



## THE EVENT

New York Yacht Club Race Week at Newport presented by Rolex, now in its 7th biennial edition, has become a favorite of sailors because of its split format. This year up to 200 modern racing machines will converge on Narragansett Bay and Rhode Island Sound. The first segment, starting Saturday, July 17, is reserved for Classic, 12 Metre, PHRF and One Design classes racing Saturday and Sunday. One Design classes holding championships will race for three days, from Saturday, July 17 through Monday, July 19. For Race Week at Newport's second session – from Wednesday, July 21 through Saturday, July 24 – the top IRC-handicapped racers will compete for the Rolex US-IRC National Championship.

The week-long event was created in 1998 by merging two popular regattas hosted by New York Yacht Club and Rolex, the IMS National Championships and the One-Design Championship Regatta. The regatta was designed with a split racing format, to give sailors the opportunity to compete in handicap-rated fleet racing for one half of the event and one-design class racing during the other half. In 2000, the regatta doubled as the 2000 Rolex IMS World Championship, attracting 175 competing yachts. A feature of the regatta has been the traditional distance race around Conanicut Island (Jamestown), which adds to the unique challenges and epic beauty of a racing arena that from 1930 to 1983 hosted the America's Cup and continues to make Newport one of the country's most popular sailing destinations. This year, the distance race will be part of the Rolex US-IRC National Championship.

With the increase in the popularity of one design racing, many one design classes utilize Race Week as the venue for major titles, including this year the NYYC Swan 42 Nationals, the J/109 North Americans, the J/122 North Americans and the J/105 East Coast Championship. Highlighting the Corinthian tradition of the NYYC, a Classics weekend was added and now stands as the most important vintage sailboat regatta held in the U.S. In 2004, Sparkman & Stephens, the prestigious design firm, coordinated an elaborate 75th Anniversary Celebration with Race Week, and the legendary S&S designed 12 Meters Columbia, Courageous, Intrepid and Freedom sailed in the event's first half. Bolero, a 73' yawl designed in 1949 by Olin Stephens as "the largest modern ocean racer of its time" also competed and was awarded, by Olin Stephens himself, with a special trophy for being the top S&S-designed boat. The 2008 Race Week celebrated the 100th birthday of Olin Stephens and devoted the first half of the regatta to classics racing in his honor.

At the conclusion of Race Week, Rolex timepieces are awarded for best overall performances IRC, PHRF and One-Design classes holding National or North American championships.

Since 1994 Rolex Watch U.S.A., Inc. has been the exclusive presenting sponsor of New York Yacht Club events, a relationship that has created unique events and hosted the world's top sailors. In commemoration of the partnership between the NYYC and Rolex, a 10' 6" Rolex pedestal clock was installed on the club grounds at Harbour Court in 1999.

**[www.NYYC.org](http://www.NYYC.org)**



## PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

<b>Friday, July 16</b>	1500-1800 1700-2000 1800	Part I check-in - NYYC Sailing Center Hospitality Villa Captains' Meeting - NYYC Sailing Center
<b>Saturday, July 17</b>	1100 1800-2200 1900-2200	First warning signal Hospitality Villa - Daily Awards Race Week Lobster Bake
<b>Sunday, July 18</b>	1100 1700-2000	First warning signal Hospitality Villa - Daily & Final Awards
<b>Monday, July 19</b>	1100 1600-1800	First warning signal (One-Design championships) Hospitality Villa - Final Awards
<b>Tuesday, July 20</b>	1500-1800 1700-2000 1800 1800-2000	Part II check-in – Rolex US-IRC Nationals - NYYC Sailing Center Hospitality Villa Captains' Meeting - NYYC Sailing Center Race Week Layday BBQ
<b>Wednesday, July 21</b>	1100 1700-2000	First warning signal Hospitality Villa - Daily Awards
<b>Thursday, July 22</b>	1100 1700-2000	First warning signal Hospitality Villa - Daily Awards
<b>Friday, July 23</b>	1100 1700-2000	First warning signal Hospitality Villa - Daily Awards
<b>Saturday, July 24</b>	1100 1700-2000 1800-2200	First warning signal Hospitality Villa Rolex Gala and Awards Dinner Party



## **ABOUT THE NEW YORK YACHT CLUB**

The New York Yacht Club Race Week at Newport is organized by the **New York Yacht Club** and is sponsored by Rolex. In 2010 the New York Yacht Club (NYYC) will celebrate its 166th Anniversary and host its 156th Annual Regatta presented by Rolex. The tradition of the Annual Regatta began at the New York Yacht Club's original clubhouse in Hoboken, N.J., in 1845, during its second year of existence. The Annual Regatta is the first part of the Onion Patch Series, part of the US-IRC Gulf Stream Series for IRC yachts (<http://www.us-irc.org>) as well as the first leg of the 2010 NYYC Classic Series for classic yachts (<http://www.nyyc.org/2010NYYCclassic>).

The club was the keeper of the America's Cup from 1851 to 1983. In 2005, the NYYC hosted the Rolex Transatlantic Challenge in cooperation with the Royal Yacht Squadron. The NYYC organized the first transatlantic race in 1866 and started the fastest race in 1905, won by Atlantic, a NYYC vessel skippered by the famous Charlie Barr. This record was broken 100 years later in 2005 by Mari-Cha IV in the aforementioned Rolex Transatlantic Challenge – the 11th transatlantic race organized by the NYYC. In 1898, the NYYC was billeted on the second floor of a house on Madison Avenue. Commodore J. Pierpont Morgan stunned fellow members by announcing he would donate three lots on West 44th Street to build a new clubhouse. The building, designed in the beaux-arts style by Whitney Warren, opened in 1901. It is known for its Model Room and Library. The clubhouse is 109 years old.

In 1987, the NYYC acquired Harbour Court in Newport, the former summer home of NYYC Commodore John Nicholas Brown. When it opened in 1988, 1,500 members and guests attended. Harbour Court created a new energy and focus at the NYYC. In 1994, it hosted its Sesquicentennial Celebration, for members and friends. In 1998, the NYYC hosted the first Race Week at Newport presented by Rolex, the Disabled World Sailing Championship and the ILC Maxi World Championship. Harbour Court has twice hosted the Optimist Dinghy Association U.S. Championship and the IYRU O'Neill World Youth Sailing Championship. In 2000, Harbour Court hosted the U.S. Junior Championships for Sears, Bemis and Smythe Trophies. In 2002, the NYYC hosted the Intercollegiate Sailing Association (ICSA) Sloop National Championship with Brown University and in 2008, the ICSA National Championships with Brown University and Salve Regina University.

In 2005, the NYYC also hosted the Rolex Swan American Regatta, the 12 Metre Worlds and the ISAF Team Racing Worlds. In 2006, the NYYC hosted the IFDS Blind Sailing World Championship and the Rolex Farr 40 World Championship. The club has been active in Team Racing since 1984. It purchased 13 one-design Sonars that are dedicated to these activities. Team New York Yacht Club is the current ISAF Team Racing World Champion.

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## ABOUT US-IRC

The US-IRC Foundation, Inc. ([www.us-irc.org](http://www.us-irc.org)) works in cooperation with US SAILING ([www.ussailing.org](http://www.ussailing.org)) to support and develop the use of the IRC rule in the USA. US SAILING is the authorized body that issues IRC certificates under the auspices of the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) ([www.rorcrating.com](http://www.rorcrating.com)). The US-IRC's mission is to promote and enhance inshore and offshore yacht racing throughout the country by expansion of the use of the rule. The US-IRC Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of leading offshore sailors from throughout the US. Supporting partners for the US-IRC rule this year are Rolex Watch U.S.A., Inc., New York Yacht Club, Storm Trysail Club, St. Francis Yacht Club and Oak Hill Yacht Club.

It has been six years since the IRC rule ([www.ircrating.org](http://www.ircrating.org)) was adopted in the United States and with the recent US-IRC Championship of Long Island Sound, regional US-IRC Championships in the Great Lakes and on the Pacific and East Coasts, and the New York Yacht Club hosting the Rolex US-IRC National Championship IRC in the U.S. ([www.us-irc.org](http://www.us-irc.org)) is healthy and continuing to progress steadily. IRC is also featured as the principal handicap system in many major regattas and distance races, including the Acura Key West Race Week, the Miami Grand Prix, the Bayview Port Huron to Mackinac distance race, the Pineapple Cup-Montego Bay Race and the Rolex Big Boat Series.

The annual US-IRC Gulf Stream Series, which starts in January and finishes in November, offers a comprehensive season championship that includes 18 IRC events in Florida, the Caribbean and along the East Coast. Newly added for 2010 is the RORC Caribbean 600 Race, which had its inaugural race in 2009. The IRC has been granted „international“ status by ISAF. It has been in existence since 1999 (adopted in the U.S. in 2004) and is now the basis for more than 8000 certificates issued in over 35 countries and 625 IRC yachts active in the U.S. Owners and Organizing Authorities wishing to adopt IRC for their events should contact US-IRC Executive Director Luiz E. Kahl for help with the process ([luiz@us-irc.org](mailto:luiz@us-irc.org)).

## HISTORY OF THE ROLEX US-IRC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2010 Rolex US-IRC National Championship will celebrate its fourth running at New York Yacht Club's Race Week at Newport presented by Rolex. With the concept of moving the national championship around the country to encourage growth in IRC fleets, the 2009 championship was run in conjunction with St. Francis Yacht Club's Rolex Big Boat Series, in San Francisco, Calif. In 2008, it was sailed in conjunction with the 48th Little Traverse Yacht Club Regatta and One Design Series, in Harbor Springs, Mich and in 2007, the inaugural championship was held as part of the Storm Trysail Club's Block Island Race Week presented by Rolex. The Rolex US-IRC National Champion is determined by a performance formula. The combined, corrected seconds-per-mile for all races completed is calculated for the winner of each class. For all US-IRC latest news, events and seminars check out the US-IRC web site at [www.us-irc.org](http://www.us-irc.org).

2009 Rolex US-IRC National Champion: Vincitore Custom 52, Jim Mitchell (Zurich, SU/Chicago, IL)

2008 Rolex US-IRC National Champion: Stripes Great Lakes 70, Bill Martin (Ann Arbor, MI)

2007 Rolex US-IRC National Champion: Blue Yankee Reichel/Pugh 66, Bob and Farley Towse (Stamford, CT)



## ROLEX AND SPORTS

Precise, waterproof and robust, at its launch in 1926 the Oyster was already synonymous with a pioneering spirit. Adapted to the lifestyle of a rapidly evolving society in which leisure played a more and more prominent role, this wristwatch was destined to little by little replace the traditional pocket watch.

The sports world offered an extraordinary field of validation and expansion for this timepiece of unprecedented quality. Hans Wilsdorf, founder of Rolex, achieved a master stroke in 1927 by equipping Mercedes Gleitze, a young Englishwoman, with a Rolex Oyster when she swam the English Channel. He reserved the front page of the *Daily Mail* to announce the event to the public at large. Even though the watch had remained immersed for over 10 hours in the seawater, it continued to keep accurate time, proof of its undeniable waterproofness and robustness. The young entrepreneur had just created the "Testimonee" campaign.

From then on, the advances of the Oyster would be inextricably linked to sportsmen and women excelling in disciplines that were new at the time, like aviation, automobile racing or mountaineering: in 1933 Stewart Blacker flew over Everest; in 1947, pilot Chuck Yeager became the first person to break the sound barrier; in 1935, Sir Malcolm Campbell broke the land speed record in his bolide *Bluebird*, attaining 301 mph (484 km/h). In 1953, the expedition led by Sir John Hunt, Sir Edmund Hillary and Tensing Norgay was the first to conquer Everest. Through their achievements, these highly visible personalities underscore the technical qualities of the Oyster.

Over the years, new sports disciplines would be added. Today, Rolex is involved in five major sports: golf, sailing, tennis, equestrian sports and automobile sports. All of these disciplines combine precision and endurance, and call on participants to push themselves ever beyond their limits.

## ROLEX AND SAILING

Rolex has always enjoyed a privileged relationship with the sea, the world of sailing and the call of the deep. Among the sports that Rolex has been sponsoring for many years, sailing undoubtedly holds a special place. The spirit and philosophy of the sport are in perfect harmony with values that Rolex holds dear: excellence, precision and team spirit.

The partnership between Rolex and sailing dates back to the late 1950s. The close ties that bind the company to the world of sailing have grown stronger ever since. Today, Rolex is the Title Sponsor of some 20 major international events in three distinct categories:

- classic offshore races, such as the **Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race** and the **Rolex Fastnet Race**;
- high-prestige regattas, such as the **Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup**, which takes place every year in Porto Cervo, Sardinia (Italy), the **Rolex Swan Cup** and the **Giraglia Rolex Cup**;
- the most prestigious world championships, like the **Rolex Farr 40 World Championship**.



Through its support of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF), the world reference in sailing, Rolex participates in the development of this spectacular and exciting sport. Since 2001, the company has been sponsoring the **ISAF Rolex World Sailor of the Year Awards**, honorary prizes that celebrate men and women sailors who have particularly distinguished themselves in the course of the past year. The winners are selected by their peers.

Over the years, Rolex has also cultivated close associations with the best-known yacht clubs and the organisers of major events in the world of sailing, including:

- The **New York Yacht Club** (United States)
- The **Yacht Club Costa Smeralda** (Porto Cervo, Italy)
- The **Royal Yacht Squadron** (Cowes, United Kingdom)
- The **Yacht Club Italiano** (Genoa, Italy)
- The **Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club** (China)

Among its Testimonees, Rolex counts a number of exemplary sailors:

- Denmark's **Paul Elvström**, legendary regatta winner with four Olympic gold medals and 19 medals in world championships, who is today considered an icon;
- **Paul Cayard** from the United States is an accomplished sailor, as he has participated six times in the America's Cup, twice in the Olympic Games and has won seven medals in various world championships. He has also participated in two Round the World Races, winning in 1998;
- **Sofia Bekatorou**, from Greece, a 470 gold medallist in the Olympic Games in Athens, who has twice received the ISAF Rolex World Sailor of the Year Award in the women's category;
- American sailor **Gary Jobson**, Ted Turner's tactician when Courageous won the America's Cup in 1977, is now a sports journalist. He was inducted into the America's Cup Hall of Fame in 2003.

In 1992, a new watch intended for professional navigators was created in the Oyster Perpetual collection. Named Yacht-Master, this officially certified Swiss chronometer is immediately recognisable by its bi-directional graduated rotatable bezel with raised markers.

Drawing on ancestral know-how, Rolex continually expands the limits of technology, and in 2007 it launched the Oyster Perpetual Yacht-Master II featuring a countdown with a programmable memory. This unprecedented watchmaking complication constitutes an indispensable tool for experienced skippers and yachting-lovers alike.



## **PRESENTATION OF ROLEX**

Rolex is recognised the world over as the leader in the Swiss watchmaking industry and enjoys an unparalleled reputation for quality and know-how.

### **The birth of Rolex**

The origins of Rolex date back to the beginning of the 20th century. At a time when pocket watches were still the order of the day, Hans Wilsdorf, a young Bavarian just 24 years old, wagered on the future of the wristwatch. The pioneering spirit of the founder is the subject of some of the finest chapters in the history of contemporary watchmaking and was the source of two major innovations. In 1926, Rolex invented the Oyster, the first waterproof and dustproof watch, and, in 1931, the first self-winding mechanism equipped with a Perpetual rotor. Over the years, Rolex created a full line of Oyster watches, with a strong identity and intrinsic features. Recognisable at a glance, this collection includes over 170 models available in 3,200 possible combinations. The Cellini collection later enhanced the choice offered to consumers loyal to the legendary Rolex quality. The reliability and performance of the product have built the worldwide reputation of Rolex.

### **An international company**

Today Rolex is established in some one hundred countries. The company ensures the distribution of its watches and the quality of their maintenance through a network of 28 affiliates and several thousand official Rolex jewellers.

A Rolex watch is made to last. Assembled by hand, it benefits from the company's know-how and decades of cumulative expertise. An after-sales service, unique in its genre, ensures the proper functioning of the watches over time. It is based on the competence of nearly 4,000 watchmakers, trained by Rolex, who work for the affiliates or for jewellers of the Group worldwide. A universal and timeless brand, Rolex continues to conquer new markets and expand its presence worldwide.

### **State-of-the-art technology**

Responding to growing demand while integrating the latest technologies requires constant evolution of the means of production. In the mid-1990s, Rolex opted for a vertical integration of its production facilities, thus ensuring its control over the manufacture of all its watch components and guaranteeing its autonomy. In the interest of consistency and efficiency, the company consolidated all its activities in Switzerland at four sites.



## **In Geneva**

The Rolex headquarters is home to all the administrative activities of the company, to those related to the final assembly and sales of the watches, as well as to the after-sales service.

The Chêne-Bourg site brings together all the activities related to the development and manufacture of the dial and gem-set elements.

The Plan-les-Ouates site groups all the activities related to the development, manufacture and quality control of the case and bracelet.

## **In Bienne**

The Bienne site is the location of all activities related to the manufacture and assembly of Rolex watch movements.

## **An image of excellence**

The name Rolex is synonymous with performance. In 1927, Mercedes Gleitze, a young English woman, swam the English Channel in a time of over 10 hours wearing an Oyster. Upon arrival, the watch was still in perfect working order. The company immediately placed an advertisement in the *Daily Mail* proclaiming the success of the waterproof watch and the beginning of "the triumphant march of the Rolex Oyster around the world." This event also marked the start of a long association between Rolex and exceptional personalities who bear witness to the excellence of the product and are Testimonees of the brand. These associations give rise to numerous partnerships and sponsoring activities in fields as varied as art and culture, tennis, golf, sailing, and equestrian and automobile sports.

## **Perpetuating the spirit of enterprise**

While committed to the principles that are the foundation of the brand, the company is still capable of breaking with tradition in order to respond to changes in an ever-evolving world. Rolex's position as a leader in the watchmaking industry has been further reinforced through the conquering of new markets and the enhancement of the brand's image.

Taking over from Patrick Heiniger, Bruno Meier was named the Directive President of the company in January 2009.

Official website: [www.rolex.com](http://www.rolex.com)



## OYSTER PERPETUAL YACHT-MASTER II

A regatta chronograph, the **Oyster Perpetual Yacht-Master II** is the first watch to have a programmable countdown feature with a mechanical memory. This unprecedented horological complication gives the wearer the advantage of being able to programme the countdown from 0 to 10 minutes according to the countdown time of each regatta.

During the starting sequences, the countdown can be synchronised with the official count-down.

### Interaction between the movement, case and bezel

A new-generation watch, the **Oyster Perpetual Yacht-Master II** features interaction between the movement and the case and bezel through the Ring Command bezel. It is equipped with the calibre 4160, entirely designed and manufactured by Rolex and consisting of some 360 components.

Self-winding, equipped with a Perpetual rotor and certified by the Swiss Official Chronometer Testing Institute (COSC), the **Oyster Perpetual Yacht-Master II** is guaranteed waterproof to a depth of 100 metres (330 feet).

It is available in 18 ct yellow gold featuring a bezel with a blue ceramic disc, and in 18 ct white gold featuring a solid platinum bezel with raised numerals.

The **Oyster Perpetual Yacht-Master II** is equipped with an Oyster bracelet with an Oysterlock clasp and an Easylink comfort extension link.



## **ROLEX YACHTING MAJOR EVENTS CALENDAR**

### **Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race**

26 December 2009 – 1 January 2010

**Sydney – Hobart, Australia**

Mention the leading ocean races in the world, and the Rolex Sydney Hobart is certainly in the top three. This 628-mile offshore race organised by the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia provides a tough test for skippers, tacticians and crews alike. A yachting classic, the race attracts a well-seasoned fleet ready to test themselves against the challenging conditions. The 2009 race will be the 65th annual edition of this time-honoured event.

### **Rolex Farr 40 World Championship**

21 – 24 April 2010

**Casa de Campo, Dominican Republic**

This year the Rolex Farr 40 World Championship moves to the Dominican Republic and the exclusive resort of Casa de Campo. Upwards of 40 racing yachts, all forty feet long and identical in design, will race over four days in ten challenging races for the world championship crown, the World Cup and a coveted Rolex timepiece. Each crew is made up of four professional and five to six amateur sailors. Each yacht must be driven by its amateur owner/helmsman.

### **Portofino Rolex Trophy**

13 – 16 May 2010

**Portofino, Italy**

The 2010 Portofino Rolex Trophy is the second edition of a regatta dedicated by Rolex and the Yacht Club Italiano to classic yachts that form part of the rich history of sailing. The regatta is by invitation only and open only to wooden yachts in the J-, 12- and 8-Metre Classes.

### **Rolex Capri Sailing Week**

26 – 29 May 2010

**Capri, Italy**

Following a successful introduction in 2005, Rolex Capri Sailing Week is an annual fixture on the turquoise waters of Capri providing spirited competition at the start of the Mediterranean racing-season. Hosted by the Yacht Club Capri, the regatta provides a week of highly competitive racing for a number of classes. The strikingly picturesque island provides a stunning backdrop to the on-the-water racing action in the Bay of Naples, off Capri.



### **Giraglia Rolex Cup**

12 – 19 June 2010

**Saint-Tropez, France – San Remo, Italy**

One of the most renowned distance races in the Mediterranean, the Giraglia Rolex Cup has been a tradition for European sailors for over 50 years. From the race start off the historic port of Saint-Tropez the fleet heads through the idyllic Iles d'Hyères and across the sea to round the Giraglia, a rocky islet off northern Corsica, before racing to the finish in Italy, a total distance of 243 nautical miles.

### **Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup**

5 – 12 September 2010

**Porto Cervo, Sardinia, Italy**

The Costa Smeralda provides a stunning setting and a variety of challenging conditions for the Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup, one of the highlights of the Mediterranean yachting season. The first-ever Maxi World Championship held in Sardinia in 1980 was the brainchild of the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda and its president, the Aga Khan. The regatta is now an eagerly anticipated annual event and attracts a sizeable fleet of majestic yachts to Porto Cervo each September.

### **Rolex Big Boat Series**

16 – 19 September, 2010

**San Francisco, CA, United States**

Established in 1964, the Rolex Big Boat Series takes place annually on San Francisco Bay. In 2005, Rolex became title sponsor of this prestigious regatta which includes very competitive one-design and handicap racing. Widely recognized as one of the most important sailing events on the U.S. West Coast, this grand-prix racing regatta attracts the top competitors and boats from across the USA and occasionally abroad.

### **Rolex Swan Cup**

13 – 19 September, 2010

**Porto Cervo, Sardinia, Italy**

Porto Cervo becomes the centre of the Nautor's Swan world in September 2010 with upwards of 100 Swan yachts competing in this weeklong regatta. Recognized worldwide as one of the pre-eminent designers/ builders of luxury sailing yachts, this biennial event attracts both racing and racer/cruiser yachts. A draw for top sailors, the Rolex Swan Cup provides a spirited week of racing and gala social events for which Rolex and the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda are renowned.

### **Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez**

26 September – 3 October 2010

**Saint-Tropez, France**

Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez is an amazing rendezvous of yachts. First run twenty-six years ago as La Nioulargue, the regatta gathers together the most extraordinary modern sailing boats alongside the most beautiful traditional yachts in the early autumn. A host of racers and sailing enthusiasts come from all the corners of the globe to do battle in the bay of Saint-Tropez. The Trophée Rolex is awarded to the winner of the Classic Division over 16 metres.



### **Rolex Middle Sea Race**

23 – 30 October 2010

**Valletta, Malta**

The Rolex Middle Sea Race takes place in the heart of the Mediterranean and covers one of the most beautiful courses in the world. Unique for a race of this length in that it starts and finishes in the same place, the 606-mile route starts in Malta's magnificent Grand Harbour, includes the deep azure waters of Sicily and the Strait of Messina, along with the islands of Pantelleria and Lampedusa. It even features Stromboli's active volcano as a course mark. 2010 marks the 31st edition of the race.

### **ISAF Rolex World Sailor of the Year Awards**

9 November 2010

**Athens, Greece**

These awards recognize the top male and female sailor in the world. The winners are selected by the 130 ISAF Member National Authorities from an impressive field of nominees. Recent winners have topped their niche in sailing, from one-design to offshore racing. The host city is always determined by the location for the ISAF (sailing's governing body) Annual Conference. Athens was chosen for 2010 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of HRH King Constantine of Greece's involvement with ISAF.

### **Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race**

26 December 2010 – 1 January 2011

**Sydney – Hobart, Australia**

Mention the leading ocean races in the world, and the Rolex Sydney Hobart is certainly in the top three. This 628-mile offshore race organised by the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia provides a tough test for skippers, tacticians and crews alike. A yachting classic, the race attracts a well-seasoned fleet ready to test themselves against the challenging conditions. The 2010 race will be the 66th annual edition of this time-honoured event.

### **Rolex Fastnet Race**

14 – 19 August 2011

**Cowes – Plymouth, United Kingdom**

The biennial Rolex Fastnet Race has been an established fixture on the ocean racing circuit since 1926 and attracts a diverse entry list capped at 300 yachts. The 608 nautical mile race is a test of strategy and skill with challenging tidal currents and changeable weather. The fleet starts from the renowned Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes, races out of the Solent down the English Channel to Land's End and across the often tempestuous Celtic Sea to the Fastnet Rock, and returns on a reciprocal course to the finish off Plymouth.

**MORE INFORMATION ON [REGATTANEWS.COM](http://REGATTANEWS.COM)**



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To learn more about Rolex and its involvement with sports in general visit [www.rolex.com](http://www.rolex.com)

For more information about the Rolex Yachting portfolio visit [www.regattanews.com](http://www.regattanews.com)