



Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez 2022 – from Saturday 24 September to Saturday 8 October
Saturday 8 October

The curtain closes on an absolutely spellbinding Voiles de Saint-Tropez 2022!

- The winners of the four Maxi Groups rewarded this evening.
- *Capricorno*, winner of the IMA Mediterranean Maxi Inshore Challenge 2022.
- See you in 2023!

What a cracking fortnight! Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez has simply lit up the gulf in France's Var region and with it the whole of the yachting planet. Sailing in all its competitive, aesthetic or historic guises, has sparkled in all its glory against the stunning backdrop of Saint Tropez, enabling sailors and onlookers a dreamlike moment of escapism. The beautiful summer of sails rounds off this evening, leaving all its participants in a slight daze amidst all the splendour, friendship and passion brought to the fore by this wonderful event and the beautiful boats, which win the hearts and souls of both the crews and the passers-by. See you again in 2023, from 30 September to 14 October.

Spirit of Malouen X, Cannonball, Lyra and Saïda crowned!

It proved to be a decisive last day at Les Voiles for the awarding of the Trophies to each of the four groups of Maxis, which competed in this second and final week of Les Voiles de Saint Tropez. Storms and rain radically transformed the atmosphere and light in the gulf today as the 46 Maxis set sail on a short coastal course in a light NNE'ly, which proved to be particularly fickle in terms of both strength and direction. Despite a start in due form and the very best efforts to set a course on the part of the Race Committees, which have been entirely admirable throughout the past fortnight, ultimately it was the storm that triumphed, sucking up every last breath of air in the gulf and prompting the cancellation of this last day of racing. However, in addition to a day of Challenges on Thursday, the 4 Maxi groups validated 3 superb races in all, making it possible to crown the magnificent winners this evening. Stéphane Névé's *Spirit of Malouen X*, with a crew from the world of TP52 racing, narrowly missed out on the hat-trick in Maxi 1 after securing two race victories. In the Maxi 2 category, *Cannonball* not only reigned supreme over the rest of the group, she also got the better of the two other formidable Maxi 72s, *Jethou* and *North Star*, and was able to dismiss the threat from *Magic Carpet 3*, the incredibly successful Wallycento. *Lyra* just snatched the win in Maxi 3 against one of the most outstanding Maxis this season, the 80-foot Reichel/Pugh design *Capricorno*. The ketch *Saïda* belonging to Jürg Schneider from Switzerland also excelled in Maxi 4, just ahead of the two previous America's Cup protagonists, the 12mRs *Kiwi Magic KZ7* and *French Kiss*.

An articulated foiler graces Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez: Flying Nikka

The futuristic foiler *Flying Nikka* was signed up for Les Voiles in line with the wishes of the IMA. Her size, her profile and, above all, her huge articulated foils, caused quite a stir in Saint Tropez. Designed by a team led by Irish designer Mark Mills, the 19 m *Flying Nikka* with her cutting-edge foils, was able to power across the gulf this week, posting speeds in excess of 40 knots at times. She was built in Valencia at the King Marine yard, which boasts all the latest composite technologies. “Roberto Lacorte was keen to have a thoroughbred race boat, built for speed,” explains Alezio Razeto, Team Manager of *Flying Nikka*. “We’d witnessed the development of foils on the Imoca Class sailboats and the America’s Cup yachts so we said to ourselves: why don’t we have articulated foils on a race boat in the Mediterranean? It’s Roberto Lacorte, the owner, who helms the boat. The crew largely has an America’s Cup background. Helming a foiler isn’t the most difficult aspect. The real difficulty lies in trimming the sails and the foils. There are a huge number of elements which need configuring to get her up on a plane, airborne and nicely balanced, especially given that the pressure in the sails is never constant. Adjusting the foils is the most complicated element, particularly when you’re flying along at over thirty knots!”

Georges Korhel, Principal Race Officer

“We’ve pulled off the two-week gamble. We have an increasing number of big boats, which are increasingly large! Everyone has grasped the fact that it’s not possible to reconcile the massive Wallys and the small classic yachts in the same arena. There’s no doubt about the two-week logic. Our courses in the second week are perfectly suited to the fast Maxis. The Club 55 Cup proved to be a big hit too. We had a very complicated first week, with the Mistral picking up at the end of the day to add a bit of tension to the racing. We launched races in 15-16 knots of breeze, but the fleet returned to the port in the evening in gusts of over 25 knots. Everyone played the game and everything went smoothly. In week two, we had some very light conditions. We had to adapt the courses and be one step ahead with any course reductions. In the end though, we validated races every day and all the sailors are happy. We’ve also made progress with managing the results, removing the need for paper in the process. Everything’s computerised now and everyone has easy access to it thanks to dedicated applications.”

Benoit de Froidmont, President of the International Maxi Association.

“The Maxis have really felt at home in Saint Tropez. I’ve had some excellent feedback from the owners. They sailed well all week and the results are in keeping with those racked up over the past season, bar the odd exception. We’ll be awarding Trophies for our Mediterranean Maxi Inshore Challenge this evening, as well as to our top member. Multihulls and foilers really appeal to some owners and it’s our mission to welcome them with open arms.”

The winners of Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez 2023 MAXIS:

Maxi 1 - North Sails Trophy; *Spirit of Malouen X* (Stéphane Névé.) 2nd: *Pattoo*. 3rd: *Jasi* – (Toby Clarke)

Maxi 2 - Galeries Bartoux Trophy; *Cannonball* (Dario Ferrari). 2nd *North Stars* (Peter Dubens). 3rd: *Magic Carpet 3* (Lindsay Owen Jones)

Maxi 3 - Besserat de Bellefon Trophy: *Lyra* (Terry Hui). 2nd *Capricorno* (Alessandro Del Bono). 3rd: *Les Amis* (Valter Pizzoli)

Maxi 4 - Torpez Trophy: *Saïda* (Jürg Schneider). 2nd *Kiwi Magic KZ7* (Johan Petersen). 3rd: *French Kiss* (Christophe Babule)

Winner IMA Mediterranean Maxi Inshore Challenge: *Capricorno* (Alessandro Del Bono)

Best IMA member: *Lyra* (Terry Hui)

Town of Saint-Tropez Cup – 1st Maxi Yacht: *Cannonball* (Dario Ferrari)

Club 55 Maxi Cup: *Magic Carpet 3* - Sir Lindsay Owen-Jones

Challenges: *Kiwi Magic KZ7* (Johan Petersen)

Results of the photo competition: Alain Laub, from Cavalaire, represented by Cléa Auger

The OCTO trophy.

The Town of Saint-Tropez Trophy is awarded to the first Maxi Yacht of all the categories combined, namely *Cannonball*. It is an original sculpture designed by Arnaud Régalet from the company Octo and the sailing themed wooden creation measures 60 cm and weighs in at 2.5 kg.

Partners to Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez

ROLEX

BMW

NORTH SAILS

WALLY

SUZUKI MARINE

MARSHALL

MERCANTOUR

BYBLOS

BESSERAT DE BELLEFON

TORPEZ (VIGNOBLES DE SAINT-TROPEZ)

BERNARD OPTIC

PEPINIERISTE PIERRE BASSET

ESPRIT VILLAGE A SAINT-TROPEZ

TOWN OF SAINT TROPEZ

PORT DE SAINT-TROPEZ

LES MARINES DE COGOLIN

FEDERATION FRANCAISE DE VOILE

YACHT CLUB DE FRANCE

INTERNATIONAL MAXI ASSOCIATION

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