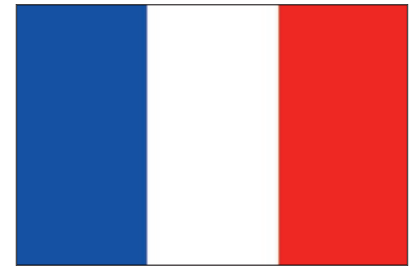
Cécile Basquin

Marine Boulaire

Marine Charon

World
Rank

6



FRANCE



Skipper:
Marie Fauré, 32, is a boats and sails trader.

Team members all hail from the South of France (Antibes, Nice, Hyeres, and Marseille), and train in Antibes where Club Nautique supports them.



Jib & Spinnaker:
Cécile Basquin, 28, is a PhD student in biology.

Marie and Cécile have sailed together successfully for several years, having won the Grade 1 match racing event in Antibes in 2002 and 2003; finished second in the Trentino Match Race in 2002 and sixth in 2003; were second at the Rolex Osprey Cup in 2001 and fourth in 2002; fifth at the 2002 Santa Maria Cup and ninth in 2003. They sailed together in the ISAF Women's Match Racing Worlds and Europeans for the first time in 2003, finishing seventh and fifth, respectively.

Marine previously sailed with another French team which is currently not involved in match racing, and has come aboard to replace Marie's previous bow who is racing the legendary Transat 6.50 (single-handed, France to Brazil in a 21-foot boat) this year. Emmanuelle, once a professional fun boarder, was "discovered" and hired to sail a 470 campaign, and most recently has been competing in Ynglings.

Marine has sailed three years in a pre-Olympic campaign in 470s before sailing keelboats. She has won the J/24 European Championship and the 1997 Idea Lewis Yacht Club Championship in 1997. She also finished 5th in the 1997 Rolex International Women's Keelboat Championship.

To save budget, the team spent last winter in Europe, sailing as many Open Grade 3 events as possible, against mostly male teams. "No matter about points, we wanted to match other people," Marie says. "But we didn't think that all the professional AC crews were back from Auckland on the match race circuit ... so it has been hard for our state of mind sometimes, and also for the results, although very interesting. But instead of being down in the dumps, we decided to be confident in this option. Let's see now if it was a good one.



Bow:
Marine Boulaire, 24, is a PhD student in mathematics.

Marine Charon, 32, is a teacher.