



THE ICE 52 PRIMAVISTA LAURIA SKIPPED BY GAETANO FIGLIA DI GRANARA TAKES THE TROPHY ANGELO RANDAZZO AND THE XV EDITION OF PALERMO-MONTECARLO. VERA, THE MAXI OWNED BY MIGUEL GALUCCIO IS THE FIRST YACHT AT THE ARRIVAL IN REAL TIME AND TAKES THE GIUSEPPE TASCA D'ALMERITA'S TROPHY

Palermo, 26st August 2019 - Gabriele Bruni's ICE 52 Primavista Lauria and Miguel Galuccio's Maxi Vera are the winners of the two challenge trophies up for grabs in the XV edition of the Palermo-Montecarlo, the offshore regatta organized by the Circolo della Vela Sicilia, with the collaboration of the Yacht Club de Monaco and the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, which officially ended today with the arrival of the last boats of the fleet.

The overall winner of this exciting edition of the regatta is Primavista Lauria, the boat of the Circolo Canottieri Roggero di Lauria with a high level crew set up by Gabriele Bruni, who wasn't onboard himself because he was in Japan working with the Olympic National in the Test Event of Enoshima, as coach of the Nacra 17 catamaran, and by the skipper Gaetano Figlia di Granara.

On board the 52' Primavista, which won the Angelo Randazzo Trophy for overall victory in the ORC International group (the largest in the fleet), there were sailors such as Sandro Montefusco, Matteo Ivaldi, Andrea Caracci and the Sicilian Giuseppe Leonardi and Mario Noto, a world-class team who starred in a tactically perfect race.

"It was a tough Palermo-Montecarlo, very hot weather, but we did well to overcome all the pitfalls of the racecourse in the best way - especially in the final part of the race. Taking home the Angelo Randazzo Trophy was our primary objective", said the skipper Granara. "I want to thank all the members of the Circolo Canottieri Roggero di Lauria who have allowed us to participate in the Palermo-Montecarlo: we hope to have repaid them with this important victory."

The magnificent 82 footer Vera with on board the legendary Dutch skipper Bouwe Bekking who took part 8 times to the full crewed round the world race) and the Italian Michele Regolo. Member of the Italian Sailing Team for London 2012 won the Giuseppe Tasca d'Almerita Trophy as first hull at the finish line in Montecarlo, Saturday 24 August at 5:13 am, after having closed the almost 500 miles of the racecourse in two days, 17 hours and 13 minutes.

"We raced well and I am happy with the result," said the Argentine owner Miguel Galuccio at the end of the race. "We have done a good good job in many aspects, but what I've appreciated most was seeing the crew working as a real team. The person who deserves a special mention is



Aksel Maghdal, our navigator, he did an exceptional job in interpreting the best way the difficult weather conditions we had".

The former Croatian ski champion Ivica Kostelic also crossed the finish line onboard the Class 40 Croatia Full of Life Ola, and said they have been literally bewitched by the Palermo-Montecarlo "A beautiful race, very hard for the conditions we faced, but exceptional: we are really happy to have concluded the racecourse and we will do everything to be there in the future", he declared as soon as he arrived in Montecarlo, and Zeneha Takesha of Natale Lia, with the young sailors of the Circolo della Vela Sicilia on board.

"It's been a long and difficult edition of the Palermo-Montecarlo due to the great heat and the light winds, but extraordinarily exciting from the first to the very last mile", says the President of the Circolo della Vela Sicilia, Agostino Randazzo. "Congratulations to all: regardless of the result, concluding the Palermo-Montecarlo always deserves applause. I also want to address to the clubs that support us in the organization - the Yacht Club de Monaco for its extraordinary hospitality and the Costa Smeralda Yacht Club for the perfect gate management in Porto Cervo - to the partners who support us with great passion and to the whole team of my own club".

The other trophies of the XV Palermo-Montecarlo delivered in the late afternoon during the awards ceremony at the Yacht Club de Monaco, were won by Massiliano Mencacci's Melagodo (first ORCi and IRC at the gate of Porto Cervo, first IRCB and ORCiB in Montecarlo), Francesco Conforto's Pegasus (first IRCx2 both in Porto Cervo and Montecarlo), Jean Philippe Blanpain's Leaps & Bounds (first IRCA) and Met White Walwes (first multihull MOCRA).

In addition to the Randazzo Trophy, awarded to the winner by Paola and Marina Randazzo, Primavista Lauria won also in ORCiA and the Sicilian Yacht Challenge Emanuele Bruno, while the Maxi Vera, received the Tasca Trophy from the hands of Giuseppe Tasca and has also achieved success in IRC overall and for the first Maxi Yacht at the finish line. Particularly appreciated by the participants were the numerous tributes and gifts offered by the partners of the regatta, Conti Tasca d'Almerita and the Premiati Oleifici Barbera, represented in Montecarlo by Giulia Adragna, actual head of the company's foreign sector (America) and nephew of CEO Manfredi Barbera.

Stage of the Italian Offshore Championship organized by the Italian Sailing Federation and stage of the IMA's Mediterranean Maxi Offshore Challenge, the Palermo-Montecarlo is organized by the Circolo della Vela Sicilia in collaboration with the Yacht Club de Monaco and the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, and with the support of the Municipality of Palermo, of the Sicilian Regional Assembly, of the Fondazione Sicilia Foundation, of the partners Conti Tasca d'Almerita and Premiati Oleifici Barbera, and of the technical sponsors Gesap and R. Motor Toyota and Visiva.

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