

St. Maarten Heineken Regatta & Gill Commadore's Cup



2 - 6 March 2017

Sint Maarten Yacht Club

Event website: <http://heinekenregatta.com>

Entry and results: <http://regattaguru.com/heineken>

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

- 1.1. The regattas will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. RRS Appendix T will apply.
- 1.3. No national prescription will apply.
- 1.4. All competing boats shall comply with the *St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Safety and Equipment Regulations*.
- 1.5. For all classes using the CSA rating system, the CSA Rating Rule will apply.
- 1.6. For all classes using the CSA Multihull Rating, the CSA Multihull Rating Rule will apply.
- 1.7. Bareboat classes will also be governed by the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Bareboat Rule
- 1.8. Any class using an ORC Rating Rule will also be governed by the following rules:
 - a) IMS Rule
 - b) ORC Rating Systems Rule
 - c) The ORC Rating Systems Rule is changed by the removal of Rule 205.2 (mast jack).
 - d) The ORC Sportboat class limit for LOA is changed to '5.5 - 10.0 metres'.
- 1.9. For boats in the Melges 24 Class, the total weight of the crew dressed in underwear shall not exceed 499kg.
- 1.10. RRS 55 *Trash Disposal* is changed by this addition of the following sentence:

"Lightweight non-synthetic material, yarn, or thread used to band a spinnaker is not 'trash' for the purposes of this rule".
- 1.11. If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2. Ratings

- 2.1. No rating certificate shall be changed after 1800 on the day before the first scheduled race of each regatta unless such change is expressly permitted in writing by the Technical Committee.
- 2.2. When a rating system offers multiple sail configurations or other alternative ratings, the entrant shall declare the choice to the Technical Committee no later than 1800 on the day before the first scheduled race of each regatta.
- 2.3. Lottery classes will be rated by an arbitrary system where ratings may change daily by the Technical Committee.

3. Safety

- 3.1. No boat shall race with an anchor overhanging the bow or forward crossbeam. Written application made prior to the close of registration for exemption from this requirement may be made to the Racing Director, who may, at his sole discretion, grant exemption from this instruction and the associated regulation in the *St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Safety and Equipment Regulations*.
- 3.2. Any boat retiring shall advise the Race Committee by VHF before leaving the race area or by telephoning the Race Committee Desk at +1 721 581 2166 or by email at hr@regattaguru.com.

4. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Regatta Results website (<http://regattaguru.com/heineken>) and on the Official Notice Board located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club.

5. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 5.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 0730 on the day it will take effect.
- 5.2. Any change to the schedule will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

6. Signals Made Ashore

There will be no signals made ashore.

7. Communication with Competitors

- 7.1. Committee Boats will make broadcasts and stand by on the following channels:

a) Committee Boat A:	VHF 72
b) Committee Boat B:	VHF 77
c) Committee Boat C:	VHF 71
d) Beach Cat Committee D:	VHF 76
- 7.2. The Race Committee will regularly broadcast its intentions for the days schedule from one hour before the first scheduled warning signal.
- 7.3. The Race Committee may additionally transmit messages by other electronic means.
- 7.4. Additionally, the Race Committee may broadcast time checks prior to the first scheduled start of each day.

8. Identification

- 8.1. All boats with sail numbers shall provide that information at registration.
- 8.2. Boats without sail numbers will be provided with bow and stern numbers at registration which shall be clearly displayed on both sides of the bow and stern quarters of the boat.

9. Classes and Class Flags

- 9.1. A list of classes and class flags and the appropriate flag for each regatta will be provided to each boat at registration.
- 9.2. Class flags provided shall be displayed prominently on the boat at the stern, preferably from the backstay.

10. Location, Schedule and Order of Starts

- 10.1. The planned schedule of races, location of the Committee Boats, the classes using each Committee Boat, and the order of starts for the first race of the day will be posted by 1800 the day before each day of racing and may additionally be transmitted by electronic means.
- 10.2. Subsequent races will start as soon as possible after the end of the previous race, and the order and planned times of these starts will be announced by the Race Committee by VHF.
- 10.3. To alert boats that a race or sequence of starts will begin soon, the orange starting line flag may be displayed (with one sound) as an attention signal at least five minutes before the first warning signal.

11. Courses

See *'Explanatory Notes on Course Display' in the 'Additional Information' booklet.*

- 11.1. Appendix A shows:
 - a) The symbols, descriptions, and approximate locations of the marks,
 - b) the descriptions of 'pre-set' courses including the marks to be rounded, the order in which they are to be rounded, and the side on which each mark is to be left, and
 - c) the symbols, descriptions, and approximate locations for finish lines.
- 11.2. The course to be sailed by each class will be displayed at the stern of the Committee Boat prior to or with the warning signal for that class and it will remain displayed until shortly after the one-minute signal for that class. The course will be displayed by either:
 - a) displaying a series of symbols for marks which when read left-to-right then row-by-row from top to bottom show the order in which the marks are to be rounded, where each symbol or its background will be either red for a mark to be rounded to port or green for a mark to rounded to starboard or black for a gate, or
 - b) displaying the symbol for a 'pre-set' course to be sailed, which may be preceded or followed by additional marks as described in SI 11.2 a) above.

- 11.3. The symbol displayed in the last position on the course display shows the finish mark for that course.
- 11.4. When a boat's course finishes at the 'Heineken Finish', regardless of the direction of the previous mark, she shall pass between the marks of the Heineken Gate leaving mark 'HP' to port and mark 'HS' to starboard as the last mark of the course before finishing on the Heineken Finish Line. This changes RRS 28.2 c).
- 11.5. The course axis, compass bearing, and range to the first mark for each class shall be provided by the Race Committee for windward-leeward laid courses.
- 11.6. The course to be sailed, including the location of the finish line, for each class will be announced by VHF before the preparatory signal for that class and may be transmitted by other electronic means in addition.

12. Marks

- 12.1. Start marks will be orange inflated marks.
- 12.2. Finish marks will be yellow inflated marks.
- 12.3. Pre-set Marks will be one of:
 - a) orange or yellow inflated mark, some of which may display advertising, or
 - b) permanent yellow Nature Reserve spar buoys on the French side of the island, or
 - c) the red and white safe water spar mark near Oyster Pond, or
 - d) the west cardinal mark in Marigot Bay.
- 12.4. The colour of any laid inflatable mark will be provided by the Race Committee by VHF.
- 12.5. If a mark is missing, in addition to the provisions of RRS 34, it may be replaced by a small round orange mark.
- 12.6. If a mark of a gate is missing, the remaining mark shall be rounded on the same side as the previous mark.
- 12.7. In addition to the provisions to RRS 33, the Race Committee will announce by VHF any change of mark description.

13. Course Restrictions and Obstructions

- 13.1. While racing, boat shall not enter the following areas which are hereby defined as obstructions:
 - a) The entire area of Cole Bay to the North of a line from 18°01.38'N 063°05.45'W to 18°01.10'N 063°05.25'W and from that point to 18°01.10'N 063°04.78'W.
 - b) The area between any yellow restriction mark in Maho Bay and the nearest shoreline.
 - c) The area between Mark X1 (Point Plum) and the nearest shoreline.
- 13.2. Any boat observed entering the areas listed in SI 13.1 may be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1.
- 13.3. Start and Finish Lines
 - a) After completing the first leg of the course, a boat shall not pass through any start line.

- b) A boat shall not cross any finish line nor pass between the Heineken Gate and the Heineken Finish Line unless sailing the last leg of her course.
- c) Any start or finish line that a boat is prohibited from crossing is an obstruction for that boat.

14. The Start

- 14.1. The start line will be between an orange flag on the Committee Boat for the class and a nearby start mark.
- 14.2. An inner distance mark (IDM) may be laid near the Committee Boat. Boats shall not cross the line between the IDM and the Committee Boat after the one-minute signal for each race and before starting and clearing the line. A boat infringing this rule may exonerate herself by rounding the end of the starting line to the pre-start side before starting.
- 14.3. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid any starting area during the starting sequence for other races. A breach of this instruction shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1 a).
- 14.4. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after the last starting signal in a sequence of consecutive starts in which her class started will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

15. The Finish

- 15.1. The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Committee Boat and a nearby finish mark.

16. Penalty System

- 16.1. For Bareboat, Multihull, and Beach Cat classes only, the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty, changing RRS 44.1.

17. Time Limit

- 17.1. Boats failing to finish before the time limits below will be scored 'TLE' without a hearing. This changes RRSs 35, 63.1, A5, and A11.
- 17.2. For all classes, the time limit will be:
 - a) 1600 for the last race of the last day of a regatta,
 - b) 1700 for the last race of any day other than the last day of a regatta,
 - c) 1800 for any race using a course longer than 24 nm, or
 - d) 50 minutes after the first boat to finish in her class for any other race.

18. Protests and Requests for Redress

- 18.1. Protest forms are available at the Protest Desk, located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit. Bridge opening times and the return of boats to moorings will not normally be considered as a reason to extend a protest time limit.

18.2. Protest Time Limit

For each competitor, the protest time limit is the earlier of two hours after the protesting boat's finish time or:

- a) On any race day except the last day of scheduled racing for each regatta: 1830.
 - b) On the last scheduled day of racing for each regatta: 1630.
- 18.3. On the last scheduled day of racing for each regatta a request for redress based on a Jury decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.
 - 18.4. Notices will be posted to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club beginning at the time posted.
 - 18.5. Notices of protests by the Race Committee, Technical Committee, or Jury will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1b).
 - 18.6. When all parties are present at the Protest Desk, every reasonable effort will be made to begin arbitration under RRS Appendix T, or to hold a hearing as soon as possible, even if it is prior to the posted hearing time.
 - 18.7. Measurement Protests
 - a) No measurement or rating protest may be lodged by any competitor after their protest time limit on the first day of scheduled racing. This changes RRS 60.1 a).
 - b) If at any time prior to the last protest time limit on the final day of scheduled racing the Regatta Measurer finds that an error exists in a measurement certificate, he will file a request for redress. If the Jury is satisfied that the certificate is in error, the measurer will reissue the certificate and all affected races in the regatta will be re-scored using the new certificate. This changes RRS 78.3.
 - 18.8. When the Jury sits with a panel of fewer than 5 members, in accordance with Appendix N 1.4 b) the time limit for the parties to request a full International Jury hearing shall be thirty minutes from the time the initial decision is announced.
 - 18.9. Except for breaches of Parts 1 and 2 of the RRS, the International Jury may apply any penalty that they deem equitable. This changes RRS 64.1.
 - 18.10. Decisions of the International Jury will be final as provided in RRS 70.5.

19. Scoring

- 19.1. For each regatta:
 - a) One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
 - b) For each class, when fewer than 6 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

- c) For each class, when 6 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 19.2. One design classes may, at the request of the class prior to the close of registration, include the race scores of the Gill Commodore's Cup in the St Maarten Heineken Regatta.
- 19.3. Classes using ORC ratings will be scored using triple number scoring using wind speed as determined by the Race Committee.
- 19.4. Boats scored TLE under SI 17 will be scored for the position two places more than number of boats that finished, though not worse than DNF. This changes RRS A4.2.

20. Equipment and Measurement Checks

A boat or her equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with rating rules and sailing instructions by a member of the Technical Committee. On the water, a boat instructed by a member of the Technical Committee to proceed to a designated area for inspection shall comply with those instructions.

21. Official Boats

- 21.1. Official boats will display an 'RC' flag.
- 21.2. Committee Boats will display their Committee Boat letter on a flag.
- 21.3. The Heineken Finish Boat will display the 'Star H' flag as illustrated in Appendix A.

22. Use of Engines

Any boat that uses her engine for propulsion while racing and does not retire shall submit a written report of the incident including the time and distance covered and the reasons for using the engine to the jury within the protest time. The jury may, following a hearing take any action it deems appropriate.

23. Prizes

- 23.1. For the Gill Commodore's Cup, the Following prizes will be awarded:
 - a) 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each class,
 - b) Most Worthy Performance for the Day as determined by the Race Committee at their sole discretion.
- 23.2. For the St Maarten Heineken Regatta, the following prizes will be awarded:
 - a) 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for each race day for each class except Lottery classes.
 - b) 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each class except Lottery classes,
 - c) 1st place for each day in Lottery class,
 - d) The Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Cup for the Most Worthy Performance of the Regatta as determined by the Race Committee at their sole discretion,
 - e) The Columbus Cup for the Overall Winner in the Bareboat classes,
 - f) Round-the-Island Trophies for the Monohull Spinnaker, Monohull Non Spinnaker, Bareboat

and Multihull boats with the fastest elapsed time in the Around the Island Race,

- g) Most Worthy Performance for each day may be awarded at the sole discretion of the Race Committee.

24. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority 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.

25. Media Rights

By participating in this event, competitors grant to the organising authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.