



## The Royal Western Yacht Club of England

### OSTAR 2013 NEWSLETTER NO 3

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At last we have managed to put up a new OSTAR 2013 website. This is thanks to Jordan Gear and Alex Burgis who are undergraduates at Plymouth University and stalwarts of the University Yacht Club. Over time the website will be developed and will be made into the exciting facility which we expect for this great race. Please note that blogs and twitter communication will be linked to it as will reporting from the Yellowbrick tracker system.

To date two skippers have withdrawn but there are 18 confirmed entries with another month in hand before the 31<sup>st</sup> March deadline. A further 4 skippers have indicated their strong interest. Andrea Mura plans to send a container from Plymouth to Newport transporting his delivery sails and spare gear. The transit time is 8 days quay to quay. He would like to know if other competitors wish to participate with him. Please contact me and I will relay your interest to Andrea.

The Race Committee has signed a contract with G Comm to hire Iridium 9555 satellite telephones. The cost is US\$ 179 per month including 60 minutes airtime. We intend to employ text transmissions unless in an emergency. The refundable deposit is US\$1,000. The charges are subject to 20% tax where applicable. There is a link to G Comm on the OSTAR 2013 website should you wish to enter a similar arrangement.

There has been discussion about the deadline for finishing the race. There is a strong feeling that slower boats which complete the course should have their time recorded. NOR 5.6 states that the course should be completed by 5th July (39 days). Our Newport Yacht Club committee member, Norm Bailey, is prepared to welcome late arrivals after we have departed Newport, as he did in 2009. The Race Committee will discuss a possible extension to the deadline.

We believe that Amendment No 1 clarifies the NOR in regard to weather information. It must be publically available and not tailored specifically for individual weather routing. Before the start competitors will be asked to inform the Race Committee of which sources they intend to use.

Please note the race dates and deadlines on the website. In NOR Amendment No 2 we extended the deadline until 31<sup>st</sup> March by which time fees should be paid.

We are ordering race clothing and will promulgate a form so that you may order and collect it from the Race Office on arrival in Plymouth. The prices will be: Sweatshirts £25, Rugby shirts £25 and Polo shirts £20 in sizes Small, Medium, Large, XL, and XXL.

Best wishes,

David Southwood



Chairman OSTAR 2013 Race Committee