



## AVIS DE COURSE

### *La Solidaire du Chocolat*



**From NANTES -SAINT NAZAIRE  
to PROGRESO, State of YUCATAN in MEXICO**

**Double-handed non-stop Transatlantic Race  
CLASS 40**

Start -18th October 2009

1<sup>st</sup> edition



## INTRODUCTION

### A HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGE...

In a world where inequality is constantly growing, charities need financial resources more than ever.

At the same time, people are aware of the urgent need for more charitable action, and companies to put more into their sustainable development commitments.

Above and beyond the major sporting event that is the **SOLIDAIRES DU CHOCOLAT**, it is also a humanitarian challenge with a concrete approach to sustainable development.

**THE SOLIDAIRES DU CHOCOLAT** aims to use its media reach to :

- Provide good visibility for the various charities represented in the race, as well as throughout the broader world of charities
- Enable charities supporting a project of general interest to receive a donation of € 25 000
- Enable companies (small to medium sized companies) to become patrons.

### Genuine commitment

Each skipper proposes to their sponsor, or to another company, that they become a patron and donate € 25 000 to their chosen charity.

Each boat in the race will thus aim to support a charity involved in a project of general interest.

Where a skipper cannot propose a charity and/ or patron, or if the charity does not correspond to the criteria defined in the following paragraph ( « supported charities ») and is invalidated by the committee, the Route du Chocolat association will propose a patron and charity, to validate his/her entry.

In all cases, each skipper agrees to support a charity and patron as defined below.

Part of the boat shall be reserved to promote the charity and patron: an area of 1 m by 1 m on the headsail, in a homogenous typeset decided by the race organisation.

A charitable prologue will be organised at the start in Saint Nazaire, with a representative from each chosen charity, a representative of the patron, and a celebrity from the world of art, sports, media or other, selected by the charity (and who could be the official patron of the charity wherever possible).

The official name of each boat during the charitable prologue will be that of each chosen charity.



## Charities supported

A committee has been formed to validate the charities proposed.

Charities shall meet the following requirements:

- Be eligible for donations under the terms of Law n°2003-709 of the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2003 relating to donations, charitable associations and foundations (an organisation of general interest or recognised public usefulness, and supporting a project of general interest).
- Have operations that are philanthropic, educational, scientific, social, humanitarian, sporting, familial, cultural or aim to preserve artistic heritage, preserve the natural environment, or the spread of culture, language, or French scientific knowledge.
- Have identifiable projects which guarantee the efficient use of a donation.

With the aim of promoting the local charitable networks, regional charities (or those operating in the Pays de la Loire region), as well as those operating in Mexico, shall have priority.

## How to go about it?

At the pre-registration stage, each skipper shall nominate a charity, his/her patron (be it the boat sponsor or not) and the celebrity which the charity would like representing them in the prologue and during the race.

Where a skipper cannot propose a charity and patron, or if the charity does not match the criteria above and is not accepted by the committee, the Route du Chocolat association will propose a patron and charity, to validate the entry.

Every boat is taking part in this humanitarian challenge.

By entering the Route du Chocolat, skippers undertake to respect the conditions of the 1<sup>st</sup> humanitarian transatlantic.

## 1 - ORGANISATION

**1.1-** The « La ROUTE du CHOCOLAT » association, represented by its president Yves GILLET, with the support of the REGION of PAYS de La LOIRE, the town of SAINT NAZAIRE, the city of NANTES and the State of YUCATAN in MEXICO, is organising a DOUBLE-HANDED, NON-STOP TRANSATLANTIC RACE of 5000 miles between SAINT NAZAIRE and PROGRESO in the State of YUCATAN in MEXICO.

**1.2 –** The race is open exclusively to CLASS40 monohulls.

**1.3 -** PROFIL GRAND LARGE is the organising authority for this event, represented by Damien GRIMONT, whose headquarters are at 1 allée Loïc CARADEC, 56000 Vannes, France, in conjunction with S.N.O.S. voile Saint Nazaire, which is affiliated to the Fédération Française de Voile (French Sailing Federation), and with the assistance of S.N.O. Nantes.

**1.4 –**The Fédération Française de Voile shall be responsible for arbitration of this event.

The arbitration panel shall be composed of a Race Committee, a Rules Committee and a Jury. The Fédération Française de Voile shall appoint the president of each of these bodies.

## 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

- The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) ISAF 2009– 2012
- OSR Category 1 for monohulls



- CLASS 40 rules and any subsequent modifications
- Part B of the COLREGS
- The Notice of Race and any subsequent amendments
- The Sailing Instructions, appendices and any subsequent amendments

The official language is French. In the case of conflict, the French text shall prevail.

### 3 – THE RACE

*Note : The prologue in Saint Nazaire and the closing regatta in Progreso shall be covered in a separate amendment.*

**Distance : approximately 5000 miles**

Start line : SAINT NAZAIRE

The course :

- « FLORES Island » (AZORES Archipelago) to starboard
- « SAINT BARTS » to starboard
- « HAITI and the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC » to starboard
- « CUBA » to starboard

Finish line : PROGRESO, State of YUCATAN in Mexico

### 4 – KEY DATES

- Friday 9th October 2009 – boats to arrive in Nantes
- Saturday 10th October 2009 - « Night of Chocolate » official reception in Nantes
- Sunday 11th October 2009 - « Descent down the Loire » procession, any crew
- From Monday 12th to Thursday 15th October 2009, from 0900 to 1230 and from 1400 to 1900, and Friday 16th October from 0900 to 1230 : entry procedures and scrutineering in Saint Nazaire
- Thursday 15th October 2009 – skippers briefing
- Friday 16th October 2009 - PROLOGUE and official reception
- Saturday 17th October 2009 – weather briefing
- Sunday 18th October 2009 - START
- A closing regatta shall take place in PROGRESO, at least 3 days after the arrival of the first boat

The prize-giving shall take place in PROGRESO at least 48 hours after the arrival of the first boat.

In the case of force majeure, The Organisation reserves the right to alter the programme.

However, the start of the race cannot be brought forward.

### 5 – TIME LIMIT

The finish line shall close 5 days (120 hours) after the arrival of the first boat.

### 6 – BRIEFINGS

The skipper and co-skipper's presence at all official briefings, published on the official notice board of the race, is mandatory.



## 7- OBLIGATIONS FOR TEAMS

- 7.1 IN NANTES
  - Saturday 10th October 2009 for the « Night of Chocolate » reception
- 7.2 IN SAINT NAZAIRE
  - Friday 16th October 2009 for the Prologue and Skippers official reception.
- 7.3 IN PROGRESO :
  - Closing regatta and prize-giving - failure to attend will result in the prize not being awarded

## 8 - OBLIGATIONS FOR BOATS

Boats must be in NANTES on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2009, at 2000 at the latest.

8.2 – Boats shall be at the disposal of the race committee, scrutineers, and the race organisation in Saint NAZAIRE from Monday 12th October 2009, from 0900 up until the start of the race.

## 9 - PENALTIES FOR ABSENCE OF TEAMS or BOATS

9.1 - In the case of absence of a team at official briefings, at official events, or pre-start scrutineering days, a financial penalty to be donated to S.N.S.M. may be applied as follows :

- €100 for absence per team member per briefing or per official event (*art. 7 of the Notice of Race*)
- €100 per day for absence of 2 team members during pre-start scrutineering (*art. 16 of the Notice of Race*).

9.2 – Absence of a boat in NANTES or in SAINT NAZAIRE, as per article 8 of the Notice of Race, could incur a financial penalty to be donated to S.N.S.M. as follows :

- €100 per day of absence

## 10 - ADVERTISING

The event is category C (see *article 20 of ISAF rules*) .

All boats shall bear the race organisation's logo; if a boat breaks this rule, she may incur a penalty to be determined by the Jury, which could be disqualification.

## 11 - RESPONSIBILITY

Skippers enter the race at their own risk, and fully accept the responsibility in deciding to participate. It is the sole responsibility of each skipper to decide whether to participate or not in the race, or to continue to race having regard to competence, the boat and its associated equipment, the wind strength, weather forecast etc. (fundamental rule 4 of the RRS and article 4 of the byelaw of the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1995).



Any advice or information provided by the race organisation either before or during the race, for example a gale warning, is for information purposes only, and it is the skipper's sole decision to race, without any responsibility in relation to that information for the race organisation or its partners.

The responsibility of the race organisation and partners is limited to ensuring a fair sporting event, and conforming to the byelaw of the 3rd May 1995.

Any further responsibility which the organisation could accept would have to be contractual and explicit.

In particular, any checks that the race committee undertakes, at its own initiative, or at the request of the race director, protest committee, or any other instance, shall have the sole aim of ensuring that the sporting rules, the current notice of race, the sailing instructions and appendices and amendments have been respected.

Keeping watch, and especially radio watch, as well as tracking which the organisation might provide, should be considered as optional and uncertain, and under no circumstance as an extra safety measure to rely on.

Any request made to a member of the organisation does not imply responsibility of the organiser, except where he has explicitly accepted the request, either directly or through an official spokesperson. This applies particularly to any requests for assistance, or even assistance at sea.

Skippers will take personal responsibility for any damage or injury to themselves, their boat, other boats, or any third party, or property of a third party.

Skippers are required to provide insurance to cover civil liability and damage during the race.

The absence of third party liability in no way makes the organisation or its partners liable.

Competitors are reminded of the obligation to offer all possible assistance to any other boat or person in danger insofar as they are able to do so, as per fundamental rule 1.1 of the RRS and international measures in force.

In this case and after changing course, the skipper shall supply the Race Committee with all the details needed for time to potentially be awarded.

The jury shall apply a time award once it has received the necessary information to calculate how much.

As an essential condition of participation, skippers shall provide along with their full entry, the signed and dated declaration absolving the race organisers, their partners and insurers of liability.

## 12 - ELIGIBILITY

The race is open to anyone aged at least 18 on the day of the start, the 18th October 2009.

The skipper and co-skipper shall both:

12.1 **Be in possession of a racing licence** from Club FFVoile, valid for the duration of the event.

Foreign competitors shall provide a valid insurance certificate showing they possess a minimum of €1.5 million third party liability, and have the necessary documentation proving they belong to a club recognised by their national authority.

Or get an annual licence from the Fédération de Française de Voile.



12.2 **Provide medical documentation**, as per the national medical rules of the FFVoile (French Sailing Federation), appendix 3. (validated by the executive of the FFV on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2008)

This documentation shall include :

- The results of a cardiogram
- The results of physical test in at least the previous 4 years
- The confidential medical form provided by the organisation, completed by the competitor's doctor and validated by the event doctor.

The medical documentation shall be sent to the attention of the Solidaire du Chocolat race doctor c/o the race organisation before the 18th August 2009, with « Confidential dossier médical » (Confidential Medical Documentation) written on the envelope.

12.3 **Be in possession of a recent medical course certificate**, or equivalent. AFPS certificates within the last 5 years on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2009 and the PSC1 will be accepted (OSR 4.08.04)

12.4 **Provide a sea survival certificate** at least within the last 5 years on the start date of the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2009. (OSR. 6.01)

12.5 **Respect article 19** of the ISAF rules, eligibility

12.6 **Be in conformity with Class40** rules

12.7 Be in conformity with the obligations set out in the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions of the race.

## 13 - ENTRY

**The limit for entries is the 30th July 2009**

Entries shall be accepted in the order in which they are received, on condition that the entry form is filled out, accompanied by the CVs of the skipper and co-skipper, and with a cheque for the entry fee as below.

Class40 and the « La Route du Chocolat » association have agreed that a spirit of solidarity applies to the creation of a Class40 flagship event.

The Solidaire du Chocolat is the only event to appoint a member of Class40 to its board, and the first transatlantic exclusively dedicated to the class.

In return, having closely examined the « Solidaire du Chocolat » race, Class40 has decided to lend its support to the event , and make it its flagship event for 2009 ; It should therefore be a successful event with at least 25 boats, which is an important condition for the race organisation.

**The organisation is therefore making the effort to support the Class, and give priority to skippers signing up to the race as follows:**



- **For skippers pre-registering before the 30th January 2009:**

The entry fee shall be **€1500**, of which **€1500** shall be transferred to the class on the day of the start, on condition that 25 or more boats are entered for the Solidaire du Chocolat.

- **For skippers pre-registering before the 30th April 2009:**

The entry fee shall be **€3000**, of which **€1500** shall be transferred to the class on the day of the start, on condition that 25 or more boats are entered for the Solidaire du Chocolat, and **€1500** shall go towards logistics for competitors.

- **For skippers pre-registering between the 30th April and the 30th July 2009, which is the final date for entries:**

The entry fee shall be **€4500**, of which **€1500** shall be transferred to the class on the day of the start, on condition that 25 or more boats are entered for the Solidaire du Chocolat, and **€1500** shall go towards logistics for competitors.

### **Pre-registration is €1500 in all cases.**

Where entry is withdrawn, and you do not participate in a 2009 transatlantic race in the federal calendar, 100% of the entry fees paid shall be reimbursed.

The entry form must be sent to : PROFIL GRAND LARGE, 1 allée Loïc CARADEC, 56000 VANNES, France, with a cheque enclosed.

Cheques should be made out to : « PROFIL GRAND LARGE »

Entry shall only be definitive once the boat and team have satisfied the final technical checks in SAINT NAZAIRE on the **17th October 2009** at the latest.

## **14- PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE**

The race is open to all competitors who can provide a CV and/or offshore experience approved by the selection committee.

### Compulsory 1000 mile qualification passage.

Once an entry has been accepted, the skipper and co-skipper intending to race must have completed a qualifying passage of a minimum of 1000 miles before the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2009, on board the boat which will be racing in the transatlantic.

The course, date and start time shall be communicated to the selection committee at least one week before the expected start date. The qualifying passage shall be tracked by Immarsat.

**Les Sables – Madeira – Les Sables 2009**, a double-handed race in Class40s, counts as a qualifying race for the «Solidaire du Chocolat », on condition that the crew and boat place on at least one of the two legs, and that their race is validated by the race committee and jury.

The decisions of the selection committee are final and without appeal (rule 76.1 of the RRS).





## 15 – NUMBER OF TEAMS

The event is limited to the first 30 teams, on condition of acceptance by the maritime authorities, and following entry validation by the selection committee.

The Organisation reserves the right to invite a further 5 teams.

## 16 – BOATS ELIGIBLE TO RACE

Only boats with a valid Class40 certificate, and conforming to OSR Category 1 monohull requirements, shall be eligible to race. Boats shall meet the requirements for safety on pleasure craft for French-flagged vessels (D240), as well as COLREGS.

## 17 - CHECKS BEFORE THE START

Boats shall be available to the race committee, jury and race organisation in SAINT NAZAIRE from 0900 on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October until the start.

The skipper or co-skipper must be present in Saint Nazaire - every day from 0900 to 1900, from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009 until the start day.

Only one member of the team shall have the authority to sign the form detailing the location of all seals. At his/her request, some seals may be doubled up (*at the most*).

## 18 – ADDITIONAL SAFETY EQUIPEMENT

Competitors are reminded that the following additional safety equipment is mandatory:

An IRIDIUM satellite phone with data kit and external antenna. *The handheld Iridium in the waterproof grab bag must not be the same one as the main Iridium/ on board phone .*

- Radar transponder (RTE) (OSR 4.10.2),
- A.I.S. receiver (*Automatic Identification System*) with dedicated antenna,
- One survival suit per person (OSR 5.07.1),
- An automatic « Man Overboard » system with loud alarm, displaying heading and distance to MOB.
- An easily accessible waterproof grab bag, which shall be sealed inside the companionway. (OSR 4.21.2a, 4.21.2.b and 4.21.3)
- Autonomous positioning beacon, provided free of charge by the organisation, with €1500 deposit. The beacon shall be given back at the finish, or sent to PROFIL Grand Large in the case of retirement.

## 19 – OUTSIDE HELP

Article 41 of the ISAF rules : A boat shall not receive help from any outside source.

A declaration of honour shall be signed by the skipper and co-skipper when entry is confirmed, in Saint Nazaire.

## 20 - IMAGE RIGHTS

By entering the « Solidaire du Chocolat » each competitor authorises Profil Grand Large to use images of the boats, skippers and crewmembers, taken in public places, press office, pontoons, boats on pontoons, boats sailing, support boats, in all countries, in all media, for a maximum period of two years, exclusively to promote the event, and with the agreement of the



owner for each image used. Beyond this two year period, the images can no longer be used, except as historical reference to the event in press articles or the official race site.

It is understood that these images must be used in normal circumstances, with no malicious intention.

## **21 – APPEAL**

On the authorisation of the FFV, the federal prescription appended to appendix F2 of the RRS applies.

## **22 – RANKING**

The ranking will be based on the real time order of arrival, where competitors finish the race within the time limit. The organiser reserves the right to publish other rankings, particularly for the prologue and closing regatta.

## **23 – PRIZES**

The total amount and distribution of prizes in the SOLIDAIRE DU CHOCOLAT 2009 will be outlined in an amendment, and with the agreement of Class40.

### **General Organisation**

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