



90' Class Initiative Overview

Background

For some superyacht regattas, there is a 100 foot/30 meter LOA eligibility criteria. When this is not the case, it can lead to classes with excessively wide rating bands and yachts with extremely disparate sailing characteristics. Given some of the inherent advantages of smaller, more nimble yachts, it also can put large cruising superyachts at a competitive disadvantage. In an attempt to be as inclusive as possible without negatively impacting participating superyachts, the SYRA has introduced a 90' Class initiative.

This class of performance oriented sloops can have a fleet start and race under the conventional Racing Rules of Sailing. By establishing a relatively narrow rating band, race managers can minimize mixing with the superyacht fleet who are racing with the staggered or pursuit racing format.

The eligibility criteria for these performance-oriented sloops entails length and rating bands (see details below). As you will note, the length and rating bands are preliminary.

Eligibility Criteria & Class Specific Rules

- Sloop rigs only;
- Preliminary LOA range 24.0 – 30.4m (approximately 80'– 100');
- Preliminary rating band: ORCsy (moderate-strong/flat seas) 320 – 370 (approximate IRC rating band 1.39 – 1.55);
- The LOA and rating band ranges are preliminary and may be refined going forward;
- A valid ORCsy Rating Certificate is required (for those boats without a valid ORCsy certificate, the IRC TCC rating bands can be used to verify the eligibility of boats);
- The minimum number of entries required with deadlines for entry applications and fees will be determined by the event organizer.

Handicapping Policy and Procedures

- The rating rule is the ORCsy <http://www.orc.org/index.asp?id=201> ;
- The 90' Class entries must submit their rating application (<http://www.orc.org/index.asp?id=202>) at a date established by the event organizer and the ORC;
- The ORCsy scoring option is 'Time-on-Distance' with the wind range and sea state declared prior to the first yacht in class finishing.

Racing

- Decision on coastal and/or windward-leeward racing will be made by the event organizer;
- Safe racing has been and will continue to be a top priority of superyacht event organizers. The 90' Class will use the conventional Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), however, the RRS Appendix SY is invoked if yachts in the 90' Class meet yachts in the Superyacht Fleet;
- The 90' class fleet start will be prior to the superyacht fleet pursuit or staggered starts. Classes may sail different courses;
- Series trophies will be determined by the event organizer.

To determine if a "90' Class" will be offered at a regatta contact the event organizer directly