



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB



# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## Yachting Malta Coastal Race

### 1. RULES

- 1.1 The 2021 Yachting Malta Coastal Race, is organised by the Royal Malta Yacht Club, hereinafter referred to as the Organising Authority, and will be governed by the Notice of Race, by these Sailing Instructions including any appendices and amendments thereto, and except as they may be changed by these Sailing Instructions, by the following rules:
- 1.1.1 The Rules as defined in the WS Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021-2024
- 1.1.2 The WS Offshore Special Regulations 2020 - 2021 for Category 4 Races.
- 1.1.3 IRC Rules and Regulations 2021, parts A, B and C.
- 1.1.4 Between the official times for sunset and sunrise, which for this event are defined as Sunset 1800hrs and Sunrise 0740hrs, the Rules of Part 2 of the Racing Rules are replaced by the right of way rules of the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS).
- 1.1.5 In the event of conflict, the Sailing Instructions and any amendments thereto shall prevail.
- 1.1.6 English shall be the official language used throughout the race. If there is a conflict between languages the English text will prevail.

### 2 ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Competitors are required to display advertising for the event sponsor in accordance with WS Regulation 20.4.1.1. Supplied Pennants and Flags include a Yachting Malta pennant to be flown beneath the Start Group pennant from the backstay, during the race.

### 3 ENTRIES

- 3.1 IRC rated boats already entered in the 2021 Rolex Middle Sea Race, are automatically eligible to race and need only submit an entry form for the 2021 Yachting Malta Coastal Race.
- 3.2 Boats competing ONLY in the 2021 Yachting Malta Coastal Race must submit the following with their entry form:
- 3.2.1 Their current measurement and rating certificates.
- 3.2.2 Disclaimer of Liability and waiver on Photographic and media rights signed by the Person in Charge and all individual crew members, together with a crew list.

### 4 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 Boats having a current and valid IRC rating certificate and a SSS Base Value of 10 or higher may enter the Coastal Races.



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- 4.2 Participating boats shall fully satisfy the requirements of the WS Offshore Special Regulations 2020-2021 for category 4 races.

## 5 CLASSES

- 5.1 Participating boats shall be divided into classes as follows:  
IRC Class 1 - TCC greater than 1.400  
IRC Class 2 – TCC from 1.276 to 1.400  
IRC Class 3 – TCC from 1.176 to 1.275  
IRC Class 4 – TCC from 1.101 to 1.175  
IRC Class 5 – TCC from 1.051 to 1.100  
IRC Class 6 – TCC less than 1.051
- 5.2 The formation of any of the above classes is subject to a minimum of four entries. However, should there be less than four entries in a particular class, the Organizing Authority reserves the right to amalgamate the entries in another class or, at the discretion of the Organising Authority, a class may be formed with less than four entries.
- 5.3 Final information on the division of classes will be made available upon the completion of the registration of entries. Should the rating bands for the division of the fleet into classes given in 5.1 above, prove to be manifestly unsuitable to the composition of the fleet of entries, the Race Committee may adjust these bands as it deems appropriate.
- 5.4 The Organising Authority reserves the right to accept entries or classes that are not listed above.

## 6 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 6.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the virtual Official Notice Board (ONB) <https://rolexmiddlesearace.com/race/documents> and will be replicated at the Royal Malta Yacht Club. In the event of a conflict the virtual ONB will prevail.

## 7 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 7.1 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted not later than two (2) hours before the scheduled start of the race.

## 8 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 8.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the mast at the Royal Malta Yacht Club up to 120 minutes before the start, and after that they will be displayed on a mast set up on the Tigne' point at approximately 35° 54.37' N, 014° 30.80' E.

## 9 SCHEDULE

- 9.1 A briefing will be held, at the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Floriana, on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 1800 hrs.



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**9.2** The Race will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October. There will be a sequence of starts with the warning signal for the first start scheduled to be given at 0950hrs. VHF Ch 72 will be used for any communications.

**9.3** All times shown in the sailing instructions are local (CET).

## **10 RACING AREA**

**10.1** The racing area will be the waters around the Islands of Malta and Gozo.

## **11 THE COURSES**

**11.1** The course to be sailed in the race shall be one of the following courses. The number of the course to be sailed shall be given over VHF Channel 72 prior to the first warning signal.

**11.1.1 Course 1** - From the start in Marsamxett Harbour, sail up to the Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy leaving it to Starboard, then sail to the Outer Munxar East Cardinal Buoy and the Bengħajsa East Cardinal Buoy leaving them to Starboard, to the Island of Filfla leaving it to Port and then back to the Bengħajsa East Cardinal Buoy and the Outer Munxar East Cardinal Buoy and the Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy leaving them to Port and to the finish on the same line as the start in the opposite direction. (Course length Approx. 37nm).

**11.1.2 Course 2** - From the start in Marsamxett Harbour, sail up to the Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy leaving it to Port, then sail to and around the Island of Comino, leaving it to Port and the Island of Gozo to starboard, then back to the Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy, leaving it and Malta to Starboard and on to the same line as the start in the opposite direction. When rounding Comino, the Comino West Cardinal Buoy is to be left to Port (Course length Approx. 30nm).

**11.1.3 Course 3** - From the start in Marsamxett Harbour, sail up to the Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy leaving it to Starboard, then sail to the Outer Munxar Cardinal Buoy leaving it to Starboard, Rounding the Bengħajsa East Cardinal Buoy to Starboard then back to the Outer Munxar Cardinal Buoy and the Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy leaving them to Port and to the Finish on the same line as the start in the opposite direction. (Approx. 21nm)

## **12 MARKS**

**12.1** The positions of the navigational buoys included in the courses are the following:

<b>12.1.1</b>	Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy	-	35Deg.54.713'N; 014Deg.32.517'E.
<b>12.1.2</b>	Outer Munxar East Cardinal Buoy	-	35Deg.51.092'N; 014Deg.35.949'E.
<b>12.1.3</b>	Bengħajsa East Cardinal Buoy	-	35Deg.48.052'N; 014Deg.33.537'E.
<b>12.1.4</b>	Comino West Cardinal Mark	-	36Deg.00.974'N; 014Deg.18.927'E.

## **13 THE START**

**13.1** The start will be just inside the entrance to Marsamxett Harbour across a line from a Mast, displaying a Yachting Malta flag on Tigne' point at approximately 35°54.37'N 014°30.80'E. to a mast, displaying a Yachting Malta flag, on the corner of the Valletta bastions, at approximately 35°54.14'N, 014°30.81'E.



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- 13.2** The race will be started using Rule 26 with the warning signal given 10 minutes before the starting signal. Times will be taken from visual signals and the absence of a sound signal shall not be grounds for redress.

Signal	Flag & Sound	Minutes to Start
Warning	Group Flag (Colour) displayed with 1 sound	10
Preparatory	Code Flag 'P' Displayed with 1 sound	4
1 minute	Code Flag 'P' removed with 1 long sound	1
Starting	Group Flag removed with 1 sound	0

- 13.3** The warning signal for each succeeding starting group shall be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding group.

- 13.4** The division of the fleet into starting groups will be:-

Start Group	IRC Class	Class Colour	Scheduled First Warning
1	6	Yellow	0950hrs
2	5	White	1000hrs
3	4	Orange	1010hrs
4	3	Pink	1020hrs
5	2	Purple	1030hrs
6	1	Green	1040hrs

- 13.5** If in the opinion of the Race Committee the conditions are such that it is manifestly unsafe for any of the boats entered to race, International Code Flag "D" will be displayed at the mast at the Royal Malta Yacht Club at 0800hrs. International Code Flag "D" means, "The start is delayed indefinitely. Boats are to remain on their moorings." The warning signal will be made 120 minutes after Code Flag "D" is lowered.

- 13.6** The definition of Start, under Test Rule DR21-01, is changed as follows.  
**Start** A boat *starts* when her hull having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side either  
 (a) at or after her starting signal, or  
 (b) during the last 60 seconds before her starting signal

**When a boat *starts* in accordance with item (b) of the definition *Start*, she shall not return to the pre-start side of the line, and her starting penalty shall be the addition of 30 minutes to her elapsed time. *RRS 29.1 Will not apply and RRS A5.1 is changed.***

When a boat starts in accordance with item (b) of the definition Start, she shall not return to the pre-start side of the line, and her starting penalty shall be the addition of 30 minutes to her elapsed time. This changes RRS 28, 44.3(c), A4.2 and A5.

## 14 THE FINISH

- 14.1** The Finish will be just inside the entrance to Marsamxett Harbour across a line between a mast, displaying a Yachting Malta flag on Tigne' point at approximately 35° 54.37' N, 014° 30.80' E. to a Mast, displaying a Yachting Malta flag set up on the corner of the Valletta bastions, at approximately 35° 54.14' N, 014° 30.81' E



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## 15 TIME LIMIT

- 15.1 The Time Limit for the race shall be 1700hrs. for all boats. ***This changes RRS 35.***

## 16 RULE INFRINGEMENTS AND PENALTIES

- 16.1 The International Jury may impose any penalty it deems fit for an infringement of any instruction or rule which forms part of these Sailing Instructions. For an infringement of any rule of the RRS including a rule of part 2 the International Jury may apply a scoring or time penalty instead of disqualification, as it considers appropriate. ***This changes RRS 64.***

## 17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 The penalty for breaking a rule, including a rule of Parts 1 and 2 of the RRS, is at the discretion of the International Jury. Decisions of the International Jury will be final as provided in RRS 70.5.
- 17.2 A boat intending to protest or request redress is requested to inform the Race Committee, by calling 'RACE CONTROL' on VHF Channel 72, or by mobile phone or SMS on (+356) 7902 8442, as soon as reasonably possible after finishing or retiring.
- 17.3 The protest time limit is one hour after a protesting boat finishes or retires.
- 17.4 Protests and requests for redress, be submitted on the standard Protest Form, by email to [rmyc@rmyc.org](mailto:rmyc@rmyc.org), or leaving this with the Jury Secretary at the registration Office within the 1 hour after crossing the finish line or 1800hr, whichever is earlier. ***(This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2)***
- 17.5 Notices will be posted, on virtual Official Notice Board (ONB), after the protest time limit, to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. For incidents in the racing area, they will be posted after the protest time limit for the last party to the hearing to finish.
- 17.6 Hearings will be held in the jury room located at the RMYC, unless a party or witness is unavoidably in a different port, in which case arrangements for the hearing will be determined by the jury.

## 18 RETIREMENT

- 18.1 Boats retiring from a race are to report their retirement and intentions thereafter, to Race Control by calling Race Control on VHF channel 72 or by mobile phone or messages to +356 7902 8442. Once a boat has retired and reported this retirement, she may not thereafter resume racing, and she will be recorded as DNF.

## 19 SCORING

- 19.1 The Low Point Scoring System of RRS Appendix A shall apply. Overall results will be produced as well as class results extrapolated from the Overall results.



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- 19.2** Boats shall be scored on corrected time using the TCC time correction factor,

## **20 COMMUNICATIONS**

- 20.1** Boats are to advise 'Spinnaker' on VHF channel 72 when about to round the Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy before the finish in Marsamxett Harbour.
- 20.2** **All boats shall keep their AIS transponders switched on and transmitting at all times while racing.**

## **21 MECHANICAL POWER**

- 21.1** In this race the use of an autopilot and power winches is permitted. *This changes RRS 52.*
- 21.2** Only those boats whose rating certificates have been computed taking into consideration movable ballast are allowed to move this and only this ballast. *This changes RRS 51.*

## **22 SAIL LIMITATIONS**

- 22.1** Boats may not carry sails that they are not rated for and not allowed to use while racing. In particular, a spare mainsail may not be carried, and boats rated with a single furling headsail and a storm jib with or without a heavy weather jib may not carry any other headsail. *This changes IRC Rule 21.1.5 and 21.8.4*

## **23 CREW**

- 23.1** There shall be no limit on crew weight. *This changes IRC rule 22.4.2.*

## **24 INTERNATIONAL JURY**

- 24.1** An International Jury will be appointed according to WS RRS Appendix N. The decisions of the Jury are final and not subject to appeal.

## **25 PRIZES**

- 25.1** Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third places in each class where the number of entries is five or more boats and first and second prizes where there are only four boats in a class.
- 25.2** The Yachting Malta Trophy will be awarded to the overall winner on corrected time. The Royal Malta Yacht Club will retain possession of this trophy and the winning skipper will be awarded a keepsake.
- 25.3** The Yachting Malta Nations Trophy will be awarded to the combined placing of the best three Entrants from the same Nation. The Royal Malta Yacht Club will retain possession of this trophy and the winning skippers will be awarded a keepsake.



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## 26 RESPONSIBILITY

- 26.1** Boat racing can be dangerous. All those taking part in the race do so at their own risk and responsibility. The Royal Malta Yacht Club and their representatives, and any other party involved with the organization of the Yachting Malta Coastal Race and Rolex Middle Sea Race disclaim any and all responsibility whatsoever for loss, damage, injury or inconvenience that might occur to persons and goods, both ashore and at sea as a consequence of participation in the event. The attention of owners and Persons in Charge is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3 “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone” and WS Offshore Special Regulation 1.02.1 which adds “ ..... The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the person in charge.....” in addition to the Owner's Responsibility and "Waiver of Liability" as stated on the entry form.
- 26.2** The owner, 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 owner and crew being excluded from future races and renders a boat liable to disqualification.
- 26.3** No boat will be accepted as an entry unless its owner or his/her representative has before the start of the race signed a declaration in the terms set out in the entry form.
- 26.4** The attention of crew members is drawn to RRS 1.2 life-saving equipment....” Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions”.
- 26.5** Each boat shall exercise her responsibility under RRS Fundamental Rule 3 and decide whether or not to start or to continue to race.
- 26.6** As part of the registration process, each owner, skipper and individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a declaration accepting the following disclaimer of liability:

I agree to be bound by World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021-2024, by the Sailing Instructions, the Notice of Race and all other rules and regulations referred to in these documents. I agree that the sole and inescapable responsibility for the nautical qualities of any yacht participating in the 2021 Yachting Malta Coastal Race, her rigging, the safety equipment on board and the competence, behavior and dress of her crew is that of the Owner/Charterer of the yacht.

I also agree to take any and all responsibility for all damages whatsoever caused to third persons or their belongings, to myself or to my belongings, ashore and at sea as a consequence of my participation in the regatta, and hereby relieve from any responsibility, and agree to indemnify on a full indemnity basis and hold harmless, the ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB, their servants, agents and sponsors (in particular but not only ROLEX S.A. and affiliated companies) and their representatives in respect of any claim arising therefrom.

I am acquainted with RRS Part 1 Fundamental Rule 3: Decision to Race. ” The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone”.

In any case, I agree that the ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB, their servants, agents and sponsors (in particular but not only ROLEX S.A. and affiliated companies) and their representatives 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.



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## **27 PHOTOGRAPHS AND TV RIGHTS**

**27.1** Competitors give absolute right and permission for any photograph and video footage taken of themselves or the yacht they are sailing during the event, to be published in any media whatsoever, for either editorial or advertising purposes or to be used in press information.

**27.2** As part of the registration process, each owner, skipper and individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a declaration accepting the following media release and waiver of rights:

Competitors and crew members on the competing yachts grant, at no cost, the ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB, ROLEX S.A. and affiliated companies the absolute right and permission to use their name, voice, image, likeness, biographical material as well as representations of the boats in any media (being television, print and internet media), including video footage, for the sole purposes of advertising, promoting, reporting and disseminating information regarding the ROLEX MIDDLE SEA RACE COASTAL RACES (“the race”) and the competitors and crew members’ participation in the race.

Competitors and crew members on the competing yachts also grant, at no cost, ROLEX S.A. and affiliated companies, the absolute right and permission to use their name, image, likeness, biographical material as well as representations of the boats in magazines edited by ROLEX S.A.

**27.3** Competitors and crew members’ name, voice, image, likeness and biographical material shall not be used by ROLEX S.A. and affiliated companies in a way which constitutes an endorsement of ROLEX’s products by said Competitors and crew members, unless the relevant competitor or crew member is engaged by ROLEX S.A. or affiliated companies to endorse ROLEX’s products or gives his/her prior written consent to such use.

## **28 INSURANCE**

**28.1** Each participating boat shall be insured with adequate valid third-party liability and wreck recovery insurance valid while racing.

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