Rolex Big Boat Series
September 15 – 19, 2021

Prepared by: Meg Ruxton
Sustainability Subcommittee Chair for Executive Race Committee,
Rolex Big Boat Series Committee Member
megruxton@comcast.net

Green Team Members include: Susan Ruhne, Lawson Willard,
Adam Corpuz-Lahne, and Grace Carrick
1. Eliminate Single-Use Water Bottles and Provide Water Refill Stations:

West Marine was our Sustainability Sponsor. They sponsored our two multi-spout water bottle filling stations. StFYC has also upgraded all water fountains in the club to be both fountains + bottle filling stations. Sailors were asked to bring their own reusable water bottles.

2. Eliminate Plastic Straws:

Generally, straws were not offered, but if they were available inside the club, they were compostable.
3. Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware:

All clubhouse food and beverage were served in/on either washable glasses/plates or compostable ones. US Sailing provided #SailGreen refillable beer cups. We saved approximately 600 compostable single use cups from going in the compost bins. Sailors were also encouraged to bring their cups into the club & to the Mt. Gay Rum party. Dockside beer was served in pitchers after the first day so sailors could use the #SailGreen cups.
4. Use or Provide Reusable Bags:

The skipper bags were fabric duffels. Race Committee take their lunches in large Ziplock bags – they were encouraged to bring their bag back & re-use.
5. Award Practical Items or Use a Perpetual or Upcycled Trophy:

Perpetual Trophies and practical items (vases and watches) were awarded.
6. Publicize Your Sustainability Efforts:

Efforts to Be Green and partnership with Sailors for the Sea were put in the Viewer and Visitor Guide in the StFYC magazine and the Guide was distributed to participants. Other materials that mentioned the regatta’s green practices included the RBBS Skippers Update on Sept 10.

Rolex Big Boat Series' Instagram page had postings about green practices with #CleanRegatta.
7. Involve Local Organizations:

International Ocean Film Festival and SF BayKeeper had representatives at a table in the dock area to engage with regatta participants about their local efforts. SF BayKeeper had a petition for participants to sign about stopping cities from dumping trash in the Bay as well as other materials on clean boating in SF Bay, 10 Tips for a Healthy Bay, sign-up sheet to learn more about SF Baykeeper, and info on their programs to protect the Bay.
8. Post Educational and Reusable Signage:
Posted Visitor’s Guide and signage on separate recycling, composting and trash bins (see responses to #6 and #11). Posted Notice of Race that specifically addressed trash disposal.

9. Serve Local Food or Source Seafood Sustainably:

All fish/shellfish is Monterey Bay Aquarium certified. We served locally-sourced vegetables, meat, seafood and beverages when available.
The StFYC Executive Race committee has a Sustainability Subcommittee that worked on green practices for the regatta.
Maintained separate recycling, composting and trash bins. Composting of all food scraps and compostable goods was done by Recology. Recycling of all bottles, cans, plastic, glass, and cardboard was done by Recology. Notice of Race specifically addressed trash disposal: no alteration of Rule 55 regarding trash disposal from the Racing Rules of Sailing.
12. Divert Food Waste from the Landfill:

Compostable coffee service, including compostable coffee cups, lids, stirrers, napkins, and grounds; compostable beverage service, including compostable cocktail cups, straws and napkins. All single-use dinnerware is also compostable. Composting of all food scraps and compostable goods was done by Recology. Mt. Gay Rum sponsors the Friday night party, and they used compostable branded cups.
13. Use Paperless Event Management:

Using online regatta management software for registration and results reporting. QR codes were used to access results and notices.

15. Promote Alternative Transportation:

Safe, secure bike/scooter racks at the club to promote green transportation. Sailors housed near club so could walk to regatta.
16. Increase Awareness of Wildlife and Habitat Protection:

SF BayKeeper distributed information about their efforts to protect the Bay and International Ocean Film Festival distributed information about programs that educate through films on ocean conservation (see response to #7). Miranda Wang, winner of Rolex Award for Enterprise, spoke at owner's dinner about technology used to turn plastic waste into useful raw materials.
17. Offer Vegetarian or Vegan Alternatives:

Post sailing appetizers included at least one vegetarian and one additional vegetarian or pescatarian options. All menus included vegetarian and vegan options.
We discontinued bow stickers. Our spectator area is race deck seating. We run racing in view of the club so spectators can watch from shore with finishes at the end of the day in front of the club.
19. Prevent Toxins from Entering the Water

Water-only boat washdowns are the only practice that has been used at this club for years. BayKeeper distributed Clean Boating Practices flyer (see response to #7).

20. Encourage Green Boating Practices

Efficient, up-to-date four-stroke engines on all fuel-efficient RIB regatta support vessels. All anchored boats have engines off. Fuel and pump out facilities are offsite but under California and San Francisco regulations so very safe and prevent spills. BayKeeper distributed Clean Boating Practices flyer (see response to #7). We reminded participants of proper trash disposal in Notice of Race.

2021 Rolex Big Boat Series J/88 North American Championship Express 37 Pacific Coast Championship September 15-19, 2021 NOTICE OF RACE-INCLUDING AMENDMENTS 1, 2 & 3

15. TRASH DISPOSAL [SP] [NP]

Boats shall not put trash in the water or litter in any public spaces. Trash may be placed aboard support boats, race committee boats or in an appropriate trash receptacle.