

Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup

Question for Officials

Date: 2025-09-07

Question No: 01

Question For: Race Committee

Question:

As is widely used at regattas around the world, MarkSetBot supply the Event ID that competitors may use to download mark positions as set by the RC into the most widely used racing navigation software Expedition. This does not exclude users of other software as a URL link may be used to download a gpx file that can be either manually read, or easily imported to almost any navigation device.

At the briefing the PRO expressed that this Event ID will not be made public despite being very successfully used in the pre regatta training races on Fri 5th.

We respectfully request that this decision is reconsidered, especially for safety, as this eliminates the high risk exercise of yachts pinging start pin marks where last minute adjustments are not unusual between race starts of different classes. Secondly this enhances confidence of mark locations such as B, T and Q given that robotic marks are small and very difficult to see at distances greater than 1.5nm especially with high levels of traffic (both racing and leisure yachts) on the race course.

Sincerely,

Campbell Field, Navigator, JETHOU.

Answer:

The Organising Authority and Race Committee have considered allowing the use of this technology, the integration of MarkSetBot and navigation software such as Expedition. For this year the Organising Authority is not prepared to allow this use.

Allowing such use at this late stage would not be fair to all competitors, taking into account not all competitors are familiar with the technology, and prior notice should be provided.

It will be considered in future additions of the Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup.

Response By Stuart Childerley Printed at 2025-11-02 20:45