

NOTICE OF RACE



2015 RORC Caribbean 600 Race

Start: **Monday 23rd February 2015**

First Warning Signal: 1050 (all times are in local time)

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





DEFINITIONS

Class

The term *Class* includes IRC, CSA and MOCRA rating systems, or appropriate One-Design Classes.

Closing Date

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 boats 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.

Rating Deadline

Is the latest date by which a valid Rating or Class Certificate shall be issued to the boat.

REMUS

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

RORC Crew Management System (RCMS)

The RORC System for completing Offshore Crewlists;
at <http://rorc.sailgate.com/crew>

TERMINOLOGY

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



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 7th April 2014	Entry Opens	http://remus.rorc.org/
Monday 16th February 2015	<i>Closing Date/ Rating Deadline</i>	
Friday 20th February – 1200	Boats are required to be in attendance in Falmouth/English Harbour	Falmouth/English Harbour
Saturday 21st February - 1830	Skippers Briefing	Antigua Yacht Club
Saturday 21st February - 1830	Opening Party	Antigua Yacht Club
Monday 23rd February - 1050	First Warning Signal	
Friday 27th 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 boat'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 the 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 2014 – 2015 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations (OSR)

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

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

2.6 International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea

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

2.7 Pollution

RRS 55 is deleted. However competitors are reminded that the dumping of rubbish at sea 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 thereto.

2.9 Sailing Instructions

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

NOTE: Succeeding items in the above list shall take precedence.

3 ADVERTISING

Boats 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 boat'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 boat 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 boats entered to remain in the vicinity of the starting line. Each boat 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 boat 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 crew member.

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 boats 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 boats 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 1.100.

The Race 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 in consultation with the Class Association.

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. Boats 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 boat 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 boats with a Caribbean Sailing Association rating.

5.3.3 Multihulls – Boats rating 1.100 and greater

Offshore multihulls may enter the multihull division. Multihulls may race open without any rating, or with an endorsed Multihull Offshore Cruising and Racing Association (MOCRA) rating certificate. The minimum crew for multihulls is two. In two-handed multihulls automatic or wind-vane steering is permitted. This changes RRS 52. For more information on MOCRA and to apply for a rating visit the MOCRA website (<http://www.mocra-sailing.co.uk>).

5.3.4 Level Racing

When at least six boats 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
Multihulls (MOCRA)	1.100 and greater	Pennant 8
Class40	n/a	Class insignia

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

The RORC reserves the right to amend the class splits in the light of 2015 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 boat with no backstay.

5.5 Ratings, Rating and Class Certificates Deadline

Boats shall hold valid rating/class certificate(s) on the *Rating Deadline*. Boats racing under IRC are not required to submit a copy of their certificate to the RORC. Boats holding other rating/class certificates shall submit a copy of their certificate(s) to the RORC by the *Rating Deadline*. Changes to ratings and class certificates will only be accepted after the *Rating Deadline* in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the RORC. Every boat 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 2015 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) and RORC Prescriptions

The race is Category 3 with Category 2 Liferaft and EPIRB, and RORC Prescriptions.

The complete 2014 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations with RORC Prescriptions are available in the 2014 RORC Notice of Race - <http://www.rorc.org/2014-notice-of-race/2014-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 2014 ISAF Conference in November 2014. The 2015 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations will be published in the 2015 RORC Notice of Race.

5.6.1 OSR Compliance

Responsibility for compliance rests with the Person in Charge of the boat. 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* boat at any time. 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 boats competing under IRC either SSS or STIX and AVS indices are used depending on the series date of the boat. Monohull boats 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 boat 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.ircrating.org/>



7 ELIGIBILITY - COMPETITORS

7.1 Offshore Crewlist

An Offshore Crewlist complete with full *Emergency Contact* details shall be supplied to the RORC. The Person in Charge shall select crew from *Competitors* who have registered as crew on the *RORC Crew Management System (RCMS)*. In exceptional circumstances the RORC may accept receipt of the Offshore Crewlist by other means.

7.2 Training

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

7.3 First Aid Requirement

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

8 RACE ENTRY

8.1 Entering the Race

Entry opens on Monday 7th April 2014.

A boat 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

Payment shall be made before the *Closing Date*, Monday 16th February 2015. 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 full 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/debit card used for payment. For payments made by other means, refunds will be made against a written claim received no later than Monday 7th September 2015. If the Person in Charge fails to notify the RORC of cancellation as described above then 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	300	210 (90)
9.00-9.99	355	250 (105)
10.00-10.99	410	285 (125)
11.00-11.99	495	345 (150)
12.00-12.99	570	400 (170)
13.00-13.99	740	520 (220)
14.00-14.99	875	615 (260)
15.00-15.99	1175	825 (350)
16.00-16.99	1555	1090 (465)
17.00-17.99	2025	1420 (605)
18.00-18.99	2730	1910 (820)
19.00-19.99	2865	2005 (860)
20.00-20.99	3005	2105 (900)
21.00-21.99	3165	2215 (950)
22.00-22.99	3300	2310 (990)
23.00-23.99	3440	2410 (1030)
24.00-24.99	3580	2505 (1075)
25.00-25.99	3740	2620 (1120)
26.00-26.99	3880	2715 (1165)
27.00-27.99	4015	2810 (1205)
28.00-28.99	4150	2905 (1245)
29.00-29.99	4316	3021 (1295)

Boats above 30.00m LOA:
Member £104 per metre
Non-Member £148 per metre

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 20th February 2015. Any boat that anticipates a problem with complying 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), 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), 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).

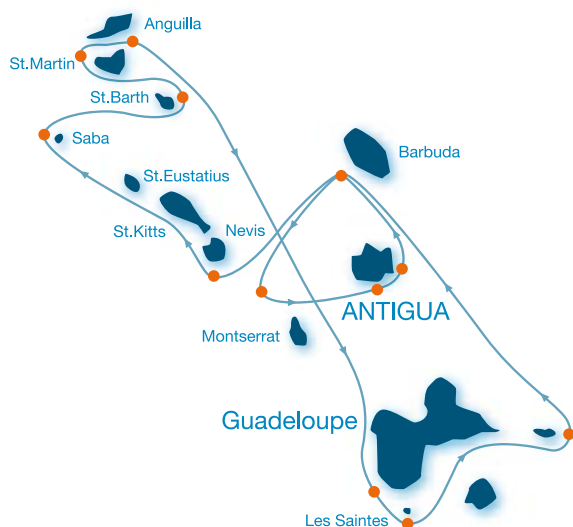


Figure 1 – The Course

11 TRACKING

It will be mandatory for boats 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 a scoring penalty applies it will be as described in RRS 44.3. Unless Sailing Instructions state that a scoring penalty applies, a boat may take a Two Turns Penalty as permitted and described in RRS 44.2 for breaking a rule of RRS Part 2 or a right-of-way rule of IRPCAS, whichever applies at the time. When the right-of-way rules of IRPCAS apply, a penalty need not be taken until it is safe to do so. This adds to RRS 44.1.

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 **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 2015 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 boat qualifies to win a particular trophy the Race Committee may, at its discretion, award it otherwise.

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 for having 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.

15.1 Trophies

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

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, 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 flotation devices 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 boat 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 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 retained by the Club to be used for all aspects of race organisation.

17 INSURANCE

Boats shall be adequately and suitably insured before racing.

RORC CONTACT DETAILS

Clubhouse and London Race Office

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

Race Office

(Tuesday 17th February to Friday 27th February 2015)
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
RORC Caribbean 600 Minisite: www.caribbean600.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	Sandy Mair
maidment@candw.ag	sandym@candw.ag
Telephone: +1 (0) 268 463 0260	Mobile: +1 (0) 268 464 1097
Mobile: +1 (0) 268 773 5598	

NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

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

Immigration

Competitors arriving by boat 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 page 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 RORC Caribbean 600 Minisite.





ROYAL OCEAN RACING CLUB

Clubhouse and London Race Office

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

