



# NOTICE OF RACE

Les Sables - Les Açores - Les Sables 2020

From July 15th to August 16th 2020

Departure Tuesday July 21st 2020

Organised by **Les Sables d'Olonne Vendée Course au Large**

Les Sables d'Olonne – France

8th EDITION

The Event is part of the Solo Offshore Racing French Championship – Mini 650



## **1/ ORGANISATION**

1/1 Les Sables – Les Açores – Les Sables event is organized by "Les Sables d'Olonne Vendée Course au Large".

1/2 The Race, Les Sables – Les Açores- Les Sables is organised in partnership with: Classe Mini, the City of Les Sables d'Olonne, the city of Horta, and with the support of the Council of Les Sables d'Olonne, the Regional Council of the Pays de la Loire and the County Council of Vendée.

## **2/ RULES**

2/1 The event is governed by:

- the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 (RCV);
- the OSR (Offshore Special Regulations) 2020-2021 category 1;
- the FFVoile prescriptions applying to the foreign competitors annexed hereto.

The RRS apply in:

- The 25-mile zone after the start;
- The 25-mile zone before arrival (except between 21h / 7h UTC for Horta and 22h30 / 09h UTC for Les Sables d'Olonne, application of International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (ColRegs).

Between these two zones, application of the ColRegs is required

2/2 The French text will prevail.

## **3/ PUBLICITY**

3/1 Pursuant to Regulation 20 of the ISAF (Advertising Code), as amended by the FFVoile Advertising Regulations, boats are required to carry and display the flags and markings defined jointly by the Classe Mini and the Organiser.

3/2 The distribution of the locations reserved for advertising between the Classe Mini, the competitor and the Organiser is defined by the Guide Mini 2020 Edition Art R-18-B figure 4.

3/3 The name of the registered boat can be positioned on each side of the hull. The Organiser reserves the right to refuse a name that it considers to be in bad taste, shocking, abusive or in contradiction with the objectives of the race.

3/4 All registered sailors will receive the race flag which they must display in their rig as soon as it is given to them, and until the award ceremony.

In addition, the skippers undertake to hoist the flags of the Organizer in the rigging of their sailboat (forestay). They must be brought to Les Sables d'Olonne from Monday July 16 until the start of the event, as well as after crossing the finish line of the 1st leg in Horta until the start of the second leg, and after crossing the finish line at Les Sables d'Olonne until the prize-giving ceremony. Financial penalties, paid to a sea rescue association, will be applied in the event of non-compliance with this article, at the discretion of the organizer.

In case of infringement, the competitor may be penalised, after consideration by the race

committee, who may consider the non-flying of the racing flag as retiring (RET)

3/5 At the quay, the flying of flags in the backstays as well as flags of any size with the name of the boat, the logo or registered trademark is allowed, with the exception of any slogan.

3/6 Every registered yacht will receive two dodgers on arrival, which must be displayed on each side of the boat (the stern quarter) from the registration until the prize giving ceremony.

## **4/ ELIGIBILITY**

4/1 The number of boats participating in the event is limited to 60, subject to acceptance by the maritime authorities.

4/2 The race is solo handed, without outside assistance. Any request for external assistance (with the exception of medical assistance) will result in the disqualification of the competitor of the event.

4/3 The race is open to sailboats in accordance with the MINI rules - 2020 edition.

4/4 Competitors must, in order to participate in the race, sail the boat that they have entered in the qualification defined in the 2020 Mini Guide.

The qualifications required will therefore be:

- 1000nm qualification on the predefined course;
- 800nm in races on a minimum of two races including at least one B or C solo and a race with a leg of at least 500 nm on the registered boat.

4/5 Competitors with an FFVoile license must show at the time of registration:

- their valid FFVoile license with the mention competition or accompanied by a medical certificate of non-indication against the practice of competitive sailing less than a year old;
- If necessary, the current advertising card;
- The measurement certificate.

Foreign competitors without an FFVoile license must present at the time of registration:

- Proof of membership of a National Authority member of World Sailing;
- The measurement certificate;
- Valid proof of liability insurance with a minimum cover of 2 millions Euros;
- A medical certificate non-indication against the practice of competitive sailing from less than one year (written in French or English).

4/6 For the provision of the 2 positioning beacons, dodgers and flags, provided by the organisation, each skipper will be required to pay a deposit of €1,000 (one thousand euros). This cheque will not be cashed and will be returned to the skipper at the time of the return of the 2 beacons, dodgers and flags after their arrival of the race. In case of no return of the beacon (s), the skipper will be required to pay €800 (eight hundred euros) for each beacon.

4/7 In accordance with the medical regulations of the FFVoile, Appendix 3, each

competitor must provide medical documents no later than 20 May 2020 including:

- Results of a stress test less than 4 years old,
- The results of a cardiac ultrasound.

This file will be returned to the Organiser under stamped envelope, or by mail, by indicating on the envelope "Confidential medical record" for the attention of the referring doctor of the race:

Les Sables d'Olonne Vendée Course au Large  
Ecole des pêches  
Allée du frère Maximin  
85100 Les Sables d'Olonne  
France

A medical questionnaire will be sent to eligible competitors. It is to be completed and signed by the competitor and his GP. It must be returned for the attention of the referring doctor by 1 June 2020 at the latest.

4/8 The skippers must be in possession of:

- Either a valid World Sailing Training Certificate (PSMer (1<sup>st</sup> aid at Sea) Training and Survival Training);
- Or valid certificates of Survival and 1<sup>st</sup> aid training as requested in chapters 6.01 and 6.05.2 of OSR. This training has to be "World Sailing Approved".

## **5/ REGISTRATION**

5/1 The opening of the registrations is fixed on February 3rd, 2020. The inscriptions will be registered in the chronological order according to the R-10 (2020) rules of the Classe Mini. To be registered, registrations must be complete.

5/2 After receiving the first 60 complete entries, competitors wishing to register will be placed on a waiting list, in chronological order, according to the R-10-e rule of Classe Mini.

5/3 Registration fees are set at €1,400 for "Les Sables d'Olonne Vendée Course au Large" (including 600 € of non-refundable fees). Total amount must be paid before June, 1<sup>st</sup> 2020. After this date, the competitor loses his place in the chronological order of registration and finishes at the end of the waiting list. After this date a €200 increase will apply. .

5/4 In case of withdrawal of the competitor, not reported by mail before Tuesday, June 30, 2020, registration fees collected will not be refunded (Art R-14-a rules of the Class, see Guide Mini 2020). For a withdrawal before this date, €600 of processing files will be kept.

5/5 The organization reserves the right to refuse registration in accordance with RRS 76.1.

5/6 The registration deadline is 30 June 2020 at midnight.

## 6/ COURSE AND PROGRAM

### 6/1 1st leg: Les Sables d'Olonne / Horta (Faial - Azores) 1270 nm

6 / 1.a The start of the race will take place in Les Sables d'Olonne on Tuesday, 21 July 2020 at 1:02 pm local time.

Depending on the weather conditions, the Race Director may start the race from Sunday, 19 July, 2020. The skippers will be informed of the modification of the program by an amendment published no later than Friday, 17 July, 2020 at 20:00.

6/1.b A prologue will take place in the bay of Les Sables d'Olonne on Sunday, 19 July, 2020 at 13 pm local time.

During this prologue each competitor will be required to have on board at least one person designated by the Organiser, all persons on board will have to be licensed by FFVoile and must present a valid medical certificate.

6/1.c Boats and skippers must be present at Les Sables d'Olonne from Wednesday, 15 July, 2020 at 8 pm local time.

6/1.d In reference to the 2020 Mini Guide (R-14-c), the following penalties may be applied by the organizer:

- € 80 for the first day late,
- € 160 for the second day late,
- € 320 for each following day.

The proceeds of these late penalties will be paid to a rescue at sea association.

6/1.e By Wednesday 15 July 2020 at 8 pm local, boats and skippers not being in Les Sables d'Olonne may not be allowed to start the race.

6/1.f All competitors have the obligation to participate in the prologue before the start of Les Sables d'Olonne. Non-participation in the prologue (except in case of force majeure and at the request made to the Race Direction and the Race Committee) will result in the non-confirmation of the final registration of the competitor.

6/1.g The control of the boats and the confirmation of the registrations will take place from 16th to 18 July 2020.

6/1.h No later than Monday, 20 July, 2020 at 1 pm local time, each competitor will have to deposit his duly completed and signed declaration of departure. The declaration of departure will be annexed in the Sailing Instructions. In case of advanced departure, the declaration must be filed at least 12 hours before the new departure time.

### 6/2 2nd leg: Horta (Faial - Azores) / Les Sables d'Olonne 1270 milles

6/2.a Competitors who have not completed the 1st leg before Tuesday 4 August at 4 pm local will not be allowed to take the start from the second leg.

6/2.b The start of the 2nd leg will take place on Tuesday 4 August at 4pm local time. For weather reasons, the organizer can anticipate the departure for 2 days. In case of advanced departure, the declaration must be filed at least 12 hours before the new departure time.

6/2.c Arrival at Les Sables is scheduled from Wednesday 12 August 2020.

### **6/3 Controls**

At the finish of the 1st leg, at Horta, and the event at Les Sables d'Olonne, the Technical Committee may check the sailing boats, either at its own initiative or at the request of the organizing authority or the Race Committee.

## **7/ USE OF RIGHTS**

In application of this notice of race, it is understood that the registration of each competitor to the race Les Sables – Les Açores – Les Sables implies that his image and his name, the image of his boat, those of his sponsors can be used by the Organizer to communicate and / or promote the race in all territories and all media without time limit.

## **8/ RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ORGANIZER, ITS PARTNERS AND PARTICIPANTS**

8/1 The responsibility of the Organizer and its partners is limited to ensuring the regularity of the event.

Any other liability that the Organizer may accept may only be contractual and explicit, in particular:

- The verifications that the Race Committee - either on its own initiative or at the request of the Race Committee or any other body - would have to make, have the sole purpose of ensuring that the Rules, the Sailing Instructions and their endorsements have been respected,
- The watch which the Organizer could do must be considered by the competitors as optional and random, and in no case as additional security on which they can rely,
- Any request made to a member of the organization can only civilly engage the Organizer if it has accepted civil responsibility, either himself or by one of his officials officially accredited for this purpose. This is particularly the case for various requests for assistance or even assistance at sea.

8/2 The event is a sporting event. Any sporting dispute will be judged in accordance with the RRS. The fact of depositing an undertaking implies that the competitor or delegate waive any jurisdiction other than sports for sports disputes. No claim for damages can be founded (RRS Basic Rule 3).

8/3 Regardless of the legal relationship between the owner (s) of the boat, owner and skipper, only the skipper officially indicated on the engagement sheet is the contact person responsible to the Organizer.

8/4 Competitors participate in the event at their own risk and under their responsibility for all effects. It is up to each competitor to judge, according to his knowledge, the equipment available to him, the strength of the wind, weather forecasts etc. ... the opportunity to take or not to take the start of the race, to stop or continue it.

Any information that any member of the organization could provide before or during a test, such as a gale warning, is one of many elements on which the skipper can base his decision without being able to do so, engage the responsibility of the Organizer or its partners.

8/5 Owners, ship owners or skippers are each personally responsible for all material and human accidents that may happen to themselves or to sailboats, or that they may cause to any third party or to any property belonging to a third. It is their responsibility to take out the necessary insurance to cover these risks and responsibilities.

In particular, each competitor is responsible vis-à-vis the Organizer of the subscription of all the necessary insurance to cover the civil responsibilities for a minimum amount at least equal to the international conventions in force (2 millions Euros). It must be evidenced by a written statement filed with the organizer no later than Sunday, July 19th, 2020.

The absence of insurance to third parties cannot become the responsibility of the Organizer or its partners.

8/6 As an essential condition of his participation, the ship owner and / or the owner and their insurers must file with the Organizer the waiver form, duly signed, for any claim against the Organizer, the agents and agents as well as the insurers - as written in the appendix.

8/7 A competitor cannot require the organization to organise a rescue operation from land. Rescue and assistance at sea are governed by the international conventions in force.

8/8 RRS fundamental 1.1 is reminded to competitors: "a boat or a competitor must provide all possible assistance to any person or vessel in danger"

8/9 Any competitor who registers for Les Sables – Les Açores Les Sables accepts all the rules and agrees to comply in every respect with the Mini Guide 2020.

8/10 Each competitor will have to board two trackers. These trackers will be provided by the Organizer. One will be fixed at the back of the boat before the departure of Les Sables d'Olonne. The second one will be stored inside the boat, accessible from the outside and the inside.

## **9/ TIME LIMIT**

### **9/1 During Stopover**

9/1 Boats can leave the race anywhere and at any time. Once alongside or moored in a port, people from outside the crew can access on board, refuelling and the necessary repair can be done. Towing may only be done at a maximum of 2 miles from a port in case of a stopover and shall not move the competitor to the finish line in accordance with RRS 42.3 (i).

9/1.b On a leg, the cumulative time of the stops may not exceed 36 hours, from the moment he/she reaches land is alongside or moored, until it resumes the race. After this time of 36 hours, the competitor will be ranked DNF on the leg.

## **9/2 Time Limit on Arrival**

For each Series and Proto category, boats missing to finish within 84 hours after the arrival of the first boat having completed the course will be classified DNF without instruction (this modifies RRS 35, A4 and A5). This time limit will be increased or decreased depending on the bonuses or penalties applied by each category Serie and Proto at each leg. At this time of 84 hours, it may be necessary to add the bonus in time that the Race Committee is likely to grant a sailboat.

## **10/ RANKING**

10/1 There will be two rankings:

- Proto ranking
- Series ranking

10/2 Each general ranking will be made in real time, adding for each boat the race times of the 1st and 2nd legs, taking into account any penalties or bonuses.

10/3 The declared winner will be the competitor with the shortest cumulative time. In case of a tie, the time taken on the 2nd leg will decide the competitors.

10/4 Each leg will result in two separate rankings (see 10.1).

## **11/ PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY**

The prize giving ceremony will take place at Sables d'Olonne on Sunday 16 August 2020. Prizes offered to competitors will be prizes in kind.

## **12/ OBLIGATION TO REPRESENT THE COMPETITORS**

Competitors must be present at official briefings and receptions, the timing of which will be communicated later.

In the absence of a skipper at a briefing, an official reception or at the award ceremony, a penalty of € 200 may be applied as well as the suppression of prizes and endowments.

In the event of force majeure only, a skipper may be represented by a third party during briefings, official receptions and awards, provided that this person is designated by the skipper, in writing and as soon as possible, to the race director. The Organizing Committee alone will be able to grant or refuse this provision. In favorable cases, the representative will be held to the same obligations as the skipper.



INFORMATION:

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