

## XIII Palermo-Montecarlo: head to head between Malizia II and Lucky. Buena Vista: withdrawal of excellence during the night

Palermo, August 22 2017 – As always Palermo-Montecarlo turns out to be an offshore regatta full of traps and turns of events. Veteran of the Regatta, **Junoplano 60**, had some problems with their mast close to Ustica; during the first night of racing another Maxi, the 62' **Buena Vista**, withdrew. The boat owned by Beppe and Gigi Pannarale (helmed by Alberto La Tegola) had damaged their mainsail which broke when they sailed towards Sardinia in fourth position. Buena Vista is the boat that defends the colors of **Circolo della Vela Sicilia**, organizer of Palermo-Montecarlo in collaboration with **Yacht Club de Monaco** and **Yacht Club Costa Smeralda**, for this reason it represented a bigger bitter disappointment.

The head to head between the 63' **Lucky** (USA) of owner Byron Ehrhart (he defends the flag of New York Yacht Club) and IMCOA60' **Malizia II** (MON) by Pierre Casiraghi (Yacht Club de Monaco) goes on. Yesterday, at the start line of the harbour of Mondello Gulf, had attracted the curiosity of all the witnesses who followed the phases from the shore. This is the first time that one IMCOA 60' with foil of last generation takes part in PA-MC: "We take lot of care of this regatta - the secretary of Yacht Club de Monaco, **Bernard D'Alessandri**, said -. We would like to transmit a good image and it would be good that also other IMCOA 60' come to do this wonderful regatta. Malizia II has on board German skipper **Boris Herrmann**, already protagonist of many huge experiences with Giovanni Soldini.

Grand Soleil 58' **Leaps&Bounds** by French owner Jean Philippe Blanpain and the 45' **Tonnerre de Glen** (FRA) by Dominique Tian are the other members of the fleet who lead the race.

This XIII Palermo-Montecarlo has got a fleet coming from **nine Countries**: USA, Monaco, Germany, Poland, Great Britain, France, Russia, Hungary and Italy.

The record of Regatta (established in 2015) belongs to **Esimit Europa 2** in 47hours, 46minutes, 48 seconds. Now the boats are going through the Mediterranean beside the coast of Sardinia: at Porto Cervo there will be a "gate" and they have to choose if to go toward Principato di Monaco leaving Corsica at the right or at the left (this is the most frequent choice). If the wind allows it, the first hull should arrive in the harbour of Montecarlo tomorrow in the morning after nearly 500 miles non stop.

This Regata is loved because it has got a various fleet. It has 6 hulls that run for **Palermo-Montecarlo x2**, with only two crew: three of them belongs to the Class 950 (Oceanic boats) and **Pegasus Città di Verona** (Pietro Boerio and Francesco Conforte on board) is









the favourite one.

**Extreme Life Cinq Sens** by Maurizio Vettorato is another 950 that runs to achieve good results: he knows the Palermo-Montecarlo very well.

As a prize there are **Angelo Randazzo Trophy** for overall winner in corrected time (in the bigger class, ORC this year) and **Giuseppe Tasca D'Almerita Trophy** to the winner in real time. Palermo-Montecarlo Regatta helps to give many international trophies: Trofeo D'Altura of Mediterranean 2017, Championnat et Trophees Inshore et Offshore Mediterranean Equipages IRC2017, Mediterranean Maxi OFFSHORE Challenge 2017.

Many partners and Istitutions help the success of Palermo-Montecarlo, as **Comune di Palermo**, co-organizer of the Event. This edition has also the support of **Fondazione Terzo Pilastro Italia e Meditarraneo**. Emmanuele Francesco Maria Emanuele is the President.

The foundation wants to promote health, culture, scientific research, education, social inclusion doing trait d'union between cultures in front of Mediterranean.

One special note to **Tasca D'Almerita**, who, for eight generations, produces wines awarded all over the world. His family feels the passion for the sea: the special link with Palermo-Montecarlo underlines it.

New partners are: Banca Mediolanum and Condorelli with Riolocar and Gesap.

LIVE TRACK\_ Follow the race live on internet and mobile devices

Web Link: http://yb.tl/pm2017

App IOS: <u>YB Races</u> App Android: <u>YB Races</u>

## **CONTACTS**

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