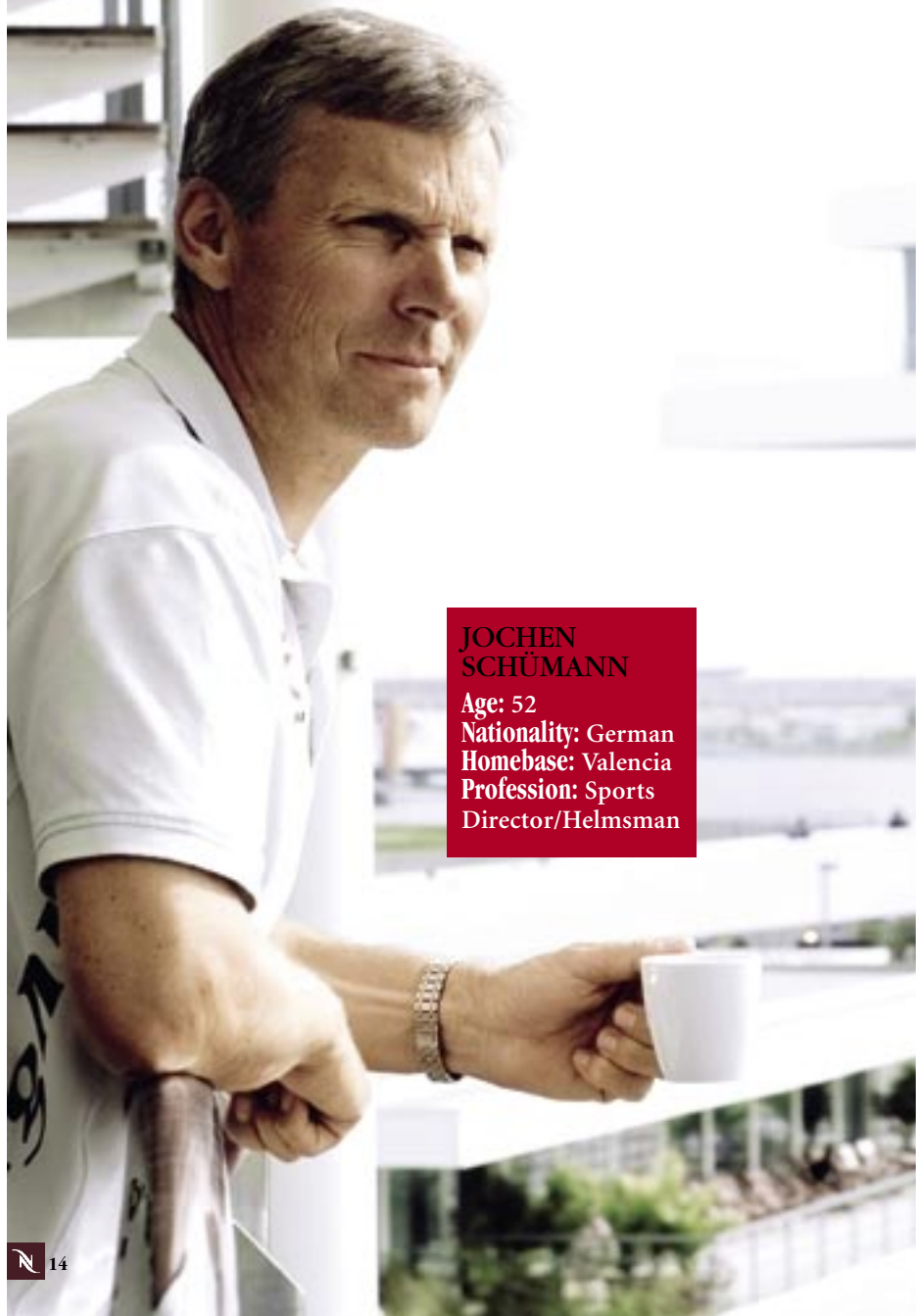


SOLO

CUP HOLDER

Five questions on the magic of the America's Cup, the secrets of sailing and moments of victory. Thirty answers from the Alinghi team, Winner and Defender of the America's Cup – powered by Nespresso, the Official Coffee of the 32nd America's Cup and Alinghi sponsor.



JOCHEN SCHÜMANN
Age: 52
Nationality: German
Homebase: Valencia
Profession: Sports Director/Helmsman

17 men on one boat – how can you be sure that everyone pulls together? What is your take on teamwork? Our team is bigger than a soccer team and with so many people on board everyone depends to a large extent on everyone else. The boat can't be sailed by one man alone, there is simply no place here for ego trips – you need to be a team player and that's that.

Saving weight is imperative on any America's Cup yacht. Do you bring anything personal on board? The weight is only important for the boat itself. The weight of the crew is specified at 1,570 kg, without clothes.

Why is the America's Cup routinely compared to Formula 1 racing? And what is your relation to high-tech equipment? The America's Cup is not only a sailing competition but also, long before actual sailing starts, a design competition, an engineering competition and a boatbuilding competition. I was in the boatbuilding and sailing ability group at school, this is how I came to sailing and this is how I came to take part in the actual construction of all my boats. That allows me to give our designers some useful feedback.

When do you find time for a good cup of coffee? Well, with Nespresso as our sponsor we are certainly well equipped! I use almost every break for a Cortado, even when we get back to shore late in the evening for our debrief meeting.

By now Valencia has become your second home. What's your favourite place to go for dinner? I'm not the type for going out; I go to have dinner with friends or they come over to our place.



PIERRE YVES JORAND
Age: 43
Nationality: Swiss
Homebase: Valencia
Profession: Coach

17 men on one boat – how can you be sure that everyone pulls together? What is your take on teamwork? When we go ashore in the evening it is important to go over the whole day we spent on board, to discuss everything from technical details to manoeuvres. It strengthens the team spirit.

Saving weight is imperative on any America's Cup yacht. Do you bring anything personal on board? As I am the coach, weight and space restrictions don't apply to me on my follow boat. I always carry my sunglasses and, in order to be able to observe the boat, the sails and also our competitors closely, no matter what the light is like, I always have several different pairs with me.

Why is the America's Cup routinely compared to Formula 1 racing? And what is your relation to high-tech equipment? They have one driver and 300 to 400 people working in the background to ensure success, we have 36 sailors and a comparable crew in the background. As a sailmaker by trade, I collaborate closely with the sail designers to get some extra speed out of the sails here and there.

When do you find time for a good cup of coffee? The time is always right for a good cup of coffee! I drink about five or six cups a day: when I read my emails, during briefings and when I return to shore.

By now Valencia has become your second home. What's your favourite place to go for dinner? When I am not out on the water I usually spend my time with my family and watch my daughters ride their horses.



17 men on one boat – how can you be sure that everyone pulls together? What is your take on teamwork? Right now there are 36 sailors training to try to win the Cup again. This mix of personalities, nationalities, and mentalities is something truly special.

Saving weight is imperative on any America's Cup yacht. Do you bring anything personal on board? Actually, I get by quite nicely with the standard equipment. The only personal thing I always carry is my watch.

Why is the America's Cup routinely compared to Formula 1 racing? And what is your relation to high-tech equipment? Well, on one side there are all the technicians, engineers and designers and on the other there are the sailors. Together they spend three years of hard work to give the yacht maximum speed exactly when it is needed. That is high-tech cooperation!

When do you find time for a good cup of coffee? For me there's only one cup of coffee a day, after lunch, but that one is indispensable. And if you only drink one cup a day it needs to be exactly the way you like it and in my case that is black with a little sugar.

By now Valencia has become your second home. What's your favourite place to go for dinner? My favourite place is the Casa Montaña, a Valencian restaurant by the port (www.emilianobodega.com). Mind you, there's no chance to get a table there without a reservation!

YANN GOUNIOT
Age: 44
Nationality: French
Homebase: Valencia
Profession: Trimmer



17 men on one boat – how can you be sure that everyone pulls together? What is your take on teamwork? Well, we all have the same target: defending the America's Cup! Everyone has a clearly defined position in this endeavour; that makes it not too difficult to coordinate the crew.

Saving weight is imperative on any America's Cup yacht. Do you bring anything personal on board? The boat itself is supposed to be as light as possible. As for the crew, we always attempt to put on weight, preferably in the form of muscles. Since I go ashore every evening, I don't really need to bring anything along.

Why is the America's Cup routinely compared to Formula 1 racing? And what is your relation to high-tech equipment? We have clear regulations. Within their limits we attempt to get the highest possible speed out of the boat, with all the technological means available. Apart from sailing I was also trained as a boatbuilder. Therefore I am constantly in touch with the shore team and, once we return from our training in the evening, we discuss what I observed onboard during the day so we can find ways to make the boat go even faster.

When do you find time for a good cup of coffee? After the morning fitness training I turn on my computer to check my emails and I treat myself to a double espresso, short, with a little sugar.

By now Valencia has become your second home. What's your favourite place to go for dinner? The beach. Whenever I'm not busy training with Alinghi I get my kite surf gear and head down to the beach to meet my friends.

YVES DETREY
Age: 28
Nationality: Swiss
Homebase: Valencia
Profession: Pitman



17 men on one boat – how can you be sure that everyone pulls together? What is your take on teamwork? On a yacht that big with such a strong a crew not everything can always work perfectly. It is therefore essential for everybody to always be alert, to look ahead and to lend a hand whenever necessary.

Saving weight is imperative on any America's Cup yacht. Do you bring anything personal on board? I'm quite well-equipped; I don't really need anything special, besides we are always striving to keep the boat as light as possible.

Why is the America's Cup routinely compared to Formula 1 racing? And what is your relation to high-tech equipment? We are constantly trying to optimise everything. The grinders are especially concerned with optimising the winch systems, to find ways to make the winches both lighter and at the same time as strong and reliable as possible.

When do you find time for a good cup of coffee? I'm always looking forward to my coffee after I leave the gym. I tend to prefer a Cortado, an espresso with a little milk and sugar.

By now Valencia has become your second home. What's your favourite place to go for dinner? I prefer staying at home, actually. If I have enough time I invite a few friends over for a barbecue.

BRIAN SHARP

Age: 27
Nationality: American
Homebase: Valencia
Profession: Grinder



17 men on one boat – how can you be sure that everyone pulls together? What is your take on teamwork? When it comes to racing, there is no place for emotions, only perfection counts. That's why we train so much every day, to make sure the teamwork is perfect.

Saving weight is imperative on any America's Cup yacht. Do you bring anything personal on board? I always carry a knife. Things can get tangled up and quite suddenly there's a dangerous situation. When that happens, a quick cut may be the only thing that helps. We all know that, so I'm not the only one with a knife. I usually wear my wedding ring but not when I'm sailing, that would be too dangerous. I attach it to my watchband.

Why is the America's Cup routinely compared to Formula 1 racing? And what is your relation to high-tech equipment? To the naked eye the various yachts are hard to tell apart. It's the many small technical details that decide whether you win or lose.

When do you find the time for a good cup of coffee? As soon as I get up in the morning I head for the Nespresso machine in the kitchen and make some coffee for my wife and myself. Early in the morning I prefer to add a shot of hot milk.

By now Valencia has become your second home. What's your favourite place to go for dinner? I love sushi. For my money, the best is to be had at Tastem (www.tastem.com). One of our friends from the BMW Oracle racing team is Japanese and knows the cook from back in Tokyo where he used to work in one of the city's best sushi restaurants.

MATT WELLING

Age: 36
Nationality: American
Homebase: Valencia
Profession: Grinder