

,ORGANIZED BY THE CIRCOLO DELLA VELA SICILIA, THE 15TH EDITION OF THE OFFSHORE REGATTA PALERMO-MONTECARLO IS TAKING SHAPE. ON A RENEWED WEBSITE WHERE THE NOTICE OF THE RACE 2019 AND THE INSCRIPTION FORM TO ENTRY ARE ALREADY ONLINE

Palermo, 30 January 2019 - The XV edition of the Palermo-Montecarlo makes its first moves. Organized by the Circolo della Vela Sicilia, Challenger of Record of the next edition of the America's Cup alongside the Luna Rossa team, the start of the famous offshore regatta is scheduled at twelve o'clock on next 21st August. The route is long about 500 nautical miles from Sicily to the Principality of Monaco, with the passage of a gate in front of Porto Cervo. The website of the regatta www.palermo-montecarlo.it has been completely renovated in terms of graphics and contents. It is already hosting the 2019 version of the Notice of Race, with all the informations about this very important stage both for the Italian Offshore Championship of the Italian Sailing Federation and for the Mediterranean Maxi Offshore Challenge of the International Maxi Association.

But not only, from the home page – here is the direct link: http://www.palermo-montecarlo.it/2019/it/iscriviti.asp – you'll also find the form to immediately provide for registration. The race is reserved for offshore yachts with ORC International or IRC certificates, Maxi Yachts (IRC), Classic Yachts, monotypes and multihulls. In addition to the individual class awards, other two trophies are in stake: the perpetual Angelo Randazzo Challenge Trophy will award the winner in compensated time of the most numerous group - that trophy was won last year by the French crew of Tonnerre de Glen, while the Giuseppe Tasca d'Almerita Trophy for the first hull to cross the finish line in real time is currently held by the fast American Maxi yacht Rambler88.

Last August in the Gulf of Mondello no less than 54 boats were protagonists of a magnificent departure witnessed from the sea, by His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco together with the Mayor of Palermo, Leoluca Orlando and the President of the Circolo della Vela Sicilia, Agostino Randazzo who were on board Gregoretti, a ship of the Italian Coast Guard.

This year, the goal is to maintain the growing trend that has always characterized the Palermo-Montecarlo. The regatta attract each year some of the fastest and most beautiful racing boats of the Mediterranean, just like last year when Rambler 88 owned by George David (with on board a legend of the America's Cup like the New Zealanded Brad Butterworth), the other Maxi Yacht Lucky owned by Byron Ehrhart and Atalanta II owned by Carlo Puri Negri, the Cookson 50 Endlessgame owned by Pietro Moschini and the Class 40 Made in Midi of the famous French oceanic sailor Kito de Pavant. Considering the early gossip – the interest shown by several multihulls owners for example – it is a goal that could be reached by the organization captained by Circolo della Vela Sicilia, with the support of Yacht Club de Monaco and Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, Fondazione Sicilia, local institutions, the partner Tasca d'Almerita and a pool of sponsors that will be formalized in the coming months, along with the novelties of this awaited fifteenth edition.

## Agostino Randazzo (President of the Circolo della Vela Sicilia)

"We had an exceptional edition last year: we broke the record of boats on the finish line in Montecarlo and it was a really exciting race to follow. The competition involved stars like Brad Butterworth, Kito de Pavant, Gabriele Bruni, Lorenzo Bressani, Gabriele Benussi and Alberto Bolzan, to remain among the best known sailors. At the arrival in Montecarlo the satisfaction was so real, it involved everyone, regardless of the result, and there is no coincidence if owners such as George David, Bryon Ehrhart and Carlo Puri Negri immediately anticipated that they would do everything to be there also in 2019. This is one more incentive to continue to improve the organization of the regatta and give all the participants the opportunity to live a truly unique experience, as only the Palermo-Montecarlo can offer".

## **CONTATTI**

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