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Yacht Club	History	Clubhouse	Team Members
 <p><a href="#">Royal Bermuda Yacht Club</a> Hamilton, Bermuda</p>	<p>The <b>Royal Bermuda Yacht Club</b> is the third oldest club holding a Royal Warrant outside the British Isles. The Bermuda Yacht Club was established in 1844 by 30 gentlemen, consisting largely of officers in the British Army. There are now approximately 850 resident and non-resident members. Early in 1845, at the invitation of the Bermuda Yacht Club's Commodore, Lord Mark Kerr, the Prince HRH Prince Albert, the first Duke of Edinburgh, graciously consented to become Patron of the Club. His Royal Highness, Prince Albert gave permission for the Bermuda Yacht Club to style itself the "Royal Bermuda Yacht Club." After almost 60 years at No. 52 Front Street, the RBYC acquired in 1933 a fine water site at Albuoy's Point, Hamilton, built a large Club House and moved into its new quarters on the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 1933.</p>		<p><b>Mark Watson</b> <a href="#">For Rest of Crew</a></p>
	<p>The <b>Royal Canadian Yacht Club</b> was founded in 1852 in the British tradition of having a recreational yachting club that would serve unofficially as an auxiliary to the Navy. The Club was established under the name the Toronto Boat Club, but in 1854 with Queen Victoria's permission, the Club was renamed the Royal Canadian Yacht Club. Long associated with the</p>		<p><b>Terry McLaughlin</b> <a href="#">For Rest of Crew</a></p>

[Royal Canadian Yacht Club](#)  
Toronto, Canada

Toronto Islands, the Royal Canadian Yacht Club did not move to the island until 1881, first occupying various locations on the Toronto waterfront. The first island clubhouse was destroyed by fire in 1904. Its successor, officially opened in 1906, and it, too, was irreparably damaged by fire in 1918. On August 25, 1919, Edward, Prince of Wales, laid the corner stone for the gracious two-story Southern-style clubhouse that has been the RCYC's summer home ever since.



[Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club](#)  
Hong Kong, China

One of the oldest and most prestigious clubs in Hong Kong, the **Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club** is proud of its rich, colorful history, which stretches back over 150 years of social and competitive sailing and rowing. The Club today has evolved into a multifaceted and cosmopolitan organization, and its membership (currently standing at 12,136) enjoys a comprehensive range of facilities, both afloat and ashore. Kellett Island in Causeway Bay is the Club's principal base and acts as the parent site to the two smaller branches of the Club, at Shelter Cove near Sai Kung, which is the base for cruisers, and Middle Island in Repulse Bay, which is the home to dinghy sailors, sail training and rowing. The Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club provides sailing and rowing courses for members and non-members at various levels to nurture the development of both sports.



**Jamie McWilliam**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



The **Royal Danish Yacht Club** (originally named the Danish Association for Pleasure Sailing) was founded in 1866 with its first clubhouse built in 1884 in Copenhagen. In connection with the 25-year jubilee in 1891, King Christian IX granted the Club his permission to use the name Kongelig Dansk Yachtklub (Royal Danish Yacht Club). It was then, too, that the royal crown was introduced as part of the club's burgee design. The club, today with its main facility in Hellerup (the Copenhagen structure was blown up by the



**Marie Klok Crump**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)

[Royal Danish Yacht Club](#)  
Hellerup, Denmark

Nazis in 1944 in response to sabotage attacks by the Danish Resistance), has about 2,200 members



**Leonardo Ferragamo**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



[Nylandska Jaktklubben](#)  
Helsinki, Finland

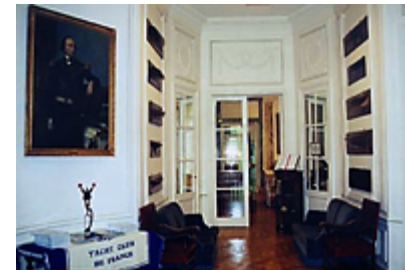
**Nylandska Jaktklubben (NJK)** is a well known and most successful yacht club. With over 2,500 members it is the largest in Finland. In 1861 the constitution of NJK was approved by Czar Alexander II. In that same year NJK organized the first sailing competitions in Helsinki. At the time Finland was called the Grand Duchy of Finland, and it was part of the Russian Empire. NJK started as a yacht club without a harbor or clubhouse. The first pavilion was built on an island west of Helsinki. As the harbor was poor and no shipyard was available, it soon became necessary to move. One member owned a small island, Blekholmen, in the South Harbor of Helsinki, which he generously rented to NJK for a nominal fee. The pavilion was soon moved to Blekholmen where, over the years, it has been reconstructed. The present pavilion, designed by the architects Estlander and Settergren, was inaugurated in 1900 and has been carefully maintained. Today Blekholmen has berths for 125 boats, and it is also one of the official guest harbors of Helsinki. The pavilion has a large collection of flags and burgees, the largest collection of half models in the Nordic countries, a valuable collection of trophies as well as paintings and photographs.



**YACHT CLUB DE FRANCE**  
FONDÉ EN 1867

[Yacht Club de France](#)  
Paris, France

The **Yacht Club de France** was established in 1867, during the Second French Empire. It was bestowed Royal Patronage by HRH Emperor Napoleon III; its first president was Admiral Rigault de Genouilly. A new club was founded, the Union des Yachts Français, Société d'Encouragement pour la Navigation de Plaisance in 1891. In 1907 the two clubs merged and were recognized by the International Yacht Racing Union now ISAF.



**Bruno Troublé**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



[Norddeutscher Regatta Verein](#)  
Hamburg, Germany

The **Norddeutscher Regatta Verein** is Germany's largest sailing club, with more than 2,000 members. Since 1868 it has been dedicated to yacht racing and to sailing. In 1888 the German Sailing Federation was founded in the NRV clubhouse from NRV and 11 other German Clubs. 140 years later, Hanseatic confidence and pride in history harmonize in the NRV, forming and still enhancing its distinctive image. We maintain what is long proven, we preserve what has come to be cherished and we stimulate a spirit of sportsmanship. In 1868 the founders chose the name "Verein" (association) rather than "club" as an indication of their aims; one of the club's traditional roles ever since, one at which it excels, has been as a regatta organizer. The NRV initiated Kiel Week and Travemünde Week and is still engaged in these traditional events. With highly prestigious regattas such as transatlantic races: DaimlerChrysler Challenge and HSH Nordbank blue race, as well as Rolex Baltic Week and the Baltic Sprint Race, the NRV sets the standards on the international sailing scene.



**Achim Griese**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



[Royal Cork Yacht Club](#)  
Co. Cork, Ireland

Sometime in the early 1600s, the idea of sailing for private pleasure started to take root in the Netherlands. Later that century, during the Cromwellian years, King Charles II of England was in exile in the Netherlands, and while there he became aware of this new and exciting pastime. In 1660 after his restoration to the English crown and return from exile, Charles was presented with a yacht, which he sailed enthusiastically on the Thames. Soon several of his courtiers followed his example, and we feel certain that one of them was Murrough O'Brien, the 6<sup>th</sup> Lord Inchiquin (Murrough of the Burnings). By 1720, interest in the sport had progressed so much that his great-grandson, the 26 year old William O'Brien, the 9<sup>th</sup> Lord Inchiquin, and five of his friends got together to formalized their activities in "The Water Club of



the Harbour of Cork." This club is known today as the **Royal Cork Yacht Club**, and it is the oldest yacht club in the world. One of the very first sporting heroes, Sir Thomas Lipton, who challenged for the America's Cup sailing his famous series of yachts called *Shamrock*, was admitted to the club in 1900. Today, total membership is around 1,500; our facilities are unparalleled in Ireland and continue to expand; major World, European and Irish Championships are hosted at the club regularly. Cork Week, which is held every two years, is regarded as Europe's best fun regatta and attracts contestants from all over the world. The Royal Cork may be almost 300 years old, but it is still vibrant, progressive and innovative -- just as it was in 1720.



[Royal St. George Yacht Club](#)  
Co. Dublin, Ireland

The Kingstown Boat Club, from which the **Royal St. George Yacht Club** evolved, was founded in 1838 by a small group of boating enthusiasts who had decided that "the (River) Liffey was every year becoming fouler and less agreeable for aquatic pursuits." They were granted a piece of ground near Dun Laoghaire Harbour on which to build a clubhouse -- the first privately owned building to stand on publicly owned space. Membership grew rapidly, and amongst them were many well-known yachtsmen of the day. One of these was the Marquis Conyngham, who used his influence with Queen Victoria to have the privileges of a Royal Yacht Club conferred in 1845. The Club flag was to be "the Red Ensign with a crown in the centre of the Jack" and the burgee was red with a white cross with a crown at the centre. This, of course, is the St. George's Cross and is quite possibly the reason why, in 1847, the Club became The Royal St. George's Yacht Club, although this has never been established. It subsequently became the Royal St George Yacht Club; it is referred to by all who know it, as simply "the George." The new clubhouse was



**Michael Cotter**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)

the first custom-built clubhouse in the ancient seaport of Dun Laoghaire (or Kingstown, as it was known from 1821 to 1920). The clubhouse was designed by Mulvany, a follower of Gandon, designer of the Custom House in Dublin, and he produced a beautiful miniature Palladian villa in the neo-classical style. The builder was Masterson, who built many other beautiful houses in the neighbourhood, including Sorrento Terrace, Dalkey. Work was completed in 1843, but, incredibly, such was the growth in membership, that the clubhouse was already too small. Permission was granted by the Harbour Commissioners in 1845 for an extension of the original façade, which involved clever duplication of the existing Ionic portico with the erection of a linking colonnade between. The symmetry and classical grace of the clubhouse was thus preserved in the new building. The George has a long tradition of racing and cruising, and members have, from the start, made their mark in home and international waters. In 1851, the Marquis Conyngham, Commodore, competed in his 218 ton yacht *Constance* in the Royal Yacht Squadron Regatta. An American yacht called *America* won the race! In 1893 William Jameson, of the eponymous distilling family, was asked by Edward, Prince of Wales, to be sailing master on his new yacht *Britannia*. He won 33 out of 43 starts in her first season. In 1963 a major restoration project was undertaken to repair and update the Club's facilities, and this attracted a large number of new members who were ultimately to pave the way for the later developments, including a much-envied multi-purpose club room, a state-of-the-art forecourt extension for dinghies and keelboats, and a fully-equipped dock. 2008 saw the culmination of five years of planning and building when the new sailing wing was opened for use. Consisting of a new junior room, racing office, committee room and

administration office this area is joined to the older building with a lovely light-filled atrium. Stylish and functional changing facilities for the ladies and upgraded male changerooms have increased the club's capacity to accommodate larger numbers of sailors for world-class events. A refurbishment of the Clubroom further complimented this full-service sailing section and has elevated the Club's status resulting in it being chosen to host the 2012 ISAF Youth World Championships.

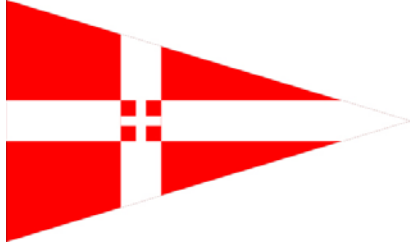


[Yacht Club Costa Smeralda](#)  
Porto Cervo, Italy

The **Yacht Club Costa Smeralda** (YCCS) was founded on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1967 by H.H. the Aga Khan, Andrè Ardoin, Giuseppe Kerry Mentasti and Luigi Vietti as a non-profit sporting association for fellow sailing enthusiasts and with a view to promoting related activities. The sporting events organized by the Club and the victories won by members flying the Club's burgee have helped to establish the YCCS's position at the forefront of international yachting. From its inception, the Club has aimed to organize international regattas, and as early as 1972, the first edition of the Settimana delle Bocche was held. In 1973 the Club organized the One Ton Cup and became recognized as the primary promoter of competitive offshore sailing in Italy and in the Mediterranean. In 1981 the YCCS launched the first Italian challenge to the America's Cup. Just two years later the 12-Metre *Azzurra* came a triumphant third in the qualifying regattas for the finals in Newport. Thanks to her success, the first 12 Metre Class World Championship was held in Porto Cervo in 1984. That same year, the Royal Perth Yacht Club chose the YCCS to act as Challenger of Record for the 1987 America's Cup.



**Vittorio Codecasa**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)

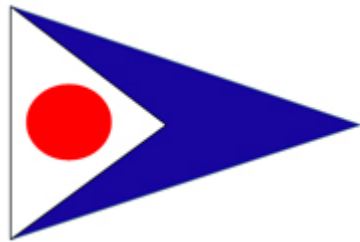


[Yacht Club Italiano](#)  
Genoa, Italy

**The Yacht Club Italiano** is in Genoa, Italy. It was founded in 1879 and is one of the oldest sailing clubs in the Mediterranean. At its inception Royal Patronage was bestowed by HRH King Umberto I of Italy. This club has the privilege of the use of a special ensign, the "Bandiera della Marina Militare" – the Italian Navy Flag. Its first regatta took place in 1880 in the Bay of La Spezia with 177 yachts. Today the club has over 1,200 members. The Yacht Club Italiano together with the Yacht Club de France, another entrant in the Invitational Cup, runs the Giraglia Rolex Cup regatta from Saint Tropez, past Giraglia, the northernmost point of Corsica, to Genoa. The club is also home to Luna Rossa Challenge, a syndicate that competed in the America's Cup.



**Carlo A. Puri Negri**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



[Japan Sailing Federation](#)  
Tokyo, Japan

The **Japan Sailing Federation (JSAF)** is an organization that has two different aspects: the national authority in Japan and an ocean racing yacht club. It was founded in 1875. Among the events it hosts are the Oshima Race from 1951, Pearl Race from 1960, Japan Cup from 1985 and the Melbourne–Osaka Doublehanded Race from 1987. Some highlights include sending the first sailor to the Berlin Olympic Games in 1936; the establishment of an offshore-yacht organization named the "Nippon Ocean Racing Club" in 1948; the first offshore yacht regatta in Japan in 1951; it organized yacht racing in the Tokyo Olympic Games in 1964 and the Quarter Ton World championship in 1978 and challenged for the America's Cup as the Nippon Challenge in 1992. The JSAF's team participates in this regatta as a yacht-racing club.



**Makoto Uematsu**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND YACHT SQUADRON

Founded in 1871, the **Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron (RNZYS)** is New Zealand's senior yacht club. Its enormous reputation on the international yachting scene ensures that the Squadron occupies a position of high prestige, nationally and internationally. On the



**John Melville**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)

**Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron**

Auckland, New Zealand

walls of the Main Hall are half models of some of the most distinguished yachts in New Zealand history: *Rainbow, KZ7, NZL20, Steinlager 2, Fisher & Paykel, New Zealand Endeavour, Ceramco, Infidel, Shockwave* and *NZL32*, all of which have flown the Squadron's burgee at the highest level of international competition. The Squadron's trophy cabinets carry evidence of members' skill and prowess in major regattas both in New Zealand and overseas. The Whitbread Trophy, the Admiral's Cup, the Kenwood Cup, the Half, One and Two Ton Cups, the Rolex Sydney to Hobart Race and the Champagne Mumm World Cup have all been won by Squadron representatives. We have been very proud to add the Louis Vuitton Trophy, the Thomas Lipton Cup, the Pell Cup (from Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, RI) and the America's Cup to our collection, thanks to Team New Zealand's success in San Diego in 1995 and Auckland in March 2000. In 2007 Team New Zealand was once again successful in winning the Louis Vuitton Trophy from a field of eleven challengers in Valencia, Spain.



**Real Club Nautico Barcelona**

Barcelona, Spain

The **Real Club Náutico de Barcelona** was established in 1879. The flag is a blue burgee with the register ensign of Barcelona of 1845 on the canton and the Royal Arms of Spain from 1759 to 1931 (Charles III to Alphonse XIII) in the center. The Real Club Marítimo de Barcelona and the Real Club Náutico de Barcelona merged in 1902 to form the Real Club Barcelona, but the new society only lasted until 1909, when they broke apart. Both club houses are next to each other on Barcelona's harbor.



**Jordi Tarré**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



[Royal Yacht Squadron](#)  
Cowes, United Kingdom

The **Royal Yacht Squadron** (RYS) is the most prestigious yacht club in the United Kingdom. Its clubhouse is located in Cowes Castle on the Isle of Wight. Member yachts are given the Suffix RYS to their names, and permitted to fly the White Ensign of the Royal Navy rather than the merchant Red Ensign flown by the majority of other UK-registered vessels. The club's patron is Queen Elizabeth II, and the club's Admiral is Prince Philip who is also a former club Commodore. There is a long and interesting history of collaboration between the New York Yacht Club (NYYC), the host of the Invitational Cup, and the RYS, not least of which came to the fore in the shape of the America's Cup Jubilee in August 2001. The NYYC joined with the RYS for the America's Cup Jubilee, in Cowes for a week-long regatta and party to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the regatta that came to be called the America's Cup. One of the many highlights was a race around the Isle of Wight, the course sailed by *America* in 1851.



**Oscar Strugstad**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



[Royal Ocean Racing Club](#)  
London, United Kingdom

The **Royal Ocean Racing Club** (RORC), founded in 1925, is the principal organizer of offshore yacht races in the United Kingdom. The RORC was founded to encourage long distance yacht racing and the design, building and navigation of sailing vessels in which speed and seaworthiness are combined. Among the races it organizes is the Rolex Fastnet Race. Its clubhouse is at 20 St. James's Place in London.

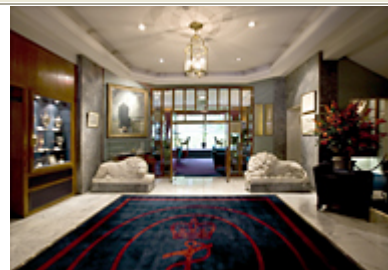


**David Aisher**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



[Royal Thames Yacht Club](#)  
London, United Kingdom

The **Royal Thames** is the oldest royal yacht club in the United Kingdom. It was established in 1775 when the Duke of Cumberland, brother of George III, put up a silver cup for a race on the River Thames and formed the Cumberland Fleet. This remains the alternative name of the Club today. The Royal Thames Yacht Club name originates from 1830 when William IV came to the throne. The Club has a major yacht-racing team and match-racing program and among many other events still runs the Cumberland Cup, the worlds oldest sporting trophy, as a bi-annual Team Racing trophy for which leading yacht clubs from around the world are invited to compete. The RTYC also runs a number of other major trophies such as the Carmella Cup, for inter-club team racing with a special Universities' class, Farr 45 racing in the form of the David Diehl and Imperial Trophies and has had a long standing role as one of the custodians of the BA Cup. The Club also takes an active part in the organization of Cowes Week. In addition to maintaining its long history of yacht racing, the RTYC also organizes cruising for members and guests in many locations around the world. Venues within the current planning include Turkey, the English West Country, Northern France, Canada and New Zealand. Yachting originally took place on the Thames but the Solent, with its center of Cowes, has become the UK home waters for the Club since the 1850's when the steam train made access to the South Coast easy. The Club has had many distinguished Flag Officers and traditionally the Commodore has been a member of the royal family. Earl Mountbatten was Commodore for 20 years, and today the Club's Commodore is HRH Prince Andrew, the Duke of York. Unusually among leading yacht clubs, the senior elected member and chairman of the Club is the Vice Commodore.



**John Greenland**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



St. Francis Yacht Club  
San Francisco, USA

The **St. Francis Yacht Club** was founded in 1927 on a site already rich in local lore. Earlier, while this was still marshland, it was also home to the Stone Boat Yard and the building of a schooner named *Yankee*. The earthquake of 1906 knocked the *Yankee* off its cradle, but the boat was picked up and finished. Today, after repeated terms as a St. Francis flagship, the *Yankee* can still be seen here, its bow aimed at the Marina Green. The yacht harbor was begun as part of the Panama Pacific Exposition of 1915, to mark the opening of the Panama Canal. The original St. Francis clubhouse was finished just barely ahead of the Depression and the lean years that came with it. St. Francis yachts stood patrol duty during World War II, and later they carried the burgee around the world. Today, hardly anything remains of the original Willis Polk structure. Fire and earthquake saw to that. But through the years, the club served the sport, and it anchored the international game of yachting on San Francisco Bay. In 1958, the club initiated an annual cruise that led to the purchase of a Delta Station on the San Joaquin River, Tinsley Island, where the members go now to work the summer fogbite out of their toes. The club inaugurated its Perpetual Trophy Regatta in 1963, and this annual September gathering has become our signature event—the Rolex Big Boat Series--drawing great sailors from all the great ports of the Blue Planet.



**Craig Healy**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)



[New York Yacht Club](#)  
New York, USA

In 2009 the **New York Yacht Club** (NYYC) noted its 165<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 155<sup>th</sup> Annual Regatta. The club was the keeper of the America's Cup from 1851 to 1983. The NYYC hosted the first transatlantic race in 1866 and started the fastest race for 100 years in 1905, won by *Atlantic*, a NYYC vessel skippered by the famous Charlie Barr. This record was broken in 2005, in the Rolex Transatlantic Race by *Mari-Cha IV*, in an event hosted by the NYYC. In 1898, J. Pierpont Morgan stunned fellow members by announcing he would donate three lots on West 44<sup>th</sup> Street in New York to build a new clubhouse. The building, designed in the beaux-arts style by Whitney Warren and Charles D. Wetmore, opened in 1901. It is known for its Model Room and Library. The clubhouse, a National Historic Landmark, is 108 years old. In 1987, the NYYC acquired Harbour Court in Newport, the former summer home of NYYC Commodore John Nicholas Brown; it serves as an on-the-water clubhouse. 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 Race Week at Newport, presented by Rolex, the Disabled World Sailing Championship and the ILC Maxi World Championship. In 2000, as part of Race Week, the NYYC hosted the Rolex IMS Offshore World Championship. In 2005, it hosted the Rolex Transatlantic Challenge, the Rolex Swan American Regatta, the 12-Metre Worlds and the ISAF Team Racing Worlds. The sixth edition of Race Week at Newport, presented by Rolex, was in 2008. The NYYC has also hosted the IFDS Blind Sailing World Championship. In 2009, it will host the Invitational Cup.



**Phil Lotz**  
[For Rest of Crew](#)