

## Comunicado Dia 9 ACC 06-08-09

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Español:

Comenzaron los men to men en el Arica Chilean Challenge

Una jornada llena de emociones y muy buen talento nos entregaron los mejores riders del mundo. La competencia inició a eso de las 8 de la mañana con el duelo entre el australiano Tom Rigby y el brasileño Rene Xavier quién se llevó la manga por un estrecho 1.33. En esta manga el joven australiano tuvo una pequeña cuota de mala suerte al perder sus aletas, lo que perjudicó su actuación por unos momentos.

En la siguiente manga entraron al agua el defensor del título de campeón mundial Uri Valadao quién no pudo ante un intrépida y espectacular performance del hawaiano Jeff Hubbard quién obtuvo el primer 10 de la jornada con un espectacular ARS el cual lo elevó un poco más de un metro por sobre el agua.

Magno Opassos de Brasil fue quien se llevó el heat 3 con un 15.50 por sobre el australiano Brad Hughes con maniobras de la talla de rollos y tubos perfectos. La siguiente manga fue una de las más reñidas y espectaculares de la jornada, el sudafricano Mark McCarthy iba ganando su manga hasta el último minuto hasta que Dave Hubbard con un impresionante invert air obtuvo 7 puntos lo que relegó al sudafricano a la segunda posición impidiéndole avanzar a la siguiente etapa.

La manga4 no fue muy reñida entre los competidores Pierre Louis Costes quien no pudo superar a Amaury Laverhne de islas la unión, que se la llevó con un puntaje de 17.50.

Luego de este heat vino uno de los más esperados de la jornada, Ben Player (AUS), 2 veces campeón mundial, ante la leyenda viva de este deporte Mike Steward (HAW), 9 veces campeón del tour mundial IBA quién se la llevó con un estrecho margen de 1.1, a pesar de las excelentes maniobras del Australiano. Esta manga estuvo marcada por los excelentes tubos y rollos del hawaiano, además de la constancia, factor muy importante dentro de este deporte.

La siguiente manga estuvo marcada por mucho talento y mucho sentimiento, debido a que se enfrentaron el actual campeón del ACC Guilherme Tamega, con Francirley Ferreira, quien ha tenido el apoyo de Tamega desde el inicio de su carrera, siendo una especie de padrino para él. La manga se la llevó el experimentado defensor del título por un amplio margen de 11.16 puntos.

La jornada finalizó con la presentación del Australiano Dave Winchester quien superó a Iván Hernández de las islas canarias con un 17.50 ante un 14.50 respectivamente. Luego de esto, lo habitual, un freesurf acompañado de buena música para el agrado del público presente que hoy bordeó las 600 personas.

Mañana comienzan los cuartos de final, donde se espera un lleno total y una ola de gran tamaño para finalizar este campeonato, el más importante del año para el mundo bodyboard.

English:

Huge Action at "El Gringo"

It was big day today at the ACC heading into Round 7. A drama filled morning went down starting with Tomas (mini rig) Rigby doing battle with another young gun from Brazil Rene Xavier. From the start it looked like Rigby would take the heat with a solid invert to open up followed by a good roll on a separate wave. But with time winding down Rene Xavier was able to find a big ARS bowl to move ahead by 1.32 leaving Rigby needing to improve his back up score. Tomas found a lip (big section) and went for a progressive back flip where a air roll may have gotten him the score he needed and since he did not complete Rene Xavier remained in position for the win. Tomas ended up losing his fins after the back flip, getting back out just before the time ran out he was never able to get another score. We want to congratulate both our young hero's of the event (great bodyboarding from the new generation).

Next up was Round 7 Heat 2 with Uri Valadao(Brazil) and Jeff Hubbard (HI). Current World Champ Uri opened up with a big score on a medium size set wave. He gained a high 8.9 average with a big invert to roll on the inside. Jeff answered back with a barrel to invert which he gained a 9.17 for setting the pace. Some how Jeff made it back into the line up to gain priority before Uri who was left inside after the rollo. Jeff found a second score in what is being called the biggest invert ever done in a contest giving Jeff the edge with the first 10 point ride of the day. After this it was a chase on Uri's side with Jeff surfing waves when in priority to avoid Uri using these high scoring waves to possibly get back in the game with a needed 10 and combo 9.18 to move ahead. Uri found a decent barrel on a left but while paddling back out he lost his board duck diving. With 5 mins left all the was between Jeff and the win was time as he continued to boost and ride barrels with scores not even being read as they were irrelevant to the heat situation even though 8's where being produced.

Magno O. Passos (BRA) took out Brad Hughes (AUS) in a much slower heat then the prior, using 2x rollo combos to continue on to the next round. Brad never found the waves in this slow heat to awnser back and the Magno was content to move into the quarter finals!

The Hubbards seemed to be on two opposite sides of the spectrum today with Jeff dominating his heat while Dave squeaked through in heat 4 of round 7 to Mark McCarthy (SAF). Mark opened up the heat with big rollos on the right while Dave had struggled to the 7 min mark not coming out of barrels and not landing a big air reverse attempt. It seemed hopeless for Dave until a decent left provided him a ramp for an invert which he landed for a 8.9. Needing a 5 or more to advance with two min left Dave paddle straight back out to the line up, waiting to the last 30 seconds to catch and inside wrapping right hander, Dave went straight to the lip boosted a invert into the flats which was enough for the score and to take out Mark at the buzzer.

Amaury Laverhne put his fellow Frenchmen in Combo - land for a good part of the heat with a 17.50. Pierre was on the move wearing a spring suit in the cold waters of Arica (normal people wear 4/3s). He would catch two waves to Amaury's one but the Juice was not worth the squeeze as Amaury's patience prevailed with two high scoring barrels against Pierre's high flying lip attach. In the last seconds of the heat Pierre hit a massive back flip on a 6ft right to get out of Combination and the two showed the world what French Bodyboarding is all about in a very exciting battle.

Mike Stewart was in true form against the amazing talent of Ben Player. Mike used his wave and heat strategy knowledge to find the best open barrels and keep Ben away from them. Mikes skill knowing where and when to be in position provided him some amazing tube rides to rolls. Ben even though surfing well never got the waves needed to produce a winning score count.

Guilhereme Tamega took out his Brazilian understudy Francirley Ferreira in heat 7 round 7. GT was in form with barrels to double rolls for high scores where Francirley Ferreira seemed tame and nervous as compared to prior heats. When surfing against you personal hero it may be hard to get the killer instinct that is needed to beat them so I think Francirley Ferreira will be back in the future to due battle against GT. Once he can get past the jitters of being the new Talent from Brazil under shadow of such a big presence that is 6x World Champion Guilherme Tamega he could be a Champion himself. Both riders came in smiling and did a joint interview as they are great friends in and out of the water.

Dave Winchester took down Canary Island Ivan Hernandez by finding inside sections in a heat that did not provide as many open barrels and in prior heats. Ivan did well finding barrels to rolls but Daves Back flip to Ars combo on the right and ARS, Spin to Roll on the left put him ahead by three point plus at days end!

More to come tomorrow with the quarter finals – Finals.

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