

The Voiles de Saint-Tropez – 29th September to 7th October 2018 20th edition

18th September, 2018

Voiles de Saint-Tropez: ready for the 20th!

For the 20th consecutive year, the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez is ready to host 300 of the most beautiful classic and modern yachts for the final play-date of the season – The Voiles de Saint-Tropez.

Moderns: Full steam ahead

For the Wally Yachts, the **BMW Trophy** promises some interesting racing following the unprecedented victory in early September at Portocervo by a first-time owner-helmsman aboard Wally 77 *Lyra*. Racing off the beaches of Pampelonne, they will be giving the 3 Wallycento, *Galateia*, *Magic Carpet3* and *Tango* a run for their money. Of the same lineage, more than 50 entrants of powerful maxis in IRC A and B Class, as well as J-Class *Topaz* and *Velsheda*, present a spectacular finale to the season. In IRC C Class, racing for the **Edmond de Rochschild Trophy**, teams are warmed up and ready to go, notably TP52 *Arobas 2*, hot off the podium taking 3rd place in the European Champions in Marseilles. A strong presence is also assured in IRC D and E Classes with no less than 40 teams signed up.

Classics: Birthday wishes all round!

Bringing joy and emotion that transcends age, one cannot help but marvel at the endurance of these timeless masterpieces. This year, the elegant Philip Rhodes ketch, *Eugenie V*, celebrates 50 years. A boat that has remained in the same family from its inception, having not missed a Nioulargue since 1982 nor a Voiles de Saint-Tropez, she took home the Club 55 Cup in 2016. A blessing by Father Gouarin will mark her 50th year. The exceptional Fife Jubilee for the **Rolex Trophy**, itself marking 130 years of the Scottish dragon engraved on the bow of these eponymous yachts, includes some notable celebrations. Built between the wars, *Cambria*, considered as one of William Fife junior's tour de force, largest in her class at 40 meters over the deck, will celebrate her 90th birthday. Alongside is the delicate cutter rigged *Viola* – classed as a historic monument, celebrating her 110th year!

In brief:

* The "Petites Voiles"

For the first time, a "Petites Voiles" (Mini Voiles) will take place on Wednesday, October 3rd, beginning at 2pm. This event, using the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez's optimist fleet, will start at their dinghy centre situated in the Bay of Canoubiers, tacking around a buoy in the port before returning to the centre. The youth regatta will comprise 15 to 20 boats and is open to competitors up to 12 years old. Participants at the Voiles de Saint-Tropez are welcome to enter their young ones to join existing members of the Sailing School in this

inaugural regatta. Inscription and licenses are obligatory: voilelegere@snst.org www.societe-nautique-saint-tropez.fr/snst/voile-legere

* The Voiles flies the eco flag

The preservation of the oceans, a very live issue, can no longer be ignored. We need to act now, and it is in this spirit that the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez has opened the doors of its Race Village to 2 organisations, highly active in this domain. The Marine Observation Service for the Gulf of Saint-Tropez has partnered with the Pelagos Sanctuary www.cc-golfedesainttropez.fr and the Ocean Family Foundation (OFF) www.oceanfamilyfoundation.org.

The Sanctuary delineates an 87,500km² area of the Mediterranean Sea between Italy, Monaco and France, created in 2002 by common accord for the study and protection of marine mammals and their habitat.

The OFF is an international association which brings together a vast community of ocean users with the objective to finance and implement diverse initiatives linked to the protection and preservation of the oceans. This organisation, under the patronage of North Sails, plays an essential role in the sustainable development programme for, amongst others, the Volvo Ocean Race. There will be expositions, films and school groups welcomed during the Voiles at their stand in the Race Village.

* Tahiti - 10 years already

In 2008, under the initiative of Maurice Chauvin, the Voiles created a partnership which traverses the globe with Tahiti Pearl Regatta. Despite the 16,000km which separates Saint-Tropez and the French Polynesian archipelago, they have come together over the last 10 years in a relationship which transcends distance. Music, dance, pearls and local artefacts, nourished by a local cuisine based around raw fish are flavours not to be missed by participants and locals alike. Their colourful presence animates the Race Village.

PROGRAMME

MODERN YACHTS

Saturday 29th, Sunday 30th September: Registration and Inspection Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th (J.Laurain Memorial Day, Challenge Day), Friday 5th, Saturday 6th October: inshore races, 1st start 11h00

CLASSIC YACHTS

Sunday 30th September and Monday 1st October: Registration and Inspection Sunday 30th September: arrival of the Yacht Club de France Autumn Cup feeder race from Cannes Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th (J.Laurain Memorial Day, Challenge Day, Club 55 Cup, GYC Centenary Trophy), Friday 5th, Saturday 6th: inshore races, 1st start 12h00

Prize-giving for everyone Sunday, 7th October, from 11h00.

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SUN 7 GRAPHIC

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