



WWW.CARIBBEAN600.RORC.ORG

## 2023 RORC CARIBBEAN 600 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



ORGANISED BY THE ROYAL OCEAN RACING CLUB  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ANTIGUA YACHT CLUB

MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

FIRST WARNING SIGNAL 1050

ALL TIMES ARE LOCAL TIMES EXCEPT WHEN STATED OTHERWISE.  
POSITIONS ARE APPROXIMATE IN WGS84 DATUM



	Race Committee	Race Office Address	ABSAR
Start	Callsign "Ocean One" VHF Channel 06 (see also SI 13.2) Tel: +1 268 776 1222 Text/WhatsApp: +44 7825 007 035 Email: racing@rorc.org	Antigua Yacht Club English Harbour Antigua	Antigua and Barbuda Search and Rescue English Harbour Antigua Tel: +1 268 562 1234
Finish	As above	As above	As above

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Boats retiring from the race must immediately notify the Race Committee or ABSAR.**

Failure to comply may lead to exclusion from future RORC racing.

**THE ATTENTION OF EVERY PERSON IS DRAWN TO SPECIAL REGULATION 1.02 AND TO THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING SUITABLE AND ADEQUATE PERSONAL INSURANCE**

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.  
(RRS Fundamental Rule 3)**

[NP] Denotes that a breach of this rule will not be grounds for a Protest by a Boat,

[SP] Denotes a rule which a standard penalty may be applied by the Race Committee without a hearing.

[DP] Denotes a rule that the penalty for a breach of that rule may at the discretion of the Protest Committee, be less than disqualification.

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)
- 1.2 RRS part 2 rules will be replaced with the right-of-way rules of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) between the times of local sunset and sunrise.
- 1.3 RYA Prescriptions to the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.4 World Sailing's Offshore Special Regulations Category 3 with Category 2 liferaft(s) and EPIRB.
- 1.5 The rules and regulations of appropriate Class rules; IRC Rules Parts A, B & C; Class40, VO65, CSA and MOCRA Rules.
- 1.6 The Notice of Race.
- 1.7 The Sailing Instructions.

**Note: The Sailing Instructions shall take precedence over The Notice of Race, this changes RRS 63.7.**

### 2 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 2.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the rules and Sailing Instructions.

### 3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board at [www.caribbean600.rorc.org](http://www.caribbean600.rorc.org)

### 4 ADVERTISING [NP]

- 4.1 If required yachts shall display advertising supplied by the Organising Authority.
- 4.2 All yachts shall fly a RORC backstay flag. The backstay flag and sponsor flag/s shall be flown from the backstay or appropriately visible point near the back of boats without backstays, a minimum of 1.5 meters above the deck.

### 5 OFFSHORE TRACKERS

- 5.1 All boats will be provided with a YB Tracker that must be carried and turned on at all times.

- 5.2 Safekeeping of the YB tracker is the responsibility of the boat owner and must be returned to the race office upon completion of the race. Trackers lost, stolen or mislaid and not returned to the RORC will be charged at £800.

## 6 CLASS FLAGS

Class	TCC Range
IRC Super Zero	1.550 and greater
IRC Zero	1.175 – 1.549
IRC One	1.174 and below
Class40	
VO65 Class	
Multihull (MOCRA)	1.050 and greater
CSA (CSA rating only)	0.870 and greater

## 7 NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD (NP)

- 7.1 After leaving the dock to race, but not before 0900 and before starting, each boat shall send an SMS (text) / WhatsApp message to: +44 7825 007 035, using the declared onboard mobile. This message shall contain the boat name, sail number and the number of persons on board.
- 7.2 If the number of persons on board is less than that declared on SailRaceHQ ([www.sailracehq.com](http://www.sailracehq.com)) the full name(s) of the persons not on board shall also be included in the SMS message
- 7.3 A boat shall not sail with a crew member whose name and Emergency Contact details have not been lodged on the RORC entry portal.

## 8 STARTING TIMES AND SIGNALS

- 8.1 The race will be started by using RRS 26, with the warning signal being made 10 minutes before the starting signal.

### Proposed Starting Times

IRC 1 & CSA Warning Flag Numeral 2	IRC Z & Class 40 Warning Flag Numeral 1	IRC SZ & VO65 Warning Flag Numeral 0	Multihull Warning Flag Numeral 8	Event	Signals
1050	1100	1110	1120	Warning	Warning flag displayed
1056	1106	1116	1126	Preparatory	Preparatory flag displayed
1059	1109	1119	1129	One - minute	Preparatory flag removed
1100	1110	1120	1130	Start	Warning flag removed

**Note:** Boats racing under **CSA only** will start on the 1<sup>st</sup> Start.

## 9 STARTING LINE

- 9.1 The starting line is formed between an orange triangle on Fort Charlotte and an orange cylindrical Outer Distance Mark approximately 0.50nm south of Fort Charlotte. The Race Committee may adjust this position with reference to the wind direction on the day of the start. Fort Charlotte is at the eastern entrance to English Harbour above the Pillars of Hercules and below Shirley Heights.
- 9.2 A yellow cylindrical Inner Distance Mark, which is not on the starting line, may be laid.
- 9.3 Boats not yet racing shall stay clear of the Starting Area. Attention is drawn to RRS 24.

## 10 LATE AT THE START

- 10.1 If a boat which has not previously come to the starting area is not off her moorings at her preparatory signal and comes to the starting area under power or being towed, she shall stop her engine (or drop the tow) and complete a Two-Turns penalty as specified in RRS 44.2 before starting.
- 10.2 No penalty will be imposed for an infringement of RRS 42 whilst complying with Sailing Instruction 10.1. This changes RRS 42 and 45.
- 10.3 A boat starting later than 60 minutes after her starting signal shall notify the Race Committee before starting.

## 11 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1 A boat shall not enter an area designated as an Obstruction.
- 11.2 The following are designated as Obstructions:
  - 11.2.1 The 2-mile exclusion zone on the South West side of Montserrat.
  - 11.2.2 The exclusion zone off Terre de Bas (Iles de la Petit Terre) for a nature reserve defined by the 10m contour line and marked by buoys.

## 12 THE COURSE

- 12.1 The course is detailed in Appendix A

## 13 COMMUNICATIONS

- 13.1 The Race Committee may broadcast information on VHF Ch.06, Callsign "Ocean One".
- 13.2 Boats are reminded of their legal obligation to keep a continuous watch on VHF Ch.16.**
- 13.3 Boats are required to have their onboard mobile phone switched on at all times.
- 13.4 The Race Committee will inform a boat if it requires them to submit progress reports (i.e. in the event of tracker failure).
  - 13.4.1 When required, progress reports should be delivered by text message (+44 7825 007035) or email (racing@rorc.org).
  - 13.4.2 Progress reports should include:
    - Name of boat and Sail Number
    - Date/time/mark being rounded
    - Course and Speed over the Ground
    - Wind Direction and Speed
    - Names of any boats nearby
- 13.5 Inter-boat communication calls should when possible be on DSC or VHF Ch.16 as a calling channel and VHF Ch.06 as a working channel.
- 13.6 Boats with communications in addition to VHF should act as a link, taking other boats' reports on VHF and passing them to the Race Committee.

## 14 TIME LIMIT

- 14.1 There is no time limit for the race.

## 15 THE FINISH

- 15.1 All boats are requested to listen on VHF Ch.06 from 5 miles off and call "Ocean One" to assist with identification when 15 minutes from the finish
- 15.2 The Finishing Line will be formed between the flagstaff on Fort Charlotte and an orange cylindrical buoy which may have a flashing yellow light at night. The buoy will be in approximately the same position as the ODM at the start of the race, approximately 0.6nm south of Fort Charlotte.
- 15.3 To aid with identification, when finishing at night, boats are required to shine a spotlight on their sail numbers and call "Ocean One" on VHF Ch.06 immediately after finishing.
- 15.4 Boats are reminded to take their own finishing times together with the names of the boats ahead and astern, if any. Finishing times shall be delivered to the RORC as soon as possible using a Declaration Form.

## 16 RACE FINISH DECLARATIONS [NP]

- 16.1 After finishing or retiring, boats shall submit the online declaration at [www.sailracehq.com](http://www.sailracehq.com) and return the YB tracker as soon as possible, but **not later than 24 hours after the end of the race**. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the boat being excluded from the results.

- 16.2 When after a race a boat cannot promptly submit the online declaration she shall without delay telephone the Race Committee, confirm that she has finished racing and give her time of finishing. The YB tracker must also be returned.
- 16.3 Failure to return the YB tracker at the conclusion of the race will incur a £800 charge.

## 17 RETIREMENTS AND NON STARTERS

- 17.1 Retirements and non-starters must promptly inform the Race Committee or **ABSAR**. It is imperative that boats that are no longer competing can be excluded from any Search and Rescue operation. **Failure to comply with this rule may lead to disqualification or exclusion from future RORC racing.**

## 18 USE OF ENGINE

- 18.1 When a boat uses its engine, e.g. to avoid collision, in a grave emergency, or as per SI 19 Temporary Discontinuance of Racing, the facts shall be reported on her Declaration Form.

## 19 TEMPORARY DISCONTINUANCE OF RACING

- 19.1 If a boat temporarily stops racing, they shall immediately inform the Race Committee explaining the circumstances and their plan by text message (+44 7825 007035) or email (racing@rorc.org).
- 19.2 If a boat makes fast in order to take shelter or in an emergency, the crew may temporarily leave the boat to handle her moorings. If she uses her engine for propulsion she shall, on re-joining the race, return to the spot where she began to use her engine, turn off her engine and continue to race from that spot. She shall report the circumstances on her Declaration Form. This changes RRS 45 and 47.2.
- 19.3 A boat that is secured in harbour may receive any assistance to effect repairs or take on any supplies or equipment. This changes RRS 41 and 47.1.

## 20 PENALTY SYSTEM

### 20.1 Scoring Penalty:

- 20.1.1 When the right-of-way rules of IRPCAS apply (between the hours of local sunset and sunrise) a scoring penalty applies (RRS 44.3).
- 20.1.2 The scoring penalty will be 10 minutes added to the boat's elapsed time for each penalty.
- 20.1.3 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.

### 20.2 Standard Penalties:

- 20.2.1 The Standard Penalty is time penalty of 5%.
- 20.2.2 When at a boat's starting signal she is subject to RRS 29.1 Individual Recall and she fails to comply with RRS 29.1 to start correctly, the Race Committee shall, without a hearing, apply a penalty and she shall be deemed to have started correctly. This changes RRS63.1, RRS28.1 and A5. [SP]
- 20.2.3 For a breach of RRS 28 (Sailing the Course) the Race Committee shall, without a hearing, apply a penalty. This changes RRS63.1 and A5. [SP] [DP]
- 20.2.4 For a breach of any area designated an Obstruction the Race Committee may apply a penalty unless the breach was unavoidable, unintentional and no advantage was gained. This changes RRS63.1 & A5. [SP] [DP]
- 20.2.5 Should the Race Committee consider a standard penalty to be inappropriate, it shall protest the boat.
- 20.2.6 If, in a valid hearing brought by the Race Committee, or by another boat, a boat is found to have infringed RRS 28, 29.1 or Sailing Instruction 11, the penalty shall not be less than the standard penalty. [DP]

### 20.3 Grounds for Protest:

- 20.3.1 Breaches of SI marked [NP] will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1a. [NP]

### 20.4 Other Penalties:

- 20.4.1 When the Protest Committee decides that a boat, that is party to a protest hearing, has broken a rule other than RRS Part 1 and 2 and that no serious damage or injury was caused, and no significant advantage has been gained, the penalty shall be at the discretion of the Protest Committee. [DP]

## 21 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 21.1 Protests may be written on plain paper, but Protest forms are available at the Race Office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 21.2 The protest time limit is 3 hours after the protesting boat finishes.
- 21.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit for the last boat to finish the race.

- 21.4 The notification of a Protest by the Race or Protest Committee against a competitor as required under RRS 61.1(b) or (c) shall consist of a notice on the Official Notice Board.

## **22 SCORING**

- 22.1 The Scoring System for the race, defined in Notice of Race 14.1, will apply. The scoring system will be the High Points System as detailed in the notice of race.
- 22.2 RRS Appendix A is changed; paragraph A4 will not apply.
- 22.3 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).

## **23 TROPHIES AND PRIZES**

- 23.1 The following Trophies and prizes will be awarded:

RORC Caribbean 600 Trophy – 1<sup>st</sup> BCT IRC Overall

IRC Zero, IRC One, IRC Two, IRC Three, IRC Two-Handed Class

Bella Mente Trophy – 1<sup>st</sup> IRC yacht to finish that is wholly manually powered without either Variable or Moveable Ballast.

Inn at English Harbour Prize - 1<sup>st</sup> Yacht BCT IRC 1.174 and below

RORC Caribbean 600 CSA Award donated by Ondeck – 1<sup>st</sup> BCT CSA Overall

VO65, CSA One, CSA Two

Mariella Classic Trophy – 1<sup>st</sup> Classic BCT CSA – Boat 40+ years old.

Line Honours Monohull

Line Honours Multihull

Multihull MOCRA Division

The Class40 Rum Barrel - 1<sup>st</sup> Class40 Elapsed Time

Best Caribbean Yacht Rum Barrel – Best Caribbean Yacht in CSA (yacht registered in a Caribbean island)

RORC Caribbean 600 FKG Trophy - first monohull to St Maarten: Presented by FKG Marine Rigging & Fabricating.

RORC Caribbean 600 FKG Trophy – first multihull to St Maarten: Presented by FKG Marine Rigging & Fabricating.

The FKG trophies will be won by the first monohull and first multihull to cross a line running through the Proselyte Reef, a West Cardinal Pillar Lt Buoy, Q(9) 15s and the light house on the end of the cruise pier, Iso.2s 7m. The line runs 045º/225º magnetic. The boats can contact us on VHF Ch.06 or by phone on +1721 586 2656. There may be an open power boat on location.

## **24 MEDALLIONS:**

- 24.1 RORC medallions will be presented as prizes for each class and division
- 24.2 When there are fewer than 6 starters in a class it may be combined for prizes with a neighbouring class.

## **25 RISK STATEMENT**

- 25.1 Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.”
- 25.2 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- a) they are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
  - b) they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
  - c) they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
  - d) their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
  - e) the provision of a race management team and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
  - f) they are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed, in date and familiar to the crew.

## **26 INSURANCE**

26.1 Each boat shall ensure that their boat is adequately insured, against all third party claims.

## **27 RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS**

27.1 By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

## APPENDIX A – THE COURSE

#	Mark	Approximate Position (WGS84)	Required Side Leave To:
<b>Start</b>	Starting Line		
	Note: Beware Sunken Rock (charted) before Standfast Point		
<b>1</b>	York Island		Port
<b>2</b>	Green Island		Port
<b>3</b>	Barbuda Inflatable Mark FI Y 5s	17° 35'.02N 061° 55'.02W	Port
<b>4</b>	Nevis		Starboard
<b>5</b>	Saba		Starboard
<b>6</b>	St Barths and all off-lying islands <sup>1</sup>		Port
<b>7</b>	Saint Martin		Starboard
	Note: Beware Spaniard Rock (charted) between Eastern Point and Tintamarre		
<b>8</b>	Tintamarre		Starboard
<b>9</b>	St Barths and all off-lying islands <sup>1</sup>		Starboard
	Obstruction: There is a 2 mile exclusion zone on the SW side of Montserrat		
<b>10</b>	Guadeloupe		Port
<b>11</b>	Iles Des Saintes		Port
	Note: There is a rock (charted) off the SE corner of Grand Ilet		
	Obstruction: The exclusion zone off Terre de Bas (Iles de la Petit Terre) for a nature reserve defined by the 10m contour line and marked by buoys		
<b>12</b>	La Désirade		Port
<b>13</b>	Barbuda Inflatable Mark FI Y 5s	17° 35'.02N 061°55'.02W	Port
<b>14</b>	Redonda		Port
<b>Finish</b>	Fort Charlotte, Antigua		
<b>Approximate Distance 600 nautical miles.</b>			

<sup>1</sup>St Barths and off-lying Islands are defined as follows: Saint Barthelemy (Saint Barths), Ile Coco, Roches Rouge, Les Fourmis, Les Grenadiers, Ile Toc Vers, Ile Pele, Ile Boulanger, Ile Fourchue, Roche Table

### Mark Unseen

If a mark is not seen a yacht shall supply the Race Committee with satisfactory evidence that the mark has been passed correctly.