

RACING

Raja Muda Regatta

Philippine boat, *Vida*, upstaged some of the more notable entries, in controversial circumstances, to capture the overall trophy of the 7th Raja Muda International Regatta in Langkawi,

Malaysia. In the process, it became the first Philippine boat to win an international regatta outside of Philippine waters. Race favourite *Millennium* of Australia took line honours, but had a protest against it upheld by Indonesian entry *Ruby Tuesday*, so handing the race to *Vida*.

The five-race series for the Raja Muda of Selangor Overall Trophy was contested by 76 yachts from 13 countries. The lengthy series included three distance races of over 60 miles each; Port Klang to Pangkor, Pangkor to Penang and Penang to Langkawi. *Millennium* managed a 1st and a 2nd, to ensure a close battle for the overall trophy right to the end. *Millennium* was the favoured boat in these short races due to its smaller size and manoeuvrability.

The smaller boats finally shone on this last day of course racing with *Jenny II* of Switzerland and *Chilli Padi* of Malaysia trading 2nd and 3rd positions. *Vida* scored two 4ths. *Millennium* initially won the regatta but still had to face the protest of *Ruby Tuesday* and the International Jury. The jury found that *Millennium* had, in their judgement, tacked too close to *Ruby Tuesday* and disqualified *Millennium* from the penultimate race, this being the only solution as *Millennium* had not done a 720-degree penalty turn following the incident. *Millennium*'s infraction gave *Vida* the

overall win with a 1-2-1-4-4 record in the five races against the favourite's 10-1-2-DSQ-1, with the throw-out considered.

San Miguel came to the aid of the regional regatta circuit by providing sponsorship after the withdrawal of TAG Heuer.