

NOTICE OF RACE

NORTH SOUND

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REGATTA

2025 North Sound Maxi Regatta

20th – 25th March 2025

Virgin Gorda, Tortola, British Virgin Isles

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

- a. The organizing authority is Valea Regattas Ltd in collaboration with the Host Yacht Club - Bitter End Yacht Club, (affiliated with US Sailing).
- b. The event is governed by the rules as defined in the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- c. World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 4;
- d. RRS 48.1 does not apply to water used in a water ballast system that is declared and described in a yacht's measurement certificate (changes RRS 48.1).
- e. The IRC Rating rules: 2025 IRC Rule, Parts A, B and C;
 - i. For IRC Rules 21.1.5 (d) and (e) this regatta is on consecutive days and the sails carried on board need to remain the same for each day of racing but not for the duration of the whole event. For this rule the day begins when a boat leaves the mooring for the first time each day and ends when the boat returns to a general proximity of its mooring;
 - ii. IRC Rule 22.4.2 is deleted and replaced with: "The maximum number of crew members on board shall be the crew number printed on her certificate. There is no weight limit". Crew cannot be changed once the boat leaves the mooring for the first time each day.
 - iii. If declared on the measurement and/or class certificate, steering, ram, and winch systems powered by force other than manual, as well as moveable appendages, trim tabs, water ballast and canting keels are permitted (this changes RRS 51 and 52).
- f. Exceptions to RRS 77 may be granted by the organizing authority upon written request prior to the close of registration (this changes RRS 77).
- g. [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat and for which the Protest Committee may refuse to hold a hearing. This changes RRS 60.1.
- h. No National Authority prescriptions apply.

2. ADVERTISING AND EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY THE ORGANIZING AUTHORITY [DP] [NP]

- a. Advertising will be in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20. Boats are responsible for informing their own sponsors that no activities advertising any brand will be permitted ashore within the harbour area without written consent from the organizing authority prior to the start of the regatta.
- b. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and/or supplied by the organising authority, including the following throughout the period starting one hour after the completion of registration and ending one hour after the finish of the last race of the series;
 - i. Event sponsor pennant on the backstay or the center back stanchion;
 - ii. Event flag hoisted on the forestay while moored in the harbour;
- c. The organising authority may request the installation, at no cost to the competitors, of on-board cameras, at the owners discretion.

3. COMMUNICATION

- a. The official noticeboard will be displayed at the skipper's briefing area at the Bitter End Yacht Club, as well as on the WhatsApp community.
- b. All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channel 16 and other channels.
- c. A WhatsApp messaging group will be used. Sign up details for the WhatsApp group will be provided at registration. Failure to receive WhatsApp messages shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).
- d. Except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRIES

- a. Each entry shall have a valid endorsed IRC measurement certificate issued no later than 1st March 2025.
- b. For a boat to have entered, its current IRC measurement certificate and the following documents shall be emailed to the event organiser:
 - i. policy document for a valid third-party liability insurance of Euro 5,000,000;
 - ii. liability acceptance form, correctly filled out and signed;
 - iii. crew list and personal contact details;
- c. Crew members who are less than 18 years old shall present at registration a declaration form, available on the event website, signed by parents or legal guardian who must give consent.
- d. Yachts are encouraged to enter before 31st January 2025 by completing the online entry form, which is available on the event website and making the full payment of the entry fee.
- e. Yachts may be allocated by the organizing authority, at their sole discretion, to sub-classes or combinations of sub-classes based.
- f. In accordance with the decision made by World Sailing to suspend participation of Russian and Belarusian competitors, the following are not eligible to take part in this event if this decision is still in place at the time of the close of entry:
 - i. Competitors with Russian or Belarussian passport or representing these countries;
 - ii. Boats whose owner or person in charge is a national from Russia or Belarus; or
 - iii. Boats registered in Russia or Belarus or with a sail number from these countries.

5. ENTRY FEES

- a. Entries will be completed before the entry deadline are subject to \$10,000USD entry fee (net of any bank charges).
- b. The cost for electricity, water, tenders, containers parking are not included in the entry fee.
- c. The organizing authority is not responsible for any cost incurred by the non-acceptance of a yacht's entry nor for any cancellation of the series. Entry fees paid will not be refunded if the yacht does not participate in the event.

6. SCHEDULE

- a. Registration takes place at the Bitter End Yacht Club on Thursday 20th March between 09:30 – 12:30 hrs. All boats shall have completed registration before racing.
- b. Dates of racing:

Friday	21 st March	first warning signal displayed at 10:45 hrs.
Saturday	22 nd March	first warning signal displayed at 10:45 hrs.
Sunday	23 rd March	<i>Separate race day – "triple head race day" 10:00 hrs.</i>
Monday	24 th March	first warning signal displayed at 10:45 hrs.
Tuesday	25 th March	first warning signal displayed at 10:45 hrs. Prize Giving after racing
- c. No warning signal will be displayed after 13.30 hrs. on Tuesday 25th March.

- d. On each race day there will be a briefing at 08:45 hrs. at the Bitter End Yacht Club.
- e. It is intended to complete up to seven (7) races.
- f. Details for the "Triple head Sunday" on 23rd March will be provided separately. The races sailed on this day will be scored separately and not scored as part of the overall series.
- g. Event social details are available separately.

7. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- a. Boats shall be available for any inspection and checks.
- b. [DP] At any reasonable time throughout the regatta period race committee may undertake random inspections and measurement checks on any boat.
- c. A list of the boat ratings will be posted on the event web site by 17.00 on Wednesday 19th March. The list will remain posted on the notice board during the event. The Protest Time Limit for rating protests by boats, except relating to changes made during the regatta, will expire at 12.00 on Thursday 20th March.
- d. The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in the rules.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- a. The Sailing Instructions will be available by Monday 17th March on the Official Notice Board.

9. COURSES

- a. Details of the race area and courses will be provided in the Sailing Instructions. It is intended to provide a mixture of windward-leeward and coastal races in the area adjacent to the North Sound and Virgin Gorda.

10. PENALTIES AND HEARINGS

- a. Protest Committee hearings will be virtual. Participants in any hearings (parties, party representatives and witnesses) must have access to a device that has internet accessibility with audio and video capability. Participants must use audio and video to appear before the protest committee unless advised otherwise by the protest committee.
- b. The Two-Turns Penalty of RRS 44.1 is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty.

11. SCORING & TROPHIES

- a. Race results will be calculated based on "Time on Time".
- b. The "Low Point" scoring system of Appendix A shall apply, except that there will be no discard.
- c. One race is required to be scored to constitute a series.
- d. The racing on Sunday 23rd March will be scored separately, and not part of the overall series. There will be a trophy & prizes for winners of Triple Head Sunday.
- e. There will be a trophy for the winner of the Maxi division of the North Sound Regatta (vessel over 80ft), there will be prizes awarded for second and third place. There will be a trophy for the winner across all competitors and prizes for second and third place.

12. [DP] SUPPORT TEAM AND SUPPORT VESSELS

- a. All support teams shall register at the Race Office. By registering as a support person, each support person agrees to be governed by the rules.
- b. All support vessels shall be registered at the Race Office during registration. Support Vessels may be required to assist the Race Committee.

13.[DP] BERTHING

- a. Subject to availability, and based on dimensions and order of entries, entrants will be provided at no charge with a berth at the Bitter End Yacht Club from Tuesday 18th March until Wednesday 26th March.
- b. Mooring buoys with suitable ground tackle will be laid, full details of the equipment used will be provided to the captains & representatives of the vessels.
- c. Please note that the Bitter End Yacht Club, nor the Mooring provider or Event organisers can take any responsibility for failure of equipment.

14.[DP] HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- a. Boats shall not be hauled out during the event, except for the purposes of repairing damage and only after written permission from the Race Committee. While hauled for the above purpose, cleaning and polishing of the hull below the waterline will not be permitted.

15.[DP] MEDIA RIGHTS

- a. Competitors, and owners, grant absolute right and permission to the organizing authority for any photography and video footage taken of persons and boats during the event, to be published and/or broadcast in any media, including but not limited to TV advertisements, whatsoever for either editorial or advertising purposes or to be used in press information.

16.INSURANCE

- a. Participants shall be insured with valid third-party insurance with a minimum cover of Euro 5,000,000. The responsibility to hold adequate insurance cover for Liability and Third-Party Insurance (Property and Persons) is to the owners or the skippers alone.
- b. The OA is not responsible for verifying the status or validity of insurance certificates.

17.RISK STATEMENT

- a. RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". 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:
 - i. 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;
 - ii. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat, and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - iii. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions; Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - iv. The provision of a race management team and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - v. The provision of support boat cover if any is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances;
 - vi. It is their responsibility to familiarize themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules or information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

18. [DP] TRASH DISPOSAL

- a. Recalling the RRS Basic Principle stating: "Participants are encouraged to minimize any negative environmental impact of the sport of sailing", we recommend the utmost attention to environmental protection during the event. Attention is drawn to RRS 47 - Trash Disposal - which means vessels should have an eye towards the sea and clean any trash/debris from the water when possible.

19. AMENDMENTS TO THE NOTICE OF RACE

- a. This Notice of Race may be changed. Amendments will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

OTHER INFORMATION

Event web site: www.maxiregatta.com

Contacts: info@maxiregatta.com

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