

NOTICE OF RACE

2016

RORC CARIBBEAN

600

Monday 22nd February 2016



Organised by the **Royal Ocean Racing Club**
in association with the **Antigua Yacht Club**



“This is the first race for us but we are definitely coming back, the course is just awesome and the event is the best organised regatta in the Caribbean.” **Bill Coates, Otra Vez, 1st in IRC One 2015**

“The race is pretty special –the highlight for us was the reach back from Desirade, screaming along under the A3 - that was amazing. It’s a great place and the course was designed for sailors, pushing the boats and crews. We’ll definitely be back again.” **Nick Cherry, Redshift, 1st in IRC Three 2015**





DEFINITIONS

Class

The term *Class* includes IRC, CSA and MOCRA rating systems.

Closing Date

Monday 16th February 2015 is the date after which a late entry fee is charged.

Competitor

A *Competitor* is any sailor competing in the race.

Documents Page

Can be found at <http://remus.rorc.org/documents/>

High Points System

The yachts are ranked in order of points scored. Highest points score wins.

Emergency Contact

Is the person to be informed in case of emergency. The nominated *Emergency Contact* must be available to contact for the duration of the race and cannot be a *Competitor* in the race.

REMUS

The RORC online entry system at <http://remus.rorc.org/>

RORC Crew Management System (RCMS)

The RORC System for completing Offshore Crewlists.

TERMINOLOGY

A term used in the sense stated in the definitions is printed in italics (for example *Class*).

A sidebar and red colour indicates a significant change for 2015



ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organising Authority is the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) in association with the Antigua Yacht Club.

1 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Date/Time (local)	Event	
Monday 1st April 2015	Entry Opens	http://remus.rorc.org/
Monday 15th February 2016	<i>Closing Date</i>	
Friday 19th February – 1200	Yachts are required to be in attendance in Falmouth/English Harbour	Falmouth/English Harbour
Saturday 20th February – 1830	Skippers Briefing	Antigua Yacht Club
Saturday 20th February – 1830	Opening Party	Antigua Yacht Club
Monday 22nd February - 1050	First Warning Signal	
Friday 26th February – 1900	Prizegiving	Antigua Yacht Club

2 RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 English Law

This Notice of Race, and the terms of the contract created by the acceptance of a yacht's entry in any race or event governed by this Notice of Race, shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law. Any dispute which cannot be resolved under Part 5 of the Racing Rules of Sailing shall be referred to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts.

2.2 Racing Rules of Sailing

The rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2013-2016. (<http://www.sailing.org/documents/racing-rules.php>)

2.3 National Authority Prescriptions

The prescriptions of RYA will apply <http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/racingrules/Pages/the-rules.aspx> No other National Authority prescriptions shall apply.

2.4 Class Rules

The rules and regulations of appropriate One Design and/or restricted class rules, IRC Rules Parts A, B & C, CSA Rules and MOCRA Rules.

2.5 2015 - 2017 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations (OSR)

The ISAF Offshore Special Regulations, any amendments thereto for 2015, and RORC Prescriptions Category 3 plus Category 2 Liferaft, EPIRB and AIS Transponder.

When details of Special Regulations cannot be met the Committee may accept an alternative.

2.6 International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea

Except when changed in Sailing Instructions, the rules of RRS Part 2 shall not apply between the times of local sunset and local sunrise, and shall be replaced with the right-of-way rules of IRPCAS (International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea).

2.7 Pollution

RRS 55 is deleted. However competitors are reminded that the dumping of rubbish is prohibited by law.

Attention is also drawn to the ISAF Code of Environmentally Friendly Behaviour (www.sailing.org/about/environment/index.php)

2.8 Notice of Race

This Notice of Race and any amendments to the Notice of Race.

2.9 Sailing Instructions

Sailing Instructions will be issued to yachts that have met all of the entry requirements.

Succeeding items in the above list shall take precedence.

3 ADVERTISING

Yachts may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.

4 RESPONSIBILITY

4.1 The Person in Charge

Yacht racing can be dangerous. The attention of Persons in Charge is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone" and to Special Regulation 1.02.1 which begins: "The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Person in Charge...."

4.2 The RORC

The RORC, its sponsors and other organising clubs, accept no responsibility or liability for loss of life or injury to members or others, or for the loss of, or damage to, any vessel or property.

4.3 Misconduct

The Person in Charge and crew will be held jointly responsible for the conduct of the yacht's crew before, during and after a race. Misconduct may result in both the Person in Charge and crew being excluded from future races and renders a yacht liable to disqualification.

4.4 Starting and Continuing to Race

The Race Committee will make starting signals unless in their opinion it is manifestly unsafe for any of the yachts entered to remain in the vicinity of the starting line. Each yacht shall exercise her responsibility under RRS Fundamental Rule 4 and decide whether or not to start or to continue to race.

4.5 Race Declaration(s)

No yacht will be accepted as an entry unless the Person in Charge has, before the start of the race, signed a declaration in the terms set out in NoR 16 below. The RORC reserves the right to require a signed declaration, in the terms set out in NoR 16 below, from each crewmember.

4.6 Safety and Life-Saving Equipment

Crew members' attention is drawn to RRS 1.2 life-saving equipment: "Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions."

A Lifejacket and Harness shall be worn when on deck:

- Between the hours of sunset and sunrise
- When alone on deck
- When reefed
- When the true wind speed is 25 knots or above
- When the visibility is less than 1 nautical mile

See also Special Regulation 5.02.

5 ELIGIBILITY – THE BOAT

5.1 Suitability

The race is open to seaworthy yachts which comply with the rules and regulations described in the Notice of Race and which are manned by an adequate number of experienced crew who are physically fit to face bad weather. The minimum crew on any monohull shall be three apart from as allowed under NoR 5.3.1.3 – Two-Handed Class. However, no person may race contrary to the terms of a ban imposed by the RORC, a National Authority or ISAF.

5.2 Boat Size

There is no maximum size for yachts in the RORC Caribbean 600. The minimum size for monohulls is determined by their rating, and their SSS/STIX numbers. The minimum size for multihulls is 9.15 metres/30ft (LOA) with a minimum MOCRA rating of 1.200.

The committee may make exceptions on application.

5.3 Divisions

5.3.1 IRC – Boats rating 1.004 and greater

IRC Rules Parts A, B, and C shall apply, except as varied below or in the Sailing Instructions.

5.3.1.1 IRC Rule 22.4.2 – Crew Numbers

IRC Rule 22.4.2 is deleted and replaced by „The maximum number of crew that may sail aboard a yacht shall be the number shown on the certificate. There is no weight limit.“

NOTE: The above provision overrides IRC Rule 22.4.1 in respect of One-Design classes. However a class may wish for its own purposes to apply its own crew limits of less than the IRC Certificate number. It is recommended that the Person in Charge consult their Class Association and the RORC.

5.3.1.2 IRC Rule 15

Automatic and wind-vane devices for steering may be carried but not used, except as in 5.3.1.3 Two-Handed Class. This amends IRC Rule 15 and RRS 52.

5.3.1.3 Two-Handed Class

A Two-Handed Class within IRC will be available in the RORC Caribbean 600 Race. Yachts will be eligible for both Two-Handed and IRC rating band class trophies. Automatic or wind-vane steering is permitted (changes IRC Rule 15 and RRS 52). Entries must satisfy the committee that they have suitable and adequate experience and that their yacht is appropriately prepared for two-handed sailing.

5.3.2 CSA - Boats rating 0.870 and greater

The RORC Caribbean 600 Race will be open to yachts with a Caribbean Sailing Association rating. Boats with a valid IRC Certificate and a valid CSA Certificate will be dual scored.

5.3.3 Multihulls – Boats rating 1.100 and greater

Offshore multihulls with endorsed MOCRA (Multihull Offshore Cruising and Racing Association) rating certificates may enter a multihull division of the race. For more information on MOCRA and to apply for a rating visit the MOCRA website (<http://www.mocra-sailing.co.uk/>). The minimum crew for multihulls is two. In two-handed multihulls wind vane steering is permitted. This changes RRS 52.

Open multihulls may race without any rating.

5.3.4 Level Racing

When at least six yachts from a class, which in itself races “level” and is recognised by the RORC, take part in the race, a class result may be provided. With prior permission from the RORC, certain classes may be allowed to race under class rules within RORC racing (e.g. Class40).

5.4 Classes and Class Flags

Class	TCC Range	Class Flag
IRC Canting Keel*	1.004 and greater	Pennant 9
IRC Zero	1.275 and greater	Pennant 0
IRC One	1.101 - 1.274	Pennant 1
IRC Two	1.051 - 1.100	Pennant 2
IRC Three	1.004 - 1.050	Pennant 3
Superyacht	IRC yachts of 101ft LOA and greater	Pennant 0
CSA	0.870 and greater	Pennant 6
MOCRA Multihulls	1.200 and greater	Pennant 8
Class40	n/a	Class insignia

* IRC Canting Keel is a separate class within IRC for yachts with canting keels.

The RORC reserves the right to amend the class splits in the light of 2016 data before the start of the race. When racing the appropriate class flag or flags shall be prominently displayed from a backstay, or at the stern on a yacht with no backstay.

5.5 Ratings, Rating and Class Certificates Deadline

Yachts shall hold valid rating/class certificate(s) on the *Closing Date*. Yachts racing under IRC are not required to submit a copy of their certificate to the RORC. Yachts holding other rating/class certificates shall submit a copy of their certificate(s) to the RORC by the *Closing Date*. Changes to ratings and class certificates will only be accepted after the *Closing Date* in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the RORC. Every yacht racing shall have on board a current valid signed copy of the rating and/or class certificate for the class or classes in which she is racing.

5.6 2016 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) and RORC Prescriptions

The race is Category 3 with Category 2 Liferaft, EPIRB and AIS Transponder.

The complete 2015 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations with RORC Prescriptions are available in the 2015 RORC Notice of Race - <http://www.rorc.org/2015-notice-of-race/2015-notice-of-race.html>. The OSR can also be found on the *Documents Page* where there are also extracts from the regulations which show what is required for a given Category.

Important Note: The ISAF Offshore Special Regulations may change following the 2015 ISAF Conference in November 2015. The 2016 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations will be published in the 2016 RORC Notice of Race.

5.6.1 OSR Compliance

Responsibility for compliance rests with the Person in Charge of the yacht. However the RORC will endeavour to help *Competitors* to understand the OSR and reserves the right to conduct an OSR inspection on any competitor’s yacht at any time.

5.6.2 Automatic Identification System (AIS)

Boats shall carry an AIS Transponder capable of transmitting and receiving throughout the race. *Competitors* shall use their best endeavours to ensure that their AIS Transponder is switched on (i.e. transmitting and receiving) throughout the race. *Competitors* shall ensure that the name of the boat is transmitted rather than just the MMSI number.

The Person in Charge shall, before the race, complete an OSR Checklist (available on the *Documents Page*).

6 STABILITY AND SAFETY INDICES

In accordance with OSR 3.04.3 the RORC uses minimum stability/buoyancy indices. For yachts competing under IRC either SSS or STIX and AVS indices are used depending on the series date of the yacht and the category of the race. Monohull yachts not racing under IRC shall satisfy the RORC that they meet the requirements of other stability indices for the category of the race.

In exceptional circumstances the RORC may accept other indicators as to the suitability of the yacht for the race.

6.1 SSS or STIX and AVS

Boats with series date of 2000 and later will be categorised under STIX only. Boats with series date before 2000 may be categorised under either STIX or SSS.



6.2 Minimum Permitted Values

OSR Category	Category 3
STIX minimum	23
AVS minimum	130-0.005*m
SSS minimum	15

More information about Safety and Stability Indices can be found at <http://www.icrating.org/>

7 ELIGIBILITY - COMPETITORS

7.1 Offshore Crewlist

An Offshore Crewlist complete with full *Emergency Contact* details shall be supplied to the RORC by means of the *RORC Crew Management System (RCMS)*. The Person in Charge shall invite the crew through the RCMS, those not already registered will be able to create an account, complete their details, including *Emergency Contact*, and accept the invite. The RORC will hold full details of each crew member and *Emergency Contact* for the race. In exceptional circumstances the RORC may accept receipt of the Offshore Crewlist by other means.

7.2 Training

It is recommended that crews should practice safety routines at reasonable intervals including the drill for man-overboard. See OSR Section 6 – Training.

7.3 First Aid Requirement

There are requirements for First Aid training in all Categories of Race see OSR 6.04 and 6.05.

8 RACE ENTRY

8.1 Entering the Race

Entry opens on Monday 1st April 2015.

A yacht shall enter the race using the *REMUS* online entry system and pay the appropriate entry fee before the *Closing Date*. In exceptional circumstances the RORC may accept an entry over the telephone. Submission of an Entry and payment of the fee will not guarantee a place in the race; all other entry requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of the RORC.

8.2 Payment

Before the *Closing Date*, Monday 15th February 2016, Payment shall be made by credit card (through the online entry system or by telephone) or may, when the entry fee is greater than £1000, be made by BACS transfer. To pay by BACS please contact the RORC for bank details.

In exceptional circumstances the RORC may accept other payment methods.

8.3 Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations before the *Closing Date* will be eligible for a refund of the race entry fee.

Cancellations after the *Closing Date* will be eligible for a refund of 50% of the race entry fee. This will be refunded to the credit card used for payment. For payments made by other means, refunds will be made against a written claim received no later than Monday 5th September 2016.

If the Person in Charge fails to notify the RORC of cancellation as described above he/she shall pay the full fee without refund unless good reason can be shown.

8.4 Standard Entry Fees – shown in £ Sterling

RORC Caribbean 600 2015		
LH (LOA) (m)	Non-Members	Members (Discount)
Below 9.00	309	216 (93)
9.01-9.99	365	255 (110)
10.00-10.99	422	295 (127)
11.00-11.99	509	356 (153)
12.00-12.99	587	410 (177)
13.00-13.99	762	533 (229)
14.00-14.99	901	630 (271)
15.00-15.99	1210	920 (290)
16.00-16.99	1601	1311 (290)
17.00-17.99	2085	1795 (290)
18.00-18.99	2811	2521 (290)
19.00-19.99	2950	2660 (290)
20.00-20.99	3095	2805 (290)
21.00-21.99	3259	2969 (290)
22.00-22.99	3399	3109 (290)
23.00-23.99	3543	3253 (290)
24.00-24.99	3687	3397 (290)
25.00-25.99	3852	3562 (290)



26.00-26.99	3996	3706 (290)
27.00-27.99	4135	3845 (290)
28.00-28.99	4274	3984 (290)
29.00-29.99	4445	4155 (290)
Member £142.00 per metre less £290 (members discount)		

8.5 Late Entry Fees

Entries after the *Closing Date*, and at least 48 hours before the start, may be accepted on payment of an additional sum of half the standard entry fee.

9 ATTENDANCE AND BERTHING

All boats are required to be berthed in English or Falmouth Harbours from 1200 on Friday 19th February 2016. Any boat that anticipates a problem being able to comply with this instruction will need to contact the Race Committee and request dispensation. Berthing is not included in the entry fee and should be organised by the competitor.

10 COURSE

York Island (P), Green Island (P), North Sails Inflatable Mark off Barbuda (P), Nevis (S), Saba (S), St Barths (P), St Maarten (S), Tintamarre (S), Guadeloupe (P), Les Saints (P), Les Desirade (P), North Sails Inflatable Mark off Barbuda (P), Redonda (P), Fort Charlotte Antigua and finish. Approximately 600 miles.

Please see “Figure 1 – The Course” below for an overview of the Course. Detailed instructions will be available in the Sailing Instructions and on the RORC Caribbean 600 Minisite (www.caribbean600.rorc.org).



Figure 1 – The Course

11 TRACKING

It will be mandatory for yachts to carry an Offshore Tracker unit for the RORC Caribbean 600 Race. The units are standalone and will be supplied by the RORC. The entry fee includes tracking.

12 PENALTIES

12.1 Taking a Penalty (RRS 44)

When the right-of-way rules of IRPCAS apply (between the hours of sunset and sunrise) a scoring penalty applies (RRS 44.3). The scoring penalty will be 10 minutes added to the boat’s corrected time for each penalty.

When a scoring penalty does not apply, a yacht may take a Two Turns Penalty for breaking a rule of RRS Part 2 or a One Turn Penalty when she may have broken RRS 31, as described in RRS 44.2.

12.2 Penalties for Infringements of Other Rules

Penalties for infringements of other rules will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

13 COMMUNICATION

A boat may, without infringing RRS 41, request and receive repetition of information broadcast by the Race Committee, or be told whether or not a broadcast has been made.

13.1 Weather and Tidal Information

Rule 41(c) is replaced by:

A boat shall not receive help from any outside source, except (c) help in the form of information which is freely available to all boats, which shall include navigational, weather, tide or current information from any source which is available to all boats whether or not by payment of a fee or subscription, but shall not include information gathered or the subject of interpretation by, or any advice received from, any source not on board the boat and which is specific to the boat and her situation.

By way of an example and interpretation, downloading charts, weather and/or tidal GRIB files from subscription services, or having such information passed to the boat in its pure form, is permitted **permitted but receiving messages or information which is the result of interpretation as it applies to the boat is not permitted.**



14 SCORING

14.1 Cox Sprague High Point Scoring

The scoring system will be the High Points System as detailed on the RORC Website:

<http://www.rorc.org/miscellaneous-documents/rorc-offshore-scoring-system.html>

RRS Appendix A is changed; paragraph A4 will not apply.

Points will be multiplied by the Points Factor of 1.4 when applied to the 2016 RORC Season's Points Championship.

A boat that is penalised under RRS 30.2 or that takes a penalty under RRS 44.3(a) shall be scored points as provided in RRS 44.3(c).

15 RACE TROPHIES AND PRIZES

The interpretation of the terms of award for all trophies and prizes will be made by the RORC Committee, whose decision is final. When no yacht qualifies to win a particular trophy the Race Committee may, at its discretion, award it otherwise.

15.1 Trophies

Line Honours Monohull
Line Honours Multihull
IRC Overall
IRC Classes
IRC Two-Handed Class
CSA Division
Multihull (MOCRA) Division
Superyacht Trophy
Spirit of Tradition Trophy
Mariella Classic Trophy
Bella Mente Trophy

15.2 Trophies

The Club holds the winners of trophies responsible for all damage or loss and strongly recommend that winners take out adequate insurance. Winners are responsible to get the trophy suitably engraved, and are also liable for all return carriage costs. If a trophy is returned not engraved the RORC reserves the right to charge the cost of the engraving to the winner. Trophies will be returned to the Club when requested by the Race Office.

15.2 Prizes

RORC medallions will be presented as prizes for each class and division.

16 RACE ENTRY DECLARATION

The Person in Charge for each race shall agree to the terms of the declaration below using *REMUS* the online entry system. In exceptional circumstances the RORC may accept a signed printed declaration.

Race Entry Form Declaration to be signed by every Person in Charge

To the best of my knowledge the information I have given is accurate. I understand that yacht racing can be dangerous. I agree that the RORC, organising clubs, the Rolex SA, the Rolex UK, other sponsors and their agents, have no responsibility for loss of life or injury to members or others, or for the loss of, or damage to any vessel or property. I have paid particular attention to and agree to be bound by Special Regulation 1.02 and I have read and understand and where appropriate agree to be bound by RORC NoR 4 Responsibility. Before racing I will effect adequate and suitable insurance. Before racing I will ensure that my crew is aware of:

- the undertaking in this Declaration
- the importance of effecting appropriate personal insurance
- their responsibility in rules observance, and in particular RRS 1.2 (wearing personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions). See also RORC Prescription to the Special Regulations 5.01.5

I agree to be bound by RRS, RYA Prescriptions, this Notice of Race, ISAF Offshore Special Regulations and other applicable rules. The yacht will be available for inspection. If any alteration likely to affect the handicap or rating is made, e.g. to sails, rig, mast, ballast, trim, engine or propeller, I will notify the Rating Authority and Race Committee immediately. I will ensure that no crew member races on my yacht contrary to the terms of any ban imposed by ISAF, or a National Authority or the RORC.

I understand and agree that the information given in this race entry and also the race entry lists and results will be maintained on the Club's computer to be used for all aspects of race organisation.

17 INSURANCE

Boats shall be adequately and suitably insured before racing.

RORC CONTACT DETAILS

RORC Race Office

The Disrespect, 82 High Street
Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 7AJ
Telephone: +44 (0) 1983 295144
Fax: +44 (0) 207 493 5252
Racing Email: racing@rorc.org
RORC Website: www.rorc.org
RORC Caribbean 600 Minisite: www.caribbean600.rorc.org

Race Office

(Tuesday 16th February to Friday 26th February 2016)
Antigua Yacht Club
English Harbour
Antigua, West Indies
Telephone: +1 (0) 268 460 1799
Fax: +44 (0) 207 493 5252
Racing Email: racing@rorc.org

Rating Office

Seahorse Building
Bath Road
Lymington, Hampshire SO41 3SE
Telephone: +44 (0) 1590 677030
Fax: +44 (0) 1590 679478
Email: info@rorcrating.com
Website: www.rorcrating.com

MOCRA Ratings

Website - www.mocra-sailing.co.uk
Commodore and Rating Secretary
Simon Forbes (simonforbes3@gmail.com)

CSA Ratings

Website - www.caribbean-sailing.com

Measurers - Antigua

Tony Maidment
maidment@candw.ag
Telephone: +1 (0) 268 463 0260
Mobile: +1 (0) 268 773 5598

Sandy Mair
sandym@candw.ag
Mobile: +1 (0) 268 464 1097

NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

(Notices are for information only and do not rank as part of this Notice of Race)

Immigration

Competitors arriving by yacht are responsible for clearing Immigration and Customs upon arrival in Antigua.
For the duration of the race itself, the RORC has an agreement with Antiguan Authorities to allow competitors to leave and come back to Antigua without the need to clear Customs and Immigration again. Before the start, Immigration forms must be completed and lodged with the RORC Race Office. Antiguan Customs and Immigration will hold these forms for the duration of the race.

Travel, Accommodation and Berthing

For travel, accommodation and berthing information, please see the Race Information pack on the RORC Caribbean 600 Minisite www.caribbean600.rorc.org.

Charter Opportunities

If you are interested in chartering a yacht for the race, you can find information of available yachts on the Race Website.

Berthing

Antigua Yacht Club Marina
Falmouth Harbour,
Antigua, West Indies
Telephone: +1268 460 1544
Fax: +1268 460 1444
Email: aycmarina@candw.ag

Catamaran Club
PO Box W2088,
Antigua, West Indies
Telephone: +1268 460 1503 / 1505
Fax: +1268 460 1506
Email: catamaranmarina@candw.ag

Falmouth Harbour
PO Box W792
Antigua, West Indies
Telephone: +1268 460 6054
Fax: +1268 460 6055
Email: falmar@candw.ag

Nelson's Dockyard Marina
Dockyard Drive
Antigua, West Indies
Telephone: +1 268 481-5033/5035
Email: info@nelsonsdockyardmarina.com

Photos by: **RORC/Tim Wright**/www.photoaction.com
and **Rachel Jaspersen/Team Phaedo**

Design/Layout by: **Kerstin Müller**





Royal Ocean Racing Club

London Clubhouse

20 St James's Place
London SW1A 1NN

Telephone: +44 (0) 207 518 3131

Fax: +44 (0) 207 493 5252

Racing Email: racing@rorc.org

RORC Website: www.rorc.org

RORC Caribbean 600 Minisite:
www.caribbean600.rorc.org



Antigua Yacht Club

Telephone: +1 (0) 268 460 1799

Fax: +1 (0) 268 460 1799

Email: yachtclub@candw.ag