



2022 ST BARTHS BUCKET REGATTA

'90 Foot Class' Overview

Background

The Bucket is legendary for its uniquely beautiful venue, spectacular racing and fantastic shore side socials (bucketregatta.com/gallery). It is an invitational, non-commercial event committed to the enjoyment of the yacht owners and their guests (bucketregatta.com). Prior to 2017, certain yachts that did not meet the 100-foot LOA eligibility criteria were grandfathered and invited to compete. That led to classes with excessively wide rating bands and yachts with disparate sailing characteristics. Given some of the inherent advantages of smaller, more nimble yachts, it also put large cruising superyachts at a competitive disadvantage. To be as inclusive as possible without negatively impacting the participating superyachts, the Bucket Stewards are offering a '90' Class' at the 2022 edition.

As with the J Class racing in St Barths, this initiative for performance-oriented sloops would feature a fleet start with the boats racing under the conventional Racing Rules of Sailing. By establishing a relatively narrow rating band, the race managers will be able to minimize, if not eliminate, mixing with the superyacht fleet. The superyacht fleet will feature the traditional pursuit racing format. For all classes, the longstanding 'Spirit of the Bucket' will be on full display with an emphasis on fun, safe and competitive racing.

90 Foot Class Racing

- There are three coastal races scheduled Friday, Saturday and Sunday (24 - 26 March);
- Safe racing has been and will continue to be a top priority of the St Barths Bucket organizers. The RRS Appendix SY will be invoked if yachts in the 90' Class meet yachts in the Superyacht Fleet;
- The fleet start will be prior to the superyachts' pursuit starts. Classes may sail different courses;
- Series trophies will be awarded for the top three finishers in class. Daily first place trophies will also be awarded.

Eligibility Criteria & Class Specific Rules

- Sloop rigs only;
- There will be LOA and rating band ranges, which will be refined going forward:
 - Preliminary LOA range 24.5–30.5m (approximately 82'–100')
 - Preliminary rating band: ORCsy 335-410 (moderate wind range) or IRC 1.36-1.60 (approximate);
- A valid ORCsy rating certificate is required (for those boats without a valid ORCsy certificate, the IRC TCC rating bands can be used to verify the eligibility of boats);
- Minimum of 4 entries required for a class start.

Handicapping Policy and Procedures

- The rating rule is the ORCsy: orc.org/isuperyacht. This transparent superyacht rating rule has been used at all superyacht regattas since 2015 with great success;
- 90' Class entries must submit their rating application in accordance with the NoR requirement;
- The ORCsy scoring option will be Time-on-Distance with the wind range declared prior to the first yacht in class finishing.

For additional information on the "90' Class" or to request an invitation, please contact:

*Peter Craig; Event Director/Race Chairman
peter@bucketregattas.com / +1 (617) 755-7316*