



## **CARIBBEAN OCEAN RACING CUP SERIES RACE # 3**

### **St. Maarten Soualiga Challenge Sint Maarten, Netherlands Antilles**

**The Netherlands Antilles Canoe Federation is pleased to invite your Federation to participate in the St. Maarten Soualiga Challenge. This race is the third event of the Caribbean Ocean Racing Cup 2008.**

#### **DATE AND VENUE**

The St. Maarten Soualiga Challenge will be held on **28 September 2008**, in Sint Maarten, Netherlands Antilles.

#### **COURSE**

The race will be conducted in the Atlantic Ocean in the channel between St. Barthelemy, French West Indies and Sint Maarten, Netherlands Antilles. The area normally has winds of 15 knots and swells of 1.5 meters from the southeast. The race will consist of a single 25km down-wind run starting in Gustavia, St. Barthelemy and finishing in Oyster Pond, Sint Maarten. Additional course details will be found in attachment A.

#### **CLASSES**

The event will be open to the following classes:

Surfski Single (S1), male and female  
Surfski Doubles (S2), male, female and mixed  
Sea Kayak Single (SK1), male and female  
Sea Kayak Double (SK2), male, female and mixed  
Outrigger Canoe Single (OC1) male and female

Classes will be split into age groups as dictated by the entries.

#### **ENTRIES**

All entries should be submitted to the organizing committee before 14 September 2008. All entries must include National Federation represented, full name, date of birth and passport number of all competitors and accompanying team members. Individual entries will be accepted subject to ICF policies.

Email: [thebrowns@domaccess.com](mailto:thebrowns@domaccess.com)

Fax: +599 543 6029    Tel: +590 590 87 74 68

## **ENTRY FEE**

An entry fee of USD 50.00 will be charged for all competitors.

## **CRAFT**

There are a limited number of craft available for visiting paddlers. Please contact the organizers if you need to borrow or rent a craft locally. For paddlers wishing to transport their craft to St Maarten, this can be accomplished with minimum of formalities.

## **EVENT SCHEDULE**

### **Saturday 27 September 2008**

1800 Registration and Briefing

### **Sunday 28 September 2008**

0700 Bus departs from Oyster Pond

0745 Ferry departs from Pelican dock

0830 Expected arrival in St Barths

0915 Start of Caribbean Ocean Racing Cup Series Race 3

1200 Lunch, Oyster Pond

1330 Award Ceremony, Oyster Pond

## **IDENTIFICATION OF BOATS**

To help with identification at the sea, adhesive numbers will be provided that must be displayed on either side of the bow of the craft.

## **AWARDS AND CEREMONIES**

The first three places of each class will receive medals. To maintain the dignity and solemnity of the presentation ceremony the competitor receiving medals must be neatly attired.

## **SECURITY MEASURES**

Security will be provided by a fleet of motor boats accompanying the race. Medical assistance and first aid will be available from the St Marten Sea Rescue and the SNSM vessels as well as at the finish in Oyster Pond. The safety regulations as described in attachment B must be observed.

## **TRANSPORT**

The organizers will assist with transport from the airport to team accommodation, to the race venue and to the airport where possible. Please contact the organizers with your requirements.

Yours faithfully

Allan MacDonald

President, Netherlands Antilles Canoeing Federation

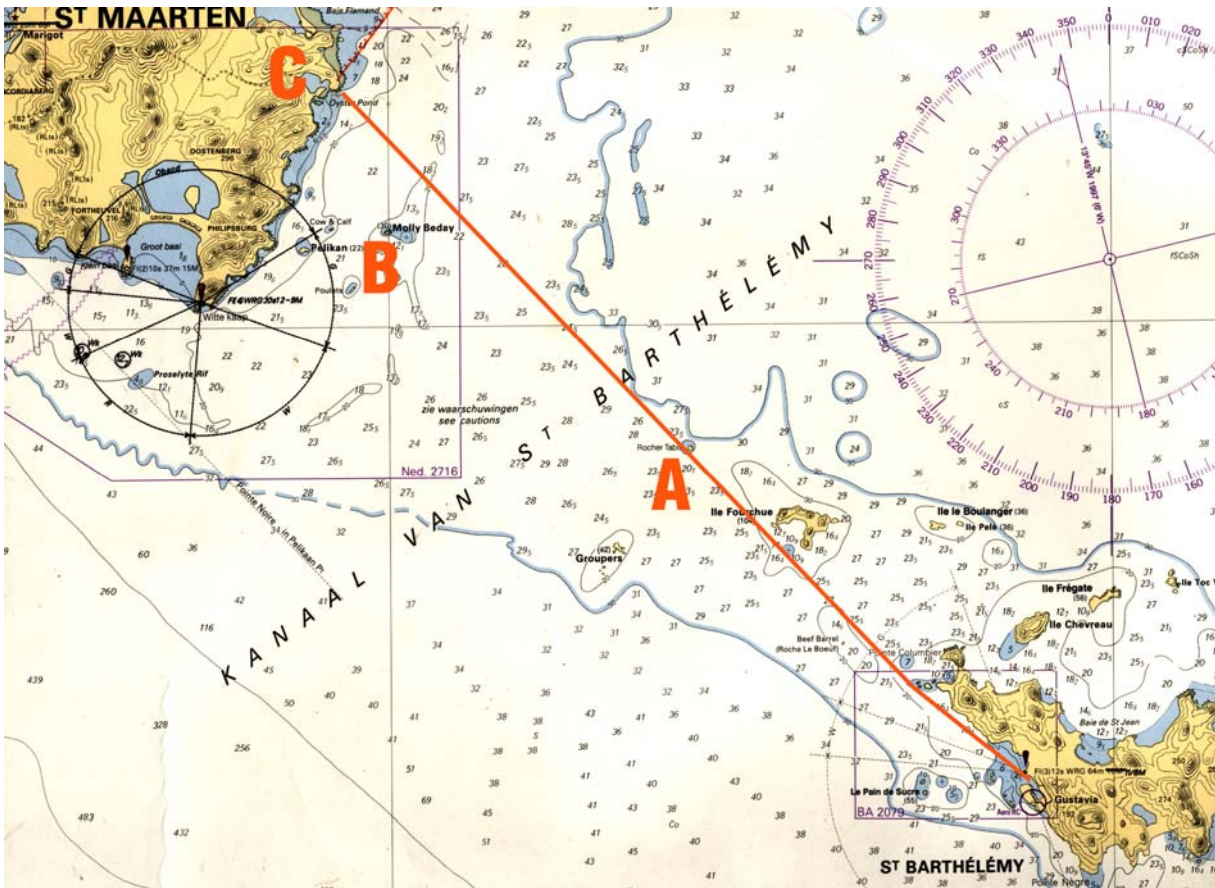
## **ATTACHMENT A: COURSE**

### **The course will be as follows:**

- 1) The race will be started using a **stationary start**, in the water. The start-line will be between a Budget Marine Buoy and an anchored boat displaying an orange flag off Public Beach in St Barths.
- 2) Proceed westwards to the point of St Barths.
- 3) Proceed towards Oyster Pond, St Maarten, passing to the south of Isle Fourche.
- 4) Leave the green approach mark for Oyster Pond (position 18°03.066'N 063°00.441'W) to port.
- 5) Enter Oyster Pond and finish between the Budget Marine mark and the orange flag on the Captain Oliver's Restaurant deck.

### **Note**

- 1) Sea conditions for the course will vary. The first 3km is usually calm. Thereafter one can usually expect a following to quartering swell of 0.5m to 1.6m. There can be flat calm conditions on rare occasions and on other occasions, there can be a following to cross swell of up to 2.5m. A current of varying strength usually flows from north to south.
- 2) The wind is usually a following to quartering, 10 to 20 knots, with 12 to 16 knots being the most common condition.
- 3) Navigation is the responsibility of the competitor. It is recommended that all competitors make themselves familiar with the nautical charts of the area.
- 4) A direct course from Isle Fourche to Oyster Pond takes you very close to Rocher Table which is shown at position A on the attached chart extract and located approximately 1.5 Nautical Miles (2.8km) from Isle Fourche. You should aim to pass very close to the north or south of this rock.
- 6) Molly Beday rock, marked B on your chart extract lies well to the south (0.9NM or 1600m) of the direct course. If you are close to or to the south of Molly Beday, alter course to the North immediately.
- 7) After rounding the green approach mark to Oyster Pond, proceed directly into Oyster Pond. Be aware of some breaking waves and shallow areas near the headland.
- 8) There will be a strict 2 hour cut off enforced at Rocher Table. All competitors not reaching Rocher Table at least two hours after the start will be scored a DNF and asked to board the safety boat.



Course from Gustavia, St Barths to Oyster Pond, St Marten. Note that the course passes close to Isle Fourche and Rocher Table (A) and well to the North of Molly Beday (B).



St Marten from the direction of St Barths from approximately 4.5km offshore. The arrow indicates the position of the approach mark off Oyster Pond.



A indicates the mouth of Oyster Pond and B the green approach mark.



*The start off Public Beach, St Barths.*



*The approach to Oyster Pond and the finish Line in St Maarten.*

## **ATTACHMENT B: SAFETY REGULATIONS**

### **The following safety regulations must be observed:**

- 1) Each competitor will carry at least 1.5 litres of water attached to their person or craft at the start of the race.
- 2) Each competitor in the surfski classes (only one in the case of a double) will be attached to their craft with a sturdy leash from before the start until after crossing the finish line.
- 3) Each competitor will carry on their person, either:
  - a) One hand held signal flare with burn time at least 1 minute.
  - b) Three mini aerial flares with launcher  
(flares will be available at briefing for approximately \$10)
- 4) At least one paddle blade must be painted a conspicuous colour to assist in attracting a safety boat's attention when in distress.
- 5) All craft with an opening or openings (cockpit, storage etc.) that open into the hull will be fitted with suitable buoyancy material that will keep the craft and competitor afloat and mobile if swamped. A buoyancy test will be carried out if, applicable.
- 6) If conditions dictate, the race committee will change the course to an alternate course, no later than 0700 on 23 September 2007.

### **Further, it is recommended that:**

- 1) Each competitor wears a suitable PFD.
- 2) Each craft is equipped with a compass or GPS to assist with navigation.
- 3) A leash is used to connect the paddle to the competitor or to the craft.
- 4) Each competitor carries a waterproof VHF radio or cell phone.

### **Note**

- 1) It is the responsibility of each competitor to determine for themselves if they have the skills and conditioning required to compete in this event. **This responsibility should be taken seriously.** A competitor should not place themselves and others at risk by entering this race if it is beyond their level of skill or conditioning. There will be safety boats on the water during the races. If a safety boat is required to rescue an individual or feels the need to closely monitor them, then that safety boat is being taken away from the rest of the race course and the rest of the other competitors, putting everyone at additional risk.
- 2) It should be kept in mind that weather and water conditions can change rapidly. If a competitor determines during the race that they are at risk, they should abandon the race and head toward a rescue boat. In this case, the competitor should ensure that the race officials at the finish are informed of their withdrawal as soon as possible.
- 3) Any competitor can be instructed to abandon the race by the chief safety judge, should the judge be of the opinion that the competitor would be putting themselves or others at undue risk by continuing with the race.

## EXTRA INFO

**The following accommodation is available within walking distance of the briefing and finish area at Oyster Pond:**

- 1) **Captain Oliver's Hotel** ([www.captainolivers.com](http://www.captainolivers.com))
- 2) **Columbus Hotel** ([www.colombus-hotel.com](http://www.colombus-hotel.com))
- 3) **Oyster Bay Resort** ([www.oysterbaybeachresort.com](http://www.oysterbaybeachresort.com))
- 4) **Westin Hotel** ([www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1770](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1770))
- 5) **Coral Beach Club** ([www.coralbeachclub.net](http://www.coralbeachclub.net))
- 6) **Coralita Beach Residence** (+590 590 87 36 61 or [danielle.clou@wanadoo.fr](mailto:danielle.clou@wanadoo.fr))
- 7) **Sunsail / Moorings**
  - a) Accommodation aboard a charter boat. Free but space is limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Contact us well in advance if you want to make use of this option.
- 8) **Camping**
  - a) Corralita beach or Stuart's garden, free but no comforts – bring your own tent.
  - b) Stuart's boat, free but small and basic.
  - c) Homestays may be available, contact us for details.

There are many other options available on the island, check the internet. Let us know your accommodation needs and we will try to arrange something suitable. ([thebrowns@domaccess.com](mailto:thebrowns@domaccess.com))

### **Food is available at:**

- 1) **Superette Oyster Pond**, small supermarket with basic food and drinks, fresh bread and pastries
- 2) **Proxy Market**, another small shop with enough goodies to get a meal together.
- 3) **Captain Oliver's restaurant**, top class restaurant on the marina, discount for all competitors.
- 4) **Dinghy Dock**, sailors' bar, great food and drinks at good prices, live music Sunday night.
- 5) **Mamma's Pizzas**, good pizzas a short walk from the marina.
- 6) **Frigate**, traditional French food a short walk from the marina.
- 7) **Eden**, interesting food in an arty atmosphere, short walk from the marina.