



## SYRA SANCTIONED REGATTAS

Safe racing has been the primary focus since SYRA's inception four years ago. The concerted efforts of a core group of highly experienced individuals, working under the SYRA's Executive Director, developed Appendix SY to *The Racing Rules of Sailing* specifically addressing superyacht racing, standardized racing documents (notice of race and sailing instructions), as well as accompanying exhibits and forms. Appendix SY and SYRA documents are reviewed and updated periodically.

SYRA's involvement with superyacht regattas has given all of the regatta organizers the opportunity to learn from each event and improve the quality of subsequent regattas. Our desire is to be at the forefront of the development of the superyacht racing game for the ultimate benefit of our yacht owners and other members. Consistency between regattas is an important factor in superyacht racing safety, as well as the enjoyment of superyacht racing in general.

Presently, the St. Barths Bucket and Newport Bucket, Loro Piana Superyacht Regatta and Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht Regatta, Superyacht Cup Palma, Superyacht Challenge Antigua, Dubois Cup, Perini Navi Cup and Shipyard Cup are the regattas organized by SYRA member entities. Recently, several new events have emerged which have invoked Appendix SY, an ISAF appendix. One event gave the illusion of an association with SYRA to the extent they used the SYRA logo on their website and referenced SYRA in their documents, without being a member of the organization.

SYRA is proposing the concept of SYRA "sanctioned" regattas so members know that an event has SYRA affiliation and oversight and is being conducted with SYRA goals in mind. An SYRA sanctioned regatta could consist of the following:

- The organizing authority being an SYRA member;
- ISAF Appendix SY invoked;
- Standardized SYRA race documents (with an emphasis on safe racing) incorporated;
- SYRA supplied Pantenius Rangefinders in use;
- Principal Race Officer with proven superyacht race management experience;
- The jury chairman having experience with the Appendix SY;
- Enforced policy ensuring every yacht has at least one afterguard member who is active and experienced with *The Racing Rules of Sailing*;
- Use of GPS tracking to monitor safe racing and enhance fair sailing / handicapping;
- The regatta entry fee includes the non-SYRA member Differential Entry Fee (DEF)
- Submitting a standardized post-regatta report, addressing safe racing issues and fair sailing to the SYRA.

The event website and applicable race documents would include the SYRA logo to assure participants that a superyacht event meets the minimum criteria for safe racing.

The aforementioned events have previously, to varying extents, benefited from the SYRA. This SYRA proposal will hopefully result in raising the bar for superyacht regattas, ensuring a minimum standard for safety, and continuing to make SYRA membership beneficial for regatta organizers with all superyacht organizers paying membership dues.