

**MARTINIQUE CATA RAID 2025**  
**MARTINIQUE WING ADVENTURE**  
**GENERAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (GSI)**  
**From January 26 to February 1**

**LE ROBERT – LE PRECHEUR – SCHOELCHER**  
**LE MARIN – LE ROBERT**

**CLUB NAUTIQUE WIND FORCE DU ROBERT**

The mention of "[DP]" in a rule of these General Sailing Instructions means that the penalty for an infringement of this rule may, at the discretion of the jury, be less than disqualification.

**Preamble**

French competitors (each crew member) must present at the time of registration:

- A valid FFVoile license, stamped with a medical certificate and accompanied by parental authorization for minors.
- Advertising authorization if required.
- The Certificate of Conformity and the Measurement and Calculation Sheets of their boat.

Foreign competitors must provide proof of valid civil liability insurance with a minimum coverage of 1.5 million euros and present:

- The original insurance certificate.
- The Certificate of Conformity and the Measurement and Calculation Sheets of their boat.
- Nationality is defined by the presentation of a passport or identity card.

**1 RULES**

The event is governed by:

- 1.1 The rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 – 2028 (RRS),
- 1.2 The Equipment Rules of Sailing 2025 – 2028 (ERS),
- 1.3 The class rules of F18, F16, unless modified by the Notice of Race or these General Sailing Instructions,
- 1.4 The Notice of Race,
- 1.5 These General Sailing Instructions (GSI),
- 1.6 The Specific Stage Instructions (SSI).

In case of conflict between the Notice of Race and the General Sailing Instructions (GSI), the GSI shall prevail.

The official language of the event is French.

**1.7 Advertising [DP]:**

In accordance with article 20.3 (d) (i) of the ISAF Advertising Code, as modified by the FFVoile advertising regulation: each boat must display, on the outer 25% of its hulls, the stickers provided by the organizer during registration, as well as a sticker on the sail if required.

The placement and maintenance of these marks are the responsibility of the crew.

### **1.8 Environmental protection rule:**

A boat must not throw any waste into the water. Waste can be deposited on support boats or organizer boats.

## **2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

### **2.1 Official notice board:**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the WhatsApp group "Martinique Cata Raid #2025" and on the official notice board(s), the location(s) of which will be specified in the Specific Stage Instructions (SSI).

### **2.2 Competitor briefing [DP]:**

A competitor briefing will take place approximately one hour before the day's warning signal. One crew member from each team is required to attend this briefing. This modifies rule 90.2(c). The warning signal will not be given less than thirty minutes after the end of the briefing.

## **3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted no later than at the briefing on the day it takes effect, except for changes to the race schedule, which will be posted before 8:00 PM on the day before it takes effect.

### **3.2 Modifications to the Race Instructions on the Water:**

The display of the L flag on the race committee boat means: instructions will be communicated to the competitors, and they must approach the race committee boat to receive them.

## **4 SIGNALS MADE ON LAND**

### **4.1 Flag(s) Mast**

Signals made on land are sent from the flag mast, the location of which is specified in the Sailing Instructions (IPE).

(i) When the "Preview" flag is displayed on land, the warning signal will not be made less than 30 minutes after the Preview has been lowered, unless a different time is specified in the IPE.

This modifies the Race Signals.

(ii) The "Preview on H" flag means: "The race is delayed, competitors are prohibited from launching; the warning signal will not be made less than 30 minutes after the "Preview on H" has been lowered, unless a different time is specified in the IPE." This modifies the Race Signals.

## **5 RACE SCHEDULE**

### **5.1 Registration Confirmation:**

From January 23 to 26, 2025: From 09:00 to 17:00.

### **5.2 Equipment Check and Marking of Gear:**

From January 23 to 26, 2025: From 09:00 to 17:00.

### **5.3 Opening Ceremony:**

On January 25 at 19:00 at the Félix Méline Nautical Center in Le Robert.

### **5.4 Races:**

Sunday, January 26:

13:30: Skippers' meeting.

14:00: 1st Warning Signal for the training race.

Monday, January 27:

08:30: Skippers' meeting.

09:30: 1st Warning Signal for the 1st stage: Le Robert - Prêcheur.

Tuesday, January 28:

09:00: Skippers' meeting.

10:00: 1st Warning Signal for the 2nd stage: Prêcheur - Schoelcher.

Wednesday, January 29:

09:00: Skippers' meeting.

10:00: 1st Warning Signal for the 3rd stage: Schoelcher – Le Marin.

Thursday, January 30:

09:00: Skippers' meeting.

10:00: 1st Warning Signal for the 4th stage: Le Marin – Le Marin.

Friday, January 31:

09:00: Skippers' meeting.

10:00: 1st Warning Signal for the 5th stage: Le Marin - Le Robert.

Saturday, February 1:

09:00: Skippers' meeting.

10:00: 1st Warning Signal for the 6th stage: Le Robert - Le Robert.

No warning signal will be given after 16:00.

### **5.5 Container Loading:**

Sunday, February 2.

**5.6 There will be a training race and six stages. However, the number of races run and the courses are at the discretion of the Race Committee, who may modify the initial schedule based on weather conditions or other safety concerns or organizational requirements.**

Race Instructions for the constructed courses will be communicated by a specific appendix.

**5.7 A race consists of one or more intermediate races.**

**When there is a long delay and more than one race will be held on the same day, the warning signal for the first race and each subsequent race will be made as soon as possible. To inform the boats that a race or sequence of races will soon begin, an ORANGE flag will be displayed with a sound signal at least five minutes before the warning signal is made.**

## **6 CLASS FLAGS**

The class flag will be the "F18" flag for sport catamarans and a white flag for "Wings."

## **7 RACE ZONES**

**7.1** The race zone extends around Martinique.

**7.2** Course Maps

It is the responsibility of the crews to obtain the official documents related to the race zone (for reference: SHOM no. 6738 South Martinique and 7041 North Martinique).

## **8 THE COURSES**

**8.1** The courses are described in the IPE, which will specify the approximate length of the course as well as the order in which the marks should be passed or rounded and the required side of each mark.

**8.2** Exclusion Mark

(i) The display of the "D" flag on the race committee boat means the first mark is an

exclusion buoy. The absence of the "D" flag means there is no exclusion buoy. This modifies the Race Signals.

(ii) The display of the GREEN flag with the "D" flag means the exclusion buoy must be left to starboard. This modifies the Race Signals. The absence of the GREEN flag means the exclusion buoy must be left to port. This modifies the Race Signals.

**8.3** At the latest with the warning signal, the race committee boat may display the approximate compass heading of the first mark.

**8.4** When there is a gate, boats must pass between the marks forming the gate from the direction of the previous mark and round one of the gate marks.

**8.5** Grouping:

(i) A race committee boat flying the "S" flag and the "Orange" flag at a mark means: the race is interrupted, and a new start may be given later.

(ii) The start of the next race procedure will begin one minute after the lowering of the "S" flag. Competitors must then, from this mark, complete the course as initially defined.

(iii) The ranking for this stage will be determined by adding the race times of these intermediate races.

**8.6** Course Modifications:

At each mark, the course may be modified as follows:

A race committee boat stationed near a course mark and flying:

(i) The "C/F" flag means: After passing through the gate formed by the race committee boat and the mark, competitors must directly proceed to the originally planned finish line without considering the course marks between this mark and the finish line.

**8.7** Race Termination:

Competitors will be notified of the race termination by the display of the "S/H" flags on a race committee boat, which means: the race is definitively stopped, and competitors must return to shore according to the instructions from the race committee.

**8.8** The race committee may confirm these instructions via VHF.

**8.9** Maritime Marking [DP]

The compliance with maritime marking is the full responsibility of each skipper.

## **9 MARKS**

**9.1** All course marks are defined in the IPE.

**9.2** The exclusion buoy is an inflatable YELLOW buoy.

## **10 RESTRICTED NAVIGATION ZONES [DP]:**

Navigation for all stages must comply with the limitations imposed by Category 5 (less than two miles from shelter).

It is the responsibility of the competitors to respect the restricted navigation zones, especially the 300-meter coastal strip, whether or not it is marked by specific buoys, unless one of the course buoys is placed inside the zone.

## **11 THE START**

**11.1** The start of the races will be given in accordance with RRS 26.

**11.2** The starting line will be between a mast flying an orange flag and the race-side of a cylindrical orange buoy "Sara/Wind."

**11.3** In case of difficulty, the race committee boat may maintain its position on the line using the engine.

**11.4** Line Position:

The position of the start line is defined in the IPE.

The race committee reserves the right to modify this position. Competitors will be informed

by the display of the "L" flag on the race committee boat, which means "The position of the start line is moved, follow this boat in convoy" (this modifies the Race Signals). This convoy must be carried out near the race committee boat. Failure to comply with this instruction may lead to disqualification for the concerned crew for the race or all races. The start procedure will begin one minute after the "L" flag is lowered.

#### **11.5 Start Line Closure:**

A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after its start signal will be classified as DNS. This modifies RRS A4.

If for technical reasons and/or exceptional circumstances, a boat that cannot start within the specified time limit above may still be allowed by the race committee to start after this delay.

## **12 OFFICIAL SCORING**

### **Official scoring at a mark:**

- (i) At marks with an asterisk in the IPE, a race committee boat flying the "T" flag (this modifies Race Signals) will be positioned near the mark to carry out official scoring. The race committee boat may emit repetitive sound signals as competitors approach.
- (ii) If the race committee is forced to interrupt or modify the race between two marks of the course for any of the reasons provided by RRS 32.1 (a), (b), (c), or (d), the last official scoring at a mark will serve as the race time.
- (iii) Any event that may lead to a protest or redress (between competitors or between competitors and the race committee) occurring after crossing the line validated as the finishing line will be considered to have occurred when the boats are no longer racing.

## **13 THE FINISH**

**13.1** Unless other information is given in the IPE, the finish line will be between a mast flying a BLUE flag and the race-side of a cylindrical orange buoy "Sara/Wind."

**13.2** In case of difficulty, the finished boat may maintain its position on the line using the engine.

## **14 PENALTY SYSTEM [DP]**

### **14.1 Penalties for violation of a rule in Chapter 2**

- (i) The 2-turn penalty is replaced by a 1-turn penalty, including a tack and a gybe. This modifies RRS 44.2.
- (ii) A boat that has completed a penalty according to RRS 44.1 must submit an infringement acknowledgment form to the race office within the protest filing deadline.

### **14.2 Penalties for violation of rules other than those in Chapter 2**

(i) RET, DNC, DNS, DNF: Time of the last boat in its series that finishes after completing the course.

DSQ: Time of the last boat in its series that finishes after completing the course + 30%. (This modifies RRS A4).

(ii) A boat that has not completed the course in accordance with RRS 28 will be classified as DSQ by the race committee (this modifies RRS A4.2, A5).

### **14.3 Violations of RRS 29.1 or 30.1 or 30.2 or 30.3:**

- OCS: Race time of the boat + 10 minutes (this modifies RRS 29.1, 30.1, and A.4).
- BFD: Race time of the boat + 30 minutes (this modifies RRS 30.3).

#### **14.4 Failure to check in:**

Each failure to check in will be penalized with a 15-minute penalty.

**14.5 Violations of rules other than those in Chapter 2, not specifically addressed by an article in these General Race Instructions, penalty of 10% of the time of the last boat in the series to be DSQ, at the discretion of the protest committee.**

**14.6 Violation of RRS 14:** After hearing, at the discretion of the protest committee.

**14.7** The protest committee always reserves the right to disqualify a boat.

### **15 PROTESTS, INFRACTION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

**15.1** Protest and infraction acknowledgment forms are available at the race office. Protests and infraction acknowledgments must be submitted there within the protest filing deadline.

**15.2** The protest filing deadline is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day. If this deadline differs, it will be specified in the IPE.

**15.3** Notices will be posted within 30 minutes following the protest filing deadline to inform competitors of the instructions in which they started or were called as witnesses. The hearings will take place in the protest committee room, with the location specified in the summons.

**15.4** Hearings: As far as possible, protests will be heard the same day; if this is not possible, they will be heard the following day, and competitors will be informed by posting.

**15.5** Violations of instructions 1.4, 2, 3.2, 11, 15.1 (ii), 19, 23, and 24 may not be protested by a boat. This modifies RRS 60.1 (a). Penalties for these violations may be lighter than disqualification if the protest committee decides so.

**15.6** On the last day of the regatta, a request to reopen a hearing or a request for redress must be filed:

(i) Within the protest filing deadline if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision the previous day.

(ii) No later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the same day.

This modifies RRS 62 and 66.

**15.7** The intention to protest by the Race Committee, Technical Committee, or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats according to RRS 61.1 (b). If the Race Committee or Technical Committee is unable to file their protests within the prescribed time, competitors will be informed by posting of the extension duration for the protest filing deadline. This modifies RRS 61.1 (b) and 61.3.

### **16 SCORING**

Official rankings for the event:

An F18 ranking will be made by adding up the race times of all the completed and validated stages, increased if necessary by applicable bonuses or penalties.

An F16 ranking will be made by adding up the race times of all the completed and validated stages, increased if necessary by applicable bonuses or penalties.

A ranking will be made by adding up the race times of all the completed and validated stages, increased if necessary by applicable bonuses or penalties.

#### **Special Martinique Cata Raid Award:**

General scratch ranking (unofficial) of the F18 and F16 classes.

## **17 CREW OR EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT**

**17.1** Replacement of competitors must be requested in writing and will only be allowed with prior approval from the race committee.

**17.2** Replacement of damaged equipment will be limited to irreparable damage on limited equipment and will not be allowed without the approval of the race committee.

## **18 MEASUREMENT AND EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS**

**18.1** A boat or its equipment may be inspected at any time during the event (before, during, or after a race) to verify compliance with class rules and the General Race Instructions.

**18.2** On-water inspection:

Near or at the finish line, a race committee boat displaying the "J" flag means: "Come within earshot to potentially be called for a measurement check on the water."

**18.3** Onshore inspection:

Once back on shore, crews must check the official board to see if they have been called for a measurement check.

**18.4** The protest filing deadline regarding violations of measurement and equipment inspections is the one specified in 16.2. This modifies RRS 61.3.

## **19 OFFICIAL BOATS.**

## **20 SUPPORT BOATS.**

## **21 SAFETY**

**21.1** A check-in system will be implemented:

This check-in is mandatory before departure on the water and upon return ashore. At the start, it will be open no later than the end of the daily briefing, and upon return, it will close at the protest filing deadline.

**21.2** A boat that withdraws from a race must report it to the race committee as soon as possible.

**21.3** The radio channel for vacation calls will be 72.

**21.4** Safety procedures:

**21.4.1** Special instructions may be provided in the IPE, particularly regarding monitoring between crews.

**21.4.2** If a race is interrupted or canceled by the race committee after the start, the remainder of the course will be completed under escort in a grouped navigation mode.

**21.5** Request to withdraw a crew or crews:

**21.5.1** For safety reasons, the race committee reserves the right to ask one or more late boats at a mark to withdraw from the race by either directly returning to the finish line or being towed. This decision may be made starting one hour after the first boat passes that mark. The affected boat(s) must pass between the race committee boat and the mark, follow the race committee's instructions, and comply with the race officer's orders. When this obligation applies, the race committee or officer boat at the mark will display a "V" flag, accompanied by repetitive sound signals (this modifies Race Signals). The affected boat(s) will be ranked after the boats that completed the normal course and in the order in which they passed that mark (this modifies RRS 35, A4, and A5). For safety reasons, any official boat may instruct a competitor to move closer to shore. Failure to comply with this instruction may result in disqualification or a penalty by the protest committee.

**21.5.2** The race time for the affected boat(s) will be calculated based on their time at the mark, multiplied by a coefficient related to the remaining course, without exceeding the

time allotted to a competitor classified as DNF. After passing the mark, the affected competitor(s) must proceed directly to the originally planned landing location, by any means of propulsion, without crossing the finish line.

**21.5.3** Penalty for violation of this rule after hearing [DP]:

- **1st violation:** Disqualification of the affected competitor(s).
- **2nd violation:** Exclusion of the affected competitor(s) from the event.

**21.6** Safety equipment:

Each boat must have on board the required safety equipment as specified by the class rules and the safety requirements outlined in the Notice of Race and applicable regulations.

**21.7** Safety requirements [DP].

**21.7.1 Recovery:**

At the request of the race committee or the organizing authority, the crew must be able to demonstrate its ability to right the boat.

**21.7.2 Minimum mandatory safety equipment on board F18 and F16:**

- 1 paddle at least 1 meter long,
- 1 tow line of 15 meters in length and 6 mm diameter,
- 1 righting line of 4 meters in length and 10 mm diameter,
- 2 certified life jackets,
- The lengths and diameters required by this rule are minimum dimensions. The tow line must be able to withstand the forces generated by towing a safety boat.

**21.7.3 Additional mandatory equipment:**

- 1 waterproof VHF radio in working order,
- 1 compass or GPS,
- 2 waterproof individual flashlights,

**21.7.4 Mandatory safety equipment for the WING class:**

- 1 full-length wetsuit,
- 1 approved helmet,
- 1 certified life jacket or approved impact vest,
- 1 waterproof individual flashlight,

**Other authorized equipment:**

- GPS,
- Electronic compass.

Any rider missing a required safety item may be disqualified. All safety equipment must be presented at the first competitor briefing.

**21.7.5** Wearing a certified life jacket is mandatory from the time of launching until returning ashore. [DP]



**21.8** Navigation for all stages must adhere to the limitation imposed by category 5 (less than two miles from shelter).

Penalty for violating this rule after hearing [DP]:

- **1st violation:** Disqualification of the affected competitor(s).
- **2nd violation:** Exclusion of the affected competitor(s) from the event.

## **22 LIABILITY DISCLAIMER**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk; each competitor acknowledges that their decision to participate or remain in the race is solely their responsibility (RRS 4, Decision to Race). They also agree to abide by the rules mentioned in article 1.1 above and to waive any recourse other than what is provided for by these rules.

The organizing authority will not accept any responsibility for material damage, injury, or death, in the course of the regatta, before, during, or after the event.

## **23 OFFICIAL SUNSET TIME**

For the duration of the event, the legal sunset time is set at 18:00.

## **24 ARBITRAL BODY**

President of the race committee: Didier FLAMME.

President of the protest committee: Jean-Michel CRIQUET.

President of the technical committee: Steeve STROEBLE.