

Vasco Da Gama Ocean Race

Durban to Port Elizabeth

26 April 2018



NOTICE OF RACE

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the NoR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the option of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1 THE RACE

The Vasco da Gama Ocean Race is from Durban, eThekwinini to Port Elizabeth, Nelson Mandela Bay, in South Africa, and starts on 26 April 2018. The race is organised by the Royal Natal Yacht Club and Algoa Bay Yacht Club, under the auspices of South African Sailing KwaZulu-Natal (SAS KZN).

2 ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The race will comprise the following fleets:
 - 2.1.1 ORC racing fleet for Monohull boats with a valid ORC certificate
 - 2.1.2 PHRF racing fleet for Monohull boats which do not have a valid ORC certificate
 - 2.1.3 Multihull racing fleet
 - 2.1.4 Rally Class fleet (comprising both Monohull and Multihull boats) where boats will be permitted to motor for a maximum of 8 hours per 24 hour period, commencing with the start, and where the use of autopilots will be permitted (refer 6.2 & 6.3 for changes to the RRS). Boats entering the Rally Class shall only be eligible for the trophies / prizes specifically allocated to the Rally Class fleet and shall not be eligible for any Line Honours trophies / prizes. The decision to enter the Rally Class shall be confirmed by 12h00 SAST on 24 April 2018 and cannot be made during the duration of the race.
- 2.2 Interclub Trophy – the first 3 boats over the line (excluding rally class boats), per club, will be scored for the purpose of awarding the Interclub Trophy. Boats are required to clearly identify the club they are sailing for on their entry form.
- 2.2 Monohull boats shall have an overall length (LOA) of not less than 9.0 metres.
- 2.3 Multihull boats shall have an overall length (LOA) of not less than 10.5 metres.
- 2.4 All boats shall have a valid Category “A” registration with South African Sailing (SAS), proof of which shall be lodged with the Race Secretary by 17h00 SAST on 11 April 2018.
- 2.5 Should there be sufficient entries in any fleet; the Race Committee may divide that fleet into two or more classes, at its sole discretion.
- 2.6 In accordance with World Sailing (WS) Regulation 19 (Eligibility Code), all competitors (Helmspersons and all other crew) shall be members in good standing of a Yacht Club affiliated to and in good



standing with South African Sailing or their Member National Authority (MNA) in the case of non-South Africans. The Yacht Club name and membership details shall be stated on the crew list. Current valid SAS Membership Cards or similar proof of MNA Membership in cases of non-South Africans shall be presented at Registration by no later than 17h00 SAST on 24 April 2018.

3 COURSE & DATE

- 3.1 The race will start in Durban and finish in Port Elizabeth, a race distance of approximately 400 nautical miles.
- 3.2 The race will start on Thursday 26 April 2018, with the warning signal for the first fleet to start scheduled for 11h55 SAST.
- 3.3 Details of the start and finish lines, plus starting and finishing instructions, will be published in the Sailing Instructions.

4 TIME LIMIT

- 4.1 The race for all fleets will end at 12h00 SAST on 30 April 2018.
- 4.2 The Race Committee reserves the right to extend the time limit at its discretion.

5 RULES

- 5.1 The race will be governed by -
 - 5.1.1 The rules as defined in the World Sailing (WS) Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), subject to changes made in terms of this Notice & the Sailing Instructions.
 - 5.1.2 The ORC Rating Systems Rule 2018 and the IMS Rule, subject to changes made in terms of this Notice & the Sailing Instructions.
 - 5.1.3 The Safety Equipment and Scrutineering Check List contained in Schedule 1 to this Notice of Race
 - 5.1.4 The SA Sailing KZN Rules governing the Award of Regional Colours and Medals
 - 5.1.5 The South African National Small Vessel Safety Regulations

6 CHANGES TO THE RACING RULES OF SAILING

- 6.1 RRS 61.3: There is no time limit on protests by the Race Committee. No other protests may be filed after 12h00 SAST on 30 April 2018
- 6.2 RRS 42.3(i) is amended to allow boats entered in the Rally Class Fleet to motor for a maximum of 8 hours in every period of 24 hours, the first period commencing at 12h00 SAST on 26 April 2018. Motoring time shall be logged in the boats log book and declared in the Race Declaration.
- 6.3 RRS 52 is amended to allow boats in the Rally Class fleet to make use of autopilots to steer the boat during the course of the race.
- 6.4 RRS 41: Whilst racing a boat may retrieve data from any page of the event website, even if that page is not publicly available; the event Face Book page; or the information provided by YB Tracking in respect of the race whether available via its website, or any of its Mobile Applications. Amends RRS 41(c).
- 6.5 RRS 41: During the race a boat may obtain assistance in the form of any readily available commercial meteorological or hydrographical information regardless of cost. Amends RRS 41(c).
- 6.6 RRS 55 is changed by adding the following sentence to the rule: “However discarding elastic or wool bands when setting a sail



is permitted.”

7 ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

- 7.1 RRS 44.1 – a Two-Turns penalty will apply for breaking a rule of RRS, Part 2, from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start, until 4 hours after the time of the start of the first class to start.
- 7.2 RRS 44.3 – a Scoring Penalty will apply for breaking a rule of RRS, Part 2 from 4 hours after the time of the start of the first class to start until such time as the last boat has finished.
- 7.3 RRS 64.1 – Scoring Penalties may be applied at the discretion of the Protest Committee.
- 7.4 The penalty for breaking a rule of the RRS with the exception of Part 2 thereof, the provisions of the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

8 RATING CERTIFICATES AND HANDICAPS

- 8.1 Boats shall have rating certificates and/or handicaps, as follows:
 - 8.1.1 Boats racing in the ORC fleet shall have a current, valid, and signed ORC certificate. Valid ORC certificates shall be lodged with the Race Secretary by 17h00 SAST on 11 April 2018. The Race Committee reserves the right to extend the time limit in exceptional circumstances.
 - 8.1.2 Boats racing in the PHRF and Multihull fleets will be allocated a PHRF handicap by the handicap committee where a TCF is issued.
 - 8.1.3 Boats racing in the Rally Class Fleets will be allocated a PHRF handicap by the handicap committee where a TCF is issued.
- 8.2 On showing good cause and with the prior written approval of the Race Committee, changes may be made to a boat’s ORC rating certificate up to 12h00 SAST on 24 April 2018.
- 8.3 A list of ratings for each fleet will be published on the Official Notice Boards by 12h30 SAST on 24 April 2018.
- 8.4 Any protest relating to a boat’s rating shall be submitted to the Race Secretary, in writing, by 16h30 SAST on 24 April 2018, for consideration by the Race Committee whose decision shall be final.
- 8.5 The placing of each boat in its particular fleet shall be determined by the corrected time taken by that boat to complete the course, calculated as follows:
 - 8.5.1 In respect of boats in the ORC Fleet, the corrected time will be the elapsed time, plus any penalty time, less any redress time granted, corrected by the relevant boat’s ORC Rating. The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first.
 - 8.5.2 In respect of the PHRF and Multihull fleets, the corrected time will be the elapsed time, plus any penalty time, less any redress time granted, corrected by the relevant boats TCF. The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first.
 - 8.5.3 In respect of the Rally Fleets, the corrected time will be the elapsed time, plus any penalty time, less any redress time granted, corrected by the relevant boats TCF. The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first.

- 8.6 Boats competing in the PHRF racing fleet for Monohull Boats, the Multihull racing fleet or the Rally Class fleet are permitted to carry a spare mainsail on board to be used as a bona fide replacement for a mainsail damaged during the race.

9 ORC REQUIREMENTS & CHANGES TO ORC RULES

- 9.1 ORC boats shall have a current, valid, and signed ORC Certificate.
- 9.2 ORC boats shall comply with the ORC 2018 Rule, save to the extent they are specifically amended or excluded in this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions.
- 9.3 A boat may be inspected prior to the start of the race, and at the finish, to ensure compliance with its current ORC Certificate.
- 9.4 In terms of ORC Rule 206.1, boats with a CDL below 9.651 may carry one more spinnaker, with a measured area not greater than the largest spinnaker reflected on her certificate, than reflected in the rule without an increase in rating.
- 9.5 ORC Rule 206.1 is amended to permit a spare mainsail to be carried on board, and to be used as a bona fide replacement for the original mainsail damaged during the race.

10 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND SCRUTINY

- 10.1 The Boat Information Sheet, with the required particulars of the boat, shall be submitted to the Race Secretary by 17h00 SAST on 11 April 2018.
- 10.2 Each boat, shall be crewed by at least 4 persons, including the skipper.
- 10.3 The skipper shall satisfy the Race Committee, by 17h00 SAST on 11 April 2018, that at least 1 person on board has a SAS Coastal Skipper certificate of competence or higher.
- 10.4 All boats may be scrutinised by the Race Committee to ensure compliance with the Schedule 1 – Safety Equipment and Scrutineering Check List. The skipper is obliged to ensure that he/she and at least one other member of the crew are present at the scrutiny.
- 10.5 A boat which has not passed scrutiny by 12h00 SAST on 25 April 2018 may not start the event and the onus shall be on the skipper to ensure that his boat is scrutinised timeously.
- 10.6 If a boat does not comply with these regulations its entry may be rejected or it may be liable to disqualification or such other penalty as may be prescribed by the Race Committee.
- 10.7 Notwithstanding anything herein contained, the safety, management and insurance of a boat and its crew shall at all times remain the sole responsibility of her skipper, who must ensure that the boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who have undergone appropriate training and are physically fit to face and are capable of handling the boat in bad weather. The skipper must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. The skipper must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that all crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used. It is the sole and exclusive responsibility of each boat to decide whether or not to start or to continue the Race and all those taking part in the Race do so at their own risk.
- 10.8 The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in the race or to continue racing is hers alone (RRS 4).

11 CREW LIST AND CLEARING OUT REQUIREMENTS

- 11.1 Currently Durban is designated as a Port of Entry into / out of South Africa and all boats leaving Durban on the race are required



to clear Customs, Immigration and the Port of Durban and to meet with their requirements. To assist boats with this procedure, and to provide the organisers with the necessary information, it is essential that the following requirements are met timeously

- 11.2 The Crew List, on the prescribed form provided, together with a copy of each crew member's valid Identity Document (or passport in the case of foreign nationals), shall be submitted to the Race Secretary by 17h00 SAST on 24 April 2018.
- 11.3 Changes to crew after 17h00 SAST on 24 April 2018 may be permitted under exceptional circumstances, and only with the written permission of the Race Committee.

12 ENTRIES

- 12.1 An entry, on the prescribed entry form, shall be submitted **with the relevant entry fee** to the Race Secretary, Vasco da Gama Ocean Race 2018 via e-mail to gillcam@telkomsa.net and admin@rnyc.org.za by 17h00 SAST on 28 March 2018. Late entries will be accepted up to 17h00 SAST on 11 April 2018 subject to the late entry fee being paid.
- 12.2 The standard entry fee shall be R 850.00 per crew member and shall be paid on submission of the entry
- 12.3 The late entry fee shall be R 2 000.00 per boat, payable in addition to the standard entry fee and the total entry fee shall be paid on submission of the late entry.
- 12.4 Entry Fees shall be paid to the Royal Natal Yacht Club bank account as specified on the entry form. A legible copy of the deposit slip or electronic transfer advice shall accompany the entry form.

13 PUBLIC RELATIONS, TRACKING AND MEDIA

- 13.1 Public Relations & Media. In the interests of public relations and the media, each entry should be accompanied by a brief biographical note of the owner and/or skipper which may include information on the crew together with clear colour photographs of the owner and/or skipper (head and shoulders and no sunglasses) and of the boat. The Organising Committee shall be authorised to use any such information and photographs in connection with any advertising, publication, promotion, sponsorship or the like relating to the race whether in printed or electronic form or howsoever.
- 13.2 Tracking Devices - A boat may be required to carry a tracking device supplied by the Organising Authority.
- 13.3 Camera's - the Organising Authority reserves the right to place a camera on board any boat for media purposes, and all participants agree to operate such camera to the best of their ability. Should boats have personal cameras on board, it would be helpful for the promotion of the race if any photographs or videos could be made available to the organisers.
- 13.4 The skipper of a boat, if and when requested to do so, shall from time to time provide the organisers with a written or verbal report of the boats current position or any other matter of interest, suitable for use on radio, television and social media.
- 13.5 The organisers and sponsors shall be entitled to make use of any biographical notes, information, photographs, film or other form of electronic reproduction of or relating to all boats participating in the event, their owners and crew and to make use of all interviews,



broadcasts and reports by any of them for any purpose relating to or arising from the event or the sponsorship thereof.

- 13.6 Failure to carry and operate a tracking device or to carry and operate a camera when required may lead to the cancellation of an entry or the disqualification of the boat from the race (refer RRS 76.1)

14 ADVERTISING

- 14.1 Advertising will be permitted in accordance with the WS Advertising Code, Regulation 20.
- 14.2 The Organising Committee may require boats to display sponsor's advertising in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20. [DP]
- 14.3 A boat shall display the race sponsor's bow decals, backstay flags and forestay flags if so supplied by the Organising Authority from the time they are supplied until immediately prior to her warning signal, and after finishing, until the completion of the event. [DP]

15 REGISTRATION

Registration shall take place at Royal Natal Yacht Club during the times as set out below, after which registration shall close:

Monday 23 April 2018	12h00 SAST to 17h00 SAST
Tuesday 24 April 2018	09h00 SAST to 17h00 SAST
Wednesday 25 April 2018	09h00 SAST to 12h00 SAST

16 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be made available after the closing time for late entries.

17 PRIZE-GIVING

- 17.1 Prize giving for all fleets will take place at 18h00 SAST on 30 April 2018 at the Algoa Bay Yacht Club (or any other venue and time as advised in due course).
- 17.2 Trophies and Prizes to be awarded are published as Schedule 2 to this Notice of Race.

18 OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARDS

The Official Notice Boards, bearing the name of the Race, shall be located at the Royal Natal Yacht Club (prior to the start) and the Algoa Bay Yacht Club (after the start).

19 INDEMNITY

- 19.1 The owner and the skipper of each boat entered shall be deemed, on the acceptance of the entry by the Race Committee, on behalf of themselves, their crew, their dependants and their sponsors to have indemnified the Organisers, the host clubs, the sponsors and all those involved in the running of the event against all claims of any kind arising from any injury to person or property incurred during or in connection with the event, or from any other cause arising whatsoever.
- 19.2 Owners and skippers are advised to obtain counter-indemnities from each member of the crews.
- 19.3 **Specific attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4, which states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".**



20 JURISDICTION

20.1 Specific attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3.

20.2 The event, being organised from Durban, is subject to the laws of South Africa and accordingly this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions will be construed in accordance with such laws. All participants, owners, skippers and crews shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the High Court of South Africa, Durban, which alone shall have jurisdiction in regard to any legal disputes which may arise in connection with or arising from the event and a participant's participation therein.

20.3 Owners and skippers of boats participating in the event will be responsible for ensuring that the provisions of this Notice of Race are understood and agreed by all individuals concerned and hereby indemnify the organisers, the sponsors and all those involved in the running of the event against all claims, loss or harm suffered as a result of a failure to do so.

21 INSURANCE

Each participating boat is encouraged to carry sufficient valid third-party liability insurance to cover any liability arising during the event.

22 ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

On good cause, the Organising Committee reserves the right to amend any of the provisions of this Notice of Race.

Attachments:

Schedule 1 Safety Equipment and Scrutineering Check List

Schedule 2 Trophy List 2018

Entry form

Boat Information Sheet

Crew List

Deadline dates and information (for information purposes only)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Race Office Details:

Royal Yacht Club, Yacht Mole, 3 Boatman Road, Durban, 4001

Tel: +27 (31) 301 5425

Fax: +27 (31) 307 2590

Email: admin@mnc.org.za

Postal Address: P O Box 2946, Durban, 4000



Contact details:

Chairman	Richard Crockett	083 265 3885	sailing@iafrica.com
Principal Race Officer	Jimmy Melville	082 900 8573	jimmy@cyline.co.za
Race Secretary	Gill Campbell	083 461 6286	gillcam@telkomsa.net