



Class40 Press release of February 21st, 2014

In great shape!

The Class40 General Assembly was held in early February in Les Sables d'Olonne: The opportunity, as every year, to review the evolutions of this very attractive class "pro-am"! About ten new boats will be launched this year and not less than 40 (approximately half of the fleet of the race) are expected at the start of the "Route du Rhum-Destination Guadeloupe 2014"!

Season after season the class continues to attract new competitors with very contrasted profiles. Its openness and accessibility concept allows to develop loyalty of numerous runners



Along the way, the young class also wins in performance. More than ever, while they were still wisely moored to the pontoon of the last Transat Jacques Vabre, the last born of Class40 forced the admiration of many experts. And the quality does not prevent the quantity because since 2012, 9 new boats are launched every year. At least as many are expected this season.

As for first generation boats, if they are boosted with a new rigging even with some optimizations, they know how to maintain with dignity their position of racing machine.

In brief, for its 3rd "Route du Rhum", the Class40 meets once again the largest fleet of the race, with 40 boats expected in Saint Malo on November 2. A fleet rich in its diversity. An international fleet, open, friendly, welcoming "freshmen" of offshore race and very experienced skippers; men, women, young and less young people ... But once on the sea, each place will be fiercely defended.

François Angoulvant, president of Class40

«The objective of the class for this season and beyond, is to remain an attractive and dynamic class. Attractive and dynamic through the new boats which arrive, the diversity of the plans and the builders, through the number of competitor on starting lines and the intensity of the competition, through the diversity of the stories which she tells. This is one of the rare classes of racing, perhaps the only one, where the number of favorite for the next "Route du Rhum destination Guadeloupe" greatly exceeds the number of places on the podium! "

Some figures

The fleet

2013: 9 boats launched (from n° 125 to 133): 1 HH40, 1 Tyker 40 Evolution, 4 Akilaria RC3, 1 Forty 1 Design et 1 Pogo40S3 et 1 Mach40.

2014: About ten new boats expected including new prototypes (Sabrosa 40 MK2, TIZH40).

Always : A good dynamics of the first generation boats which can be boosted by new riggings and other optimizations, but, above all, an old fleet and new boats that shines by its diversity and in which each skipper has the opportunity to write the story he wants to live.

Skippers

2013

- 128 subscriptions (68 active members, 53 associate members, 7 temporary members) and 8 honorary members
- 14 countries represented (1 South African, 2 Germans, 15 English, 2 Australians, 3 Austrians, 2 Belgians, 3 Spanish, 11 Americans, 77 French, 7 Italians, 1 Norwegian, 1 Dutch, 1 Swiss, 1 Tunisian)

Race programme: 4 year cycles.

It was one of the major projects of the class in recent years: the racing calendar is now organized in cycles of 4 years, with an annual transat (Route du Rhum, Transat Jacques Vabre, Solidaire du Chocolat, Quebec Saint Malo), shorter offshore races (Les Sables-Horta, Normandy Channel Race) and coastal races (Grand Prix Guyader, ArMen Race, Tour de Belle Ile, Record SNSM, Class40 World championship).

This year, the organizer of the Record SNSM, proposes a 1000nm solo race « La Qualif », between Saint Nazaire, Ireland and Spain qualifying for the "Route du Rhum"

www.class40.com/fr/calendrier/

Be vigilant to anticipate

The world is changing and the Class40 is moving on with it.

Not to be surprised the Class wishes to organize in 2014 a Round Table with various architects to think about the box rule which is 10 years old today. Without questioning the foundations of the Class rules that showed a good balance and that have been able to evolve, it is important to follow the evolution of the technologies of constructions to anticipate their possible applications in Class40.

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