



VOLVO CHINA COAST REGATTA 2017

IRC 13 to 15 October 2017

HKPN 14 to 15 October 2017



The Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club cordially invites entries to its annual Volvo China Coast Regatta, Hong Kong's premier Big Boat event. Competing yachts can expect the best of Hong Kong's sailing conditions with 10 to 20 knot winds, blue skies, warm friendly waters and great parties.

NOTICE OF RACE

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

1. RULES

- 1.1 The Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 will be governed by:
 - the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS);
 - the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 4;
 - the Prescriptions of the Hong Kong Sailing Federation (HKSF);
 - the IRC Rules Parts A, B and C;
 - the HKPN handicap system, including the HKPN Performance Increase Penalty Scheme (PIPS);
 - the RHKYC PFD Policy;
 - this NoR; and
 - the Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- 1.2 For the purposes of IRC Rule 21.1.5 (d) & (e), the regatta will be run on consecutive days. Replacement sails may be permitted during the regatta in exceptional circumstances subject to the discretion of and with the permission of the race committee. A replacement sail will only be permitted if it is of similar cloth weight, area and design.
- 1.3 The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) (Steering and Sailing Rules) will apply between sunset and sunrise (as defined in the SIs) and will replace the rules of RRS Part 2 where applicable.
- 1.4 The Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 and the Volvo Hong Kong to Vietnam Race 2017 comprise the Volvo China Coast Race Week 2017. Boats that compete in both events will be given an overall result based on the points that they have received in their class or division in each event.

2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1 A yacht wishing to display advertising on her hull, sails or spars shall be in possession of a valid Advertising License issued by her National Authority as provided in World Sailing Regulation 20 – (Advertising Code). Advertising displayed on boats and/or on crew-wear during the event shall be entirely in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20. Skippers shall provide a copy of their boat's advertising license to the race committee prior to the first race in which they intend to display the advertising.
- 2.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies. [DP]
- 2.3 When registering, each boat may receive battle flags. If lost, they shall be replaced. Replacements may be obtained at the regatta office. Battle flags shall be displayed when not racing or when in transit to or from racing. [DP]

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 The Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 is open to all boats of the following classes:
 - 3.1.1 **IRC Racer Class:** Keelboats with a Hull Factor (HF) of 8.5 and above. The class will be divided into divisions based on suitable rating bands, at the discretion of the race committee.
 - 3.1.2 **IRC Premier Cruiser Class:** Keelboats with a DLR equal to or greater than 140 and an LOA equal to or greater than 14.98m.
 - 3.1.3 **IRC Cruiser Class:** Keelboats with a HF of 8.5 or less and a DLR equal to or greater than 140.

3.1.4 **HKPN Class:** Boats with a current HKPN number issued by HKSF (a) that have not held an IRC certificate in effect within 90 days before the start of racing or (b) if the boat currently holds an effective IRC certificate, the boat has requested to be included in the HKPN class.

3.2 Boats shall enter one class only.

3.3 The race committee shall determine, in its sole discretion, rating bands and divisions for the IRC Racer Class, which shall be published in the SIs. Subject to the number of entries, the classes, divisions and rating bands in IRC Racer Class may be altered at the discretion of the race committee. In addition, the race committee may not accept any entry for a class and may allocate any entry to another class or to any division within any class if it considers, in its discretion, that competition would be better served by such change. The race committee may in its sole discretion create any additional class and modify this NoR or the SIs as appropriate to take into account the new class.

3.4 Eligible boats shall enter by completing and returning the entry form with the entry fee to the RHKYC Sailing Office on or before Friday 29 September 2017.

3.5 Entry fees will not be refundable after Friday 29 September 2017.

3.6 Late entries may be accepted until 1800hrs on Monday 9 October 2017 upon application to the race committee and only upon payment of the entry fee plus an additional fee of 50% of the entry fee.

3.7 All boats shall be not less than 9m overall (LOA) excluding bowsprit and/or bumpkin and must carry a functioning VHF radio transceiver capable of transmitting and receiving on channels 16 and 72.

4. HONG KONG KETTLE

Boats entered in Volvo China Coast Regatta IRC Racer Class may form teams in order to compete for the Hong Kong Kettle trophy. Teams shall consist of two boats from different divisions. The team with the lowest combined score under NoR 11 below shall win the Hong Kong Kettle Trophy.

5. FEES

The entry fee will be HKD \$2,500 per boat for IRC Classes and \$1,700 for HKPN. There will be a \$200 crew pass fee for each crew member for social events.

6. SCHEDULE

6.1 The regatta will be based at RHKYC Middle Island. The race schedule will provide for a mix of windward/leeward, geometric and island courses, all held within Hong Kong waters. The IRC Racer Class will have a maximum of seven races and the IRC Premier Cruiser and IRC Cruiser Classes will have a maximum of five races. The HKPN Class will have a maximum of four races. The courses, start/finish and number of races will be determined by the race committee and/or race officer taking into account weather conditions and Hong Kong's diverse sailing areas. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race on each day will be 1025hrs.

6.2 Prizes for racing on Friday 13 October and Saturday 14 October 2017 will be awarded each day after racing. The overall prizegiving will be held at RHKYC Middle Island on Sunday 15 October 2017.

7. MEASUREMENT

7.1 All boats (other than the HKPN Class) shall submit a copy of their current IRC rating certificate either with the entry form or no later than 1800hrs on Monday 9 October 2017. No alteration to a boat's rating will be permitted after this date except as a result of a rating protest or to correct a rating office error, in which case the revised rating shall apply to all races in the regatta. Evidence in writing must be submitted to the race committee.

7.2 HKSF HKPN PIPS shall apply to the HKPN Class. Any boat intending to enter in that class shall submit a completed declaration form to the Sailing Office before 1800hrs on Monday 9 October 2017.

7.3 A boat's largest headsail and largest spinnaker shall be made available to a representative appointed by the race committee for measurement, if so requested, prior to the first race of the regatta.

7.4 To the extent provided in the SIs, all boats shall restrict the number of crew carried on board whilst racing to comply with the Declared Initial Crew Number (DICN) on their entry forms, subject to the permitted limited variations to be detailed in the SIs. If no DICN is included on a boat's entry form, the number of crew shall be restricted to the number specified on its rating certificate. This modifies IRC Rule 22.4.2.

7.5 Boats racing in IRC Racer Class 0 and 1 shall submit an endorsed IRC certificate.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The SIs will be available in early October 2017.

9. COURSES

The courses for the regatta will be outlined in the SIs.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

10.1 A protest committee may be appointed in accordance with RRS 89.2.

10.2 When the protest committee decides that a boat which is party to a protest has broken a rule and is not exonerated, it may impose a scoring penalty (which may be no penalty) at its discretion, as an alternative to disqualification. This changes RRS 64.1.

11. SCORING

11.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A4 will apply.

11.2 Provided the maximum number of races for a class, or a division of a class, is completed, one discard will be allowed for the regatta. A score of DNC cannot be discarded. No discards will be allowed in the overall scoring for Volvo China Coast Race Week 2017 or in the Hong Kong Kettle. If fewer than the maximum number of races for a class or division of a class are completed, a boat's score for the regatta will be the total of her scores for all completed races.

11.3 Results for individual races will be established by a boat's corrected time, calculated using the following:

11.3.1 **IRC:** The Time Corrector (TCC) as printed on a boat's current valid IRC certificate will be applied to its elapsed time, as follows:

Corrected Time = Elapsed Time x TCC

11.3.2 **HKPN:** The boat's HKPN number will be applied to its elapsed time, as follows:

Corrected Time = Elapsed Time x 1000/HKPN

12. RADIO COMMUNICATION

12.1 All boats shall carry a marine VHF radio with channel 72 capability. VHF channel 72 may be used to provide boats with race information. All competitors shall be capable of monitoring channel 72 at all times above and below deck with loudspeakers or a handheld VHF radio that is waterproof or enclosed in a waterproof bag. Competitors are strongly recommended to carry at least two working VHF receivers. Failure to hear a radio communication from the race committee or a safety broadcast on channel 72 or failure of the race committee to broadcast any information will not be grounds for redress.

12.2 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. [DP]

13. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- (i) First, second and third for a class or division of class.
- (ii) First prize for the Hong Kong Kettle, as described above.
- (iii) Day prizes will be awarded for individual classes or divisions of a class.

14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

14.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority (RHKYC), race committee, sponsor(s), employees and volunteers will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

14.2 Owners and skippers are invited to co-operate closely with the organising authority, race committee and the RHKYC Sailing Office in completing the formalities of their boat entries by submission of all required information, certificates, forms, etc. within the deadline dates quoted throughout this NoR.

14.3 It is the sole responsibility of the owners and/or skippers to comply with the deadline dates and failure to do so in respect of any aspect will be treated as a failure to enter the regatta, in which case, boats will not be

eligible to compete unless evidence of genuine extenuating circumstances for the lateness is accepted by the race committee.

15. INSURANCE

All boats shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance of at least the minimum cover required by HKSAR law (<http://www.rhkyc.org.hk/upload/Marine/Notices/mdn-71-2016.pdf>).

16. MEDIA & IMAGE RIGHTS WAIVER

By entering this race, each boat owner (or charterer) and crew on the competing boats grant to the organising authority and the sponsor and affiliated companies at no cost the absolute right and permission to use their names, voices, images, likenesses and biographical material, as well as representations of their boats in any media (including television, print and internet).

17. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 17.1 Yachts entering from overseas, please contact **RHKYC Marine Manager** Alan Reid at: alan.reid@rhkyc.org.hk Tel: +852 2239 0308, for all details regarding facilities, berthing and commissioning prior to the race and/or regatta.
- 17.2 For further information about the event, please contact **RHKYC Sailing Manager**, Ailsa Angus at: ailsa.angus@rhkyc.org.hk Tel: +852 2239 0395.
- 17.3 Other details and requirements will be set out in the Volvo China Coast Race Week 2017 NoR, together with the SIs which will be available in early October 2017. All documents will be published on the Volvo China Coast Regatta website: www.chinacoastregatta.com