



DESIGNATED RRS AFTERGUARD MEMBER COMPLIANCE

The St Barths Bucket requirement for a designated 'RRS Afterguard Member' can be found in Part 2 of the Notice of Race, Section 13.

BACKGROUND:

It became apparent at superyacht regattas that some designated 'Safety Officers' did not meet the criteria for that crew position; specifically, in many cases, being active with *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*. Additionally, it was revealed that in some instances no member of the afterguard had an adequate level of experience and expertise with the RRS, leading to unexpected encounters and undesired outcomes on the racecourse.

Hence, the SYRA and superyacht regatta organizers took two important steps:

First, it is **required** that the captain ensure that at least one afterguard member is active with the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* and has a thorough understanding of the RRS and the Appendix SY.

NoR 13.3 The RRS Afterguard Member may be the yacht's helmsman, navigator or, racing tactician if they meet the stated criteria. This individual's role is to interact closely with the other members of the afterguard. The designated Communications Officer (who monitors the VHF safety channel) must be a different individual. Captains should not be the designated RRS Afterguard Member or Communications Officer due to the specific RRS related criteria that this position requires and the fact that the overall safety of the yacht is their responsibility.

Secondly, the individual monitoring the VHF Safety Channel is designated the 'Communications Officer' as opposed to the 'Safety Officer'. The previous terminology 'Safety Officer' was misleading because the captain is the individual who has the ultimate responsibility for the safe operation of the yacht at all times. It is now **required** that each yacht have a Communications Officer who is not the RRS Afterguard Member. It is **recommended** that the Communications Officer, in addition to having experience with radio protocol, also have experience with and an understanding of the RRS.

As such, each yacht must submit the names of their designated 'RRS Afterguard Member' and Communications Officer, using the appropriate form (page 2 of this document). In addition to answering the questions in Exhibit 2, the designated 'RRS Afterguard Member' is encouraged to include a sailing resume or list of relevant racing credentials and experience. The Organizing Authority will review all forms (**due no later than 1 February, 2025**) and communicate any concerns or issues to the captain.

If the designated RRS Afterguard Member submitted a form at a previous regatta and the name is listed on the SYRA website superyra.org/after-guard, then the yacht is not required to resubmit the form. They do need to confirm contact details.

CREDENTIALS and EXPERIENCE:

The fundamental credentials and experience that the designated RRS Afterguard Members are required and recommended to possess:

Required:

- Currently active and fully conversant with *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (routinely racing as an afterguard member – in either large yachts or smaller boats). "*Currently active*" is a key component here;
- A thorough understanding of racing tactics, preferably active in the role of tactician;
- A thorough understanding of the RRS Appendix SY;
- Experience with VHF radio protocol and an understanding of the important role that active, professional dialogue on the dedicated VHF Safety Channel plays in superyacht racing;
- A thorough understanding of the regatta's racing documents (*rules*) including the Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions, Amendments and Exhibits;
- Conversant in English.

Strongly Recommended:

- Experience racing large yachts as a member of the afterguard (helmsman, racing tactician, navigator);
- Experience with the RRS Appendix SY (as a superyacht afterguard member);
- Experience with and knowledge of the manoeuvring characteristics and limitations of his or her superyacht, as well as those of other competitors.

(RRS Afterguard Member Compliance Form on page 2)

2026 St Barths Bucket Notice of Race Exhibit 5

RRS Afterguard Member and Communications Officer COMPLIANCE AND INFORMATION FORM 2026 St Barths Bucket Regatta (submit no later than 1 February, 2025)

Please refer to the Notice of Race (Part 2, Section 13) for details on the RRS Afterguard Member. ***Note that this form is not required if your RRS Afterguard member previously submitted a form and their name is posted on the SYRA website superyra.org/after-guard.*** Please provide current contact details for both the RRS Afterguard and the Communications Officer. Answer all questions and provide additional relevant information if required via email (jeanne@bucketregattas.com). A sailing resume is encouraged. This form will be reviewed by the Organizing Authority (OA) and retained by the OA and the Superyacht Racing Association (SYRA).

Yacht Name: _____ **Captain:** _____

Communications Officer: _____

Email Address: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

Designated RRS Afterguard Member: _____

Email Address: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

Position: Tactician ☐ Navigator ☐ Helmsman ☐ Strategist ☐
Other ☐ _____

Permanent Crew Member Yes ☐ No ☐

Part time Racing Crew Member Yes ☐ No ☐

Important Requirements (in bold):

Fully conversant in English: Yes ☐ No ☐

Possess a thorough understanding of the RRS: Yes ☐ No ☐

Is currently active with the RRS Yes ☐ No ☐
(racing in multiple regattas annually as an afterguard member)

Has read and understands the RRS Appendix SY: Yes ☐ No ☐

Meets the requirements stated in NOR Exhibit 5: Yes ☐ No ☐

Afterguard experience using the RRS Appendix SY: Yes ☐ No ☐

Racing experience on this particular yacht: Yes ☐ No ☐

Include regatta names, years, and crew positions:

Other most recent racing experiences in either superyachts *or non-superyachts*

Please include regatta names, dates, boats, and crew positions and provide information that you feel is relevant:

List any additional information that is relevant to experience with and knowledge of the Racing Rules of Sailing.

Note: having a Master Captain's license (e.g. USCG 100T license) is not relevant to the core of this racing requirement.

*Please include any relevant documents, such as your sailing resume, and email, or fax
EMAIL: jeanne@BucketRegattas.com FAX: +1-781-639-9171*