



2016 ST BARTHS BUCKET

J CLASS

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

17 - 20 March, 2016

PART I ADMINISTRATIVE

1 BUCKET RACE OFFICE

The Bucket Race Office is located under the marquee at the quay in the port of Gustavia, with back office operations located upstairs at the Capitainerie:

Back Office	Open 0900, Wednesday, 16 March	0690 88 48 42
Race Office	Open 0900, Thursday, 17 March	0690 88 25 69

2 REGISTRATION

Yacht captains shall complete their regatta registration at the Bucket Race Office no later than 1030, Thursday, 17 March.

3 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY FORM

Disclaimer of Liability forms (see Exhibit 1) will be available at the Bucket Race Office. They shall be signed by all crew members and guests and returned prior to Thursday morning's pre-race briefing. Yachts which do not submit completed forms will not be scored. For any change in crew or guests during the regatta, the forms shall be updated to reflect new crew members or guests.

4 FFV LICENSES

French citizens sailing in the regatta shall hold a valid FFV Sailing License. Temporary Licenses may be obtained from the organizer. Please contact Bucket Regattas in advance or the race office on-site to obtain a license.

5 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. Bucket Events SAS, the Organizing Authority, sponsors, all other affiliated organizations and individuals, will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta. See RRS 4.

6 INSURANCE

Each yacht shall maintain €5,000,000 in liability insurance. Each yacht captain and owner shall certify that all crew aboard, both professional and amateur, are properly insured against all liabilities and injuries incurred while participating in this regatta.

7 TRANSITING TO AND FROM THE RACE COURSE

Yachts shall use the harbor channel when transiting to and from the race course each day, leaving Gros Ilets to port when departing the harbor and to starboard when returning. Yachts shall not transit through the anchorage between Gros Ilets and Les Saintes. Please adhere to the three knot speed limit in the harbor.

8 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located under the marquee at the port of Gustavia quay and posted on the St Barths Bucket website.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, 16 March

- 1730 – 1845 SuperYacht Racing Association (SYRA)
Annual General Meeting (Salle de Théâtre)

THURSDAY, 17 March

- 0900 – 1000 Racing Rules and Appendix SY Review (Salle de Théâtre)
0900 – 1700 Race Office Open / Registration at the Bucket Marquee (BMQ)
J Class Registration to be completed by 1030
0930 – 0945 J Class Captains' Briefing for Thursday W/L Race (BMQ)
1200 J Class Race
1700 – 1730 Captains' Briefing / J Class Daily Award Presentation (BMQ)
Mandatory for Captain, RRS-Safety Afterguard Member and Racing Tactician
1730 Bucket Bar Open (BMQ)
1900 – 2100 Fleet Welcoming Party (BMQ)
Cocktails / Hors d'Oeuvres / Music
1900 – 2100 Owners' Reception - Invitation Only (*Location TBA*)

FRIDAY, 18 March

- 0800 – 1800 Race Office Open (BMQ)
Media Registration / Declaration Form and GPS tracker drop-off post racing
0830 – 0900 Pre-Race Briefing (BMQ - Stage)
Mandatory for Captain, RRS-Safety Afterguard Member and Racing Tactician
1100 First Signal – Race 1 (Race 2 for the J Class)
1830 – 2030 Post-Race Social (BMQ)
1900 – 1910 Daily Awards Presentation (BMQ)

SATURDAY, 19 March

- 0800 – 1800 Race Office Open (BMQ)
Media Registration / Declaration Form and GPS tracker drop-off post racing
0830 – 0900 Pre-race Briefing (BMQ - Stage)
Mandatory for Captain, RRS-Safety Afterguard Member and Racing Tactician
1100 First Signal – Race 2 (Race 3 for the J Class)
1900 – 1910 Daily Awards Presentation (BMQ)
1900 – 2030 Yacht Hop (BMQ)
1900 – 2300 Bucket Bash (Hôtel de la Collectivité – across the harbor)
2300 – 0200 Bucket Afterhours Bash (The First-Yacht Club – across the harbor)

SUNDAY, 20 March

- 0800 – 1800 Media Registration / Declaration Form, GPS and
Pantaenius Laser Rangefinder drop-off post racing
0830 – 0900 Pre-race Briefing (BMQ - Stage)
Mandatory for Captain, RRS-Safety Afterguard Member and Racing Tactician
1100 First Signal – Race 3 (Race 4 for the J Class)
1830 – 2100 Final Awards Ceremony and Bucket Celebration (Hôtel de la Collectivité)

The Organizing Authority and Race Committee reserve the right to modify the above schedule depending on weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances



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SAILING INSTRUCTIONS – Part II
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The Pursuit fleet, racing under the RRS and Appendix SY, will start and most likely finish after the J Class. The J Class will not use Appendix SY in their fleet. However, if a yacht in the J Class meets a yacht in the Pursuit fleet, the Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by Appendix SY will apply. All J Class yachts shall monitor the Bucket Regatta VHF Safety Channel at all times while racing and adhere to Safety Channel protocol found in SI 21.2 and 21.3.

PART II RACING RULES AND CONDITIONS

1 THE RULES

The regatta will be governed by:

- a) The rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* for 2013-2016 (RRS);
- b) RRS Appendix SY, but ONLY when a J Class yacht meets a Pursuit fleet yacht;
- c) The J Class Association Rating Rule;
- d) The prescriptions of the Fédération Française de Voile (FFV);
- e) The safety requirements designated by the yacht's flag state, classification society and/or code of compliance, except when they conflict with a class rule;
- f) Applicable local maritime authority rules and regulations.

If there is a conflict between languages, the English text will take precedence.

Note: RRS 55 (trash disposal) will be in effect. Disposable sail stops for spinnakers are not allowed.

2 AMENDMENTS AND NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board, located under the event marquee on the quay.
- 2.2 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board no later than 0900 on the day the amendment takes effect, except that changes to the program will be posted by 2000 on the day before the change takes effect.
- 2.3 In accordance with RRS 90.2(c), changes to the sailing instructions may be made on the water by hail on the race committee channel (VHF 72). The race committee will display flag L with one sound before making the announcement.
- 2.4 The race committee will broadcast its intent for the day's racing on the race committee channel at 1000 daily.

3 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from a flagpole located at the event marquee.

4 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1 Four races are scheduled, one for each day from Thursday, 17 March through Sunday, 20 March. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 4.2 The start time for the J Class is scheduled for 1205 on Thursday and 1105 Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The official time for the St Barths Bucket will be Atlantic Standard Time (AST).

5 CLASSES AND CLASS FLAGS

- 5.1 The Bucket Fleet will be separated into six classes; the J Class, Les Gazelles des Mers, Les Elegantes des Mers, Les Femmes des Mers, Les Mademoiselles des Mers and Les Grandes Dames des Mers. A list of yachts, by class, will be posted on the event website and on the official notice board by Wednesday, 16 March.
- 5.2 For all racing except for Thursday, 17 March, the J Class will start first followed by the Pursuit fleet. The intent is for the J Class to finish first.
- 5.3 The J Class yachts will display the J Class flag while racing.

6 RRS-SAFETY AFTERGUARD MEMBER COMPLIANCE

- 6.1 Each yacht shall ensure that at least one afterguard member is active with *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and has a thorough understanding of the RRS and of Appendix SY.
- 6.2 The Captain will designate a Communications Officer who will monitor and communicate on the VHF safety channel. It is recommended that this individual have experience with radio protocol and experience with and an understanding of the RRS and Appendix SY.
- 6.3 The Captain will determine what crew position the RRS-Safety Afterguard Member assumes (tactician, helmsman, navigator, strategist, etc.). The designated RRS-Safety Afterguard Member may assume the position of Communications Officer.
- 6.4 The RRS-Safety Afterguard Member shall attend all pre-race briefings and shall be responsible for ensuring the Daily Declaration Form and portable GPS tracking unit are returned to the race office as soon as practicable following racing each day, but no later than two hours after finishing.

7 BRIEFINGS

- 7.1 The J Class pre-regatta Captains' Briefing will be held at 0930, Thursday, 17 March at the event marquee. Attendance is mandatory for the Captain, designated RRS-Safety Afterguard Member and Tactician.
- 7.2 The Pursuit fleet pre-regatta Captains' Briefing will be held at 1700, Thursday, 17 March at the event marquee. The King's Hundred Guinea Cup will be presented to the winner of Thursday's J Class windward/leeward race at 1700.
- 7.3 A mandatory briefing each racing day, Friday – Sunday, will be held at 0830 at the event marquee. The race course, starting sequence options, weather and any safety issues will be addressed. Daily Declaration Forms and GPS tracker units will be distributed. The Captain is excused from the morning pre-race briefing if their yacht is scheduled to depart the dock prior to 0930.
- 7.4 Yachts will be notified via VHF and mobile telephone if there is a post-race safety meeting as a result of incidents on the racecourse. Attendance at any post-race safety meeting is mandatory for Captains, RRS-Safety Afterguard Members and Tacticians.

8 DAILY DECLARATION FORM, GPS TRACKER and RANGEFINDERS

- 8.1 Each yacht's RRS-Safety Afterguard Member shall complete a Daily Declaration Form (Exhibit 2). The completed form shall be delivered to the race office within two hours of the yacht's finish.
- 8.2 Prior to arriving in the starting area, GPS tracker units shall be attached to each yacht in accordance with the GPS Tracker Instructions (see Exhibit 3). The GPS tracker shall be returned to the race office as soon as practicable after racing, but no later than two hours after each yacht finishes racing.
- 8.3 The GPS unit will track the yacht's course each day. Tracking will be live and available for replay after racing, providing an approximate record of course sailed and proximity to other yachts. The race committee will have a comprehensive record of every crossing, rounding or passing situation and be able to monitor the 40 meter minimum separation when Appendix SY applies.
- 8.4 All yachts will be issued two Pantaenius Laser Rangefinders to be used by the crew to determine distance between yachts (see Exhibit 4). Rangefinders shall be returned to the race office along with the GPS tracker on Sunday following the racing that day.

9 USE OF ENGINES AND THRUSTERS

- 9.1 For safety reasons, yachts are encouraged to run their engines in neutral at any time during the race. Engines may be put into gear and thrusters may be used at any time during the race for a yacht to avoid a collision. Breaches of SI 9 will not be grounds for protest by a yacht. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 9.2 A yacht that puts her engine in gear or uses her thruster while racing shall submit a written declaration of "engine use" to the race office as soon as practicable after racing, stating the time the engine was in gear or thruster was used, the reason for use, the duration of use and any potential competitive advantage gained. The race committee and jury will review all declarations on engine and thruster use to determine whether use was appropriate and if there was competitive gain.

10 RACING AREA / START LOCATION

Racing will take place in the vicinity of St Barthélemy and its adjoining islands. A chart showing the racing area is Imray-Iolaire #A 241. The rendezvous location for racing will be just outside Gustavia Harbor entrance. The race committee signal boat will be located SSW of Les Saintes for racing Friday - Sunday.

11 TURNING MARKS, BUOYS AND COURSES

- 11.1 Exhibit 6 shows a list of the marks of the course, which includes islands, rocks, yellow flashing-light buoys (marking nature reserves), inflatable marks, and their approximate locations.
- 11.2 Inflatable marks will be large orange or yellow tetrahedrons.
- 11.3 The race committee's intent is to provide the J Class with a windward/leeward course on Thursday, 17 March. Specifics regarding the race course will be broadcast on the race committee VHF channel.
- 11.4 The diagrams and course descriptions in Exhibit 6 show the courses for racing Friday-Sunday (18 – 20 March), including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. The written course descriptions take precedence over the course diagrams.
- 11.5 RRS 34 (b), regarding 'Mark Missing; Race Committee Absent', is deleted and replaced with:
 - (b) substitute a GPS position which will be announced on the race committee channel. Yachts shall pass on the required side and shall record the time they passed this GPS position on the Daily Declaration Form.

12 THE RACE COMMITTEE BOATS

- 12.1 The race committee signal boat (starting & finishing line) will be the 47m Burger motoryacht, *Ingot*.
- 12.2 Race committee mark boats will be identified by dark blue race committee flags.

13 THE START

- 13.1 The J Class scheduled start on Thursday, 17 March will be at 1205. The J Class will start first each day Friday – Sunday, 18 – 20 March with a conventional fleet start, scheduled at 1105. Races will be started using RRS 26.
- 13.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying a large orange flag on the race committee signal boat and the course side of a large orange inflatable tetrahedron.
- 13.3 A yellow inflatable tetrahedron will be laid near the race committee signal boat as an inner limit mark (ILM). Yachts shall start between the orange tetrahedron and the yellow tetrahedron ILM. The yellow tetrahedron ILM is a mark of the course but may not be on the starting line.
- 13.4 The starting area will extend 200 metres on either side of the starting line and 400 meters on the pre-start side of the line. Yachts that are not within 5 minutes of their individual starting time shall stay clear of the starting area.
- 13.5 The race committee will announce any postponement on the race committee VHF channel.

14 RECALLS

The race committee will attempt to identify recalled boats by broadcast over the race committee VHF channel. Failure of a boat to hear her recall notification and the timing and order of such hails will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

15 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

A course change for any leg of the race will be signaled by a race committee boat, displaying flag C, in the vicinity of the last rounding mark. The change will be signaled before the leading yacht in class has begun the leg. The race committee will broadcast any course changes over the race committee VHF channel. This changes RRS 33.

16 THE FINISH

- 16.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a large orange flag on the race committee signal boat (in the same approximate location as the start) and the course side of a large orange inflatable tetrahedron.
- 16.2 A yellow inflatable tetrahedron will be laid near the race committee signal boat as an inner limit mark (ILM). Yachts shall finish between the orange tetrahedron and the yellow tetrahedron ILM. The yellow tetrahedron ILM is a mark of the course but may not be on the finish line.
- 16.3 A sound signal will be made for each finishing yacht.

- 16.4 Time Limit: Yachts failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first yacht in class sails the course and finishes will be scored points for the finishing place equal to the number of yachts that finished that race plus 1. This changes RRS 35 and A4.

17 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 17.1 The Organizing Authority will take a proactive stance on enforcing the rules of the regatta, safety and sportsmanship. Safe racing is the responsibility of everyone involved in the St Barths Bucket. The level of sportsmanship in this event has set a standard in superyacht racing and the race committee fully expects the same level of mutual respect between competitors at all Bucket regattas. It is incumbent upon all competitors to abide by the rules and play a role in rule enforcement and safe racing by using the penalty system and protest procedures outlined here in SI sections 17 and 18.
- 17.2 The first two sentences of RRS 44.1 are changed to: 'A yacht may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or RRS 31 while racing.' Yachts shall declare any penalties on their daily Declaration Form at the race office prior to the end of protest time.
- 17.3 Penalties applied under RRS 64 for breaches of the rules, other than a rule of RRS Parts 1 or 2, may be less than disqualification at the discretion of the jury.
- 17.4 If the Organizing Authority receives corroborative or substantiated reports of a yacht being handled in any unsafe or unsportsmanlike manner, invitations to future Bucket Regattas may be withheld.

18 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 18.1 The notice of race and these sailing instructions send the implicit message that the focus is on safety and prudent seamanship, not competitive advantage. They reinforce the fact that Bucket Regattas are congenial racing events.
- 18.2 Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered there within the protest time limit. The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last yacht in class finishes.
- 18.3 Schedule of hearings will be posted on the official notice board within 30 minutes of the protest time limit.
- 18.4 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
- (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
 - (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.
- This changes RRS 66.
- 18.5 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a jury decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.

19 SCORING

- 19.1 Yachts will be scored based on the JCA handicap. The race committee will determine and announce the wind speed and course configuration for scoring purposes on the last leg of the course.
- 19.2 The Low Point System, RRS Appendix A will apply. No score will be excluded.
- 19.3 Decisions concerning course selection and wind strength used for scoring are the responsibility of the race committee and shall not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.

20 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- 20.1 The yacht's man-overboard procedure should be practiced aboard each yacht at least once by the crew racing in the regatta prior to the first race of the series.
- 20.2 In the event of a man-overboard during a race, the yacht with a man overboard should attempt to recover the man immediately. In the interest of safety, a yacht can call on the assistance of a rescue craft (yacht tender, race committee boat, etc.) for immediate assistance. Whether the man overboard is transferred back to the racing yacht or taken ashore will be at the discretion of the yacht captain. When a yacht receives assistance recovering a crew, she shall complete a 360 degree turn before continuing in the race. This changes RRS 47.2."
- 20.3 A yacht that retires from a race shall notify the race committee by hailing or on the race committee channel before leaving the race area, or by calling the race office as soon as practicable.
- 20.4 Crewmembers of all yachts are encouraged to read and follow the regatta's emergency procedures (Exhibit 5).

21 COMMUNICATION (VHF RADIO / MOBILE PHONES / AIS)

- 21.1 The race committee will use VHF 72 for communication. All yachts shall monitor this channel from the time they approach the starting area until departing the finishing area following the race.
- 21.2 The Bridge-to-Bridge Safety Channel is VHF 17. All yachts shall maintain an active radio watch on VHF 17 from their approach to the starting area until departing the finish area following the race. Yachts hailed by a pursuit class yacht shall respond in a timely fashion. This channel should be used in close quarters to assist with collision avoidance, determining the other yacht's intentions, and resolving any confusion. If VHF 17 is congested, yachts may use the race committee channel for safety related communication.
- 21.3 The alternative to VHF radio will be mobile phone communications. All yachts will be provided with a list of mobile phone numbers for each yacht's Captain, RRS-Safety Afterguard Member and Communications Officer. Telephone communication is strongly encouraged when Safety VHF 17 and VHF 72 are in use.
- 21.4 Yachts shall operate Automatic Identification System (AIS) transponders at all times while afloat and off moorings. AIS equipment shall not be removed from the yacht prior to racing. AIS assists in maintaining safe separation between yachts and collision avoidance and will be utilized by the TracTrac system when GPRS signals are out of range.
- 21.5 All yachts are required to perform a radio check and receive acknowledgement from the race committee on the Safety Channel within 30 minutes of their start.

22 SUPPORT BOATS

- 22.1 All J Class support boats must register at the Race Office prior to the start of racing on Thursday, 17 March. Support boats shall conspicuously display the sail numbers of the boats they are servicing.
- 22.2 Media, support and spectator boats shall monitor the race committee VHF channel, shall stay clear of the starting area and shall not interfere in any way with boats racing or with the race committee.

23 AWARDS

- 23.1 Daily awards for first place in each class will be presented following racing that day (at the event marquee on Thursday, Friday and Saturday) and at the final awards ceremony venue (Hôtel de la Collectivité) on Sunday. The King's Hundred Guinea Cup will be awarded to the J Class winner of Thursday's windward/leeward race at the event marquee just prior to the pursuit fleet's pre-regatta Captain's Briefing.
- 23.2 Series awards for first, second and third place in the pursuit classes, first and second place in the J Class, and the Overall Bucket Winner will be presented on Sunday, 20 March at the final awards ceremony. The criteria for the Overall Bucket Winner will be posted on the event website prior to 15 March.
- 23.3 There will be special trophies awarded for meritorious acts, yacht handling and other notable behavior on Sunday, 20 March.

24 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. The Organizing Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury nor death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after the regatta.

25 BOTTOM LINE

The rules outlined in these instructions constitute a comprehensive set of racing and safety rules. The purpose of the rules is to encourage fair competition, good sportsmanship and absolute collision avoidance. All competitors agree to be bound by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

Copies of all exhibits are available at the race office and in the Captain's Packages.

- Exhibit 1 Disclaimer of Liability and Crew List
- Exhibit 2 Daily Declaration Form
- Exhibit 3 GPS Tracker Instructions
- Exhibit 4 Pantaenius Rangefinder Instructions
- Exhibit 5 On-Water Emergency Procedures
- Exhibit 6 Marks of the Course and Courses