

5072 3/12/1994

Herbert tops in J22 yacht trial

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HERBERT Karolius won the Alitalia-sponsored International Yacht Racing Union Transvaal Group qualifying trials at Germiston's Victoria Lake Club, to pocket one of the oldest sailing trophies in the country, and to earn the right to represent his province in the J22 national championships in Durban early next year.

But there was consolation, too, for Alex Schon, beaten by Karolius in the three-race final of the riveting match racing series. In terms of provincial representation, Transvaal can have two at nationals — so Schon will also go to Durban.

The field that started out in search of honours included top sailors Paul Thompson, Ewald Sternagel, Philip Baum and Rob Willcox. In the semifinal series, Karolius beat Willcox and Schon beat Thompson.

The top ten on the J22 match racing ladder are:

1 Schon, 2 Sternagel, 3 Thompson, 4 Nik Baikoff, 5 Sigi von Bredow and Brent Haddock, 7 Karolius, 8 Robbie van Rooyen, 9 Richard Wiedehold, 10 Willcox.