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## **Marion Bermuda Fleet set at 73 monohulls and 2 multihulls**

Monohulls start Friday June 15th, Multis on Saturday

Beverly Yacht Club, Marion MA: The stage is set for the 16th Marion Bermuda Race starting from Buzzards Bay near Marion MA this Friday and Saturday. Several boats have had to withdraw because of mechanical problems leaving the fleet with 73 monohulls and 2 multihulls.

At home spectators can follow the race on iBoatTrack at  
<http://www.iboattrack.com/>

Henry Roberts, race scorer, said Thursday that scratch sheets have been prepared now to divide the fleet into classes and divisions. "US Sailing administers the ORR and IRC ratings. They crunch the numbers for the fleet. We waited to make sure we get the latest data. Then produced the class breaks." ORR is the main rule for the race, but 13 boats will also race under non-endorsed IRC for another set of prizes. The ORR smart scratch sheet is available on the web sits.

The race pits spinnaker and non-spinnaker and celestial and electronically navigated boats into an overall performance competition for the Goslings Founders Trophy.

"Gosling's is the presenting sponsor not only of the Founders Trophy given to the overall winner of the race but also several parties in Marion and in Bermuda and the Friend's & Family Race in Bermuda, too," race marketing Director Ray Cullum pointed out, "so there will be plenty of Dark'n Stormy cocktails poured in both Marion and Bermuda."

Yachts choosing to sail with celestial navigation only will receive a favorable 2% rating credit to their corrected time. They will then compete alongside yachts using electronic navigation for overall prizes. The 2% rating credit reflects the statistical difference between celestial and electronic performance in the past three Marion to Bermuda Races. Yachts racing spinnaker and non-spinnaker will be rated accordingly under the rating handicap system.

The Royal Hamilton Dinghy Club, co-sponsor with Beverly YC and the Blue Water Sailing Club, has planned a great social slate in Bermuda for friends waiting for yachts to finish and for skippers and crews once they arrive.

"We want the Marion Bermuda Race to be a special experience for everyone," commented RHADC Commodore Charles Dunstan. "We've planned finish line visits and Lighthouse tours, Bermuda House & Garden tours, and a St George's tour via the powercat Wildcat. Moe Dixon, Copper Mountain resort resident entertainer will be live on the RHADC terrace nightly. Thursday night is A Crown & Anchor fundraiser for Junior Sailing.

“Friday is a big fun day and Saturday is golf, awards ceremony and a gala dinner,” Dunstan continued, “Gosling’s hosts the Friday afternoon Friends & Family Race for locals and visitors to bash around the buoys. They also host the Gosling All-Crew party at the club Friday afternoon and night. Saturday is a Belmont Hills golf outing followed by the prizegiving that will be held at the Government House this year. It is a spectacular venue and a very special occasion. The gala dinner back at the dinghy club caps off the event.”

For the social schedule in Bermuda go to  
<<http://www.marionbermuda.com/bermudaevents.shtml>>

We would like to welcome the Bermuda Department of Tourism, Globalstar, Gosling’s and Kingman Yacht Center as presenting sponsors for this year’s event. As in 2005 be sure your friends and family track your progress on-line through iBoattrack from Horizon Marine.

**About Marion to Bermuda 2007**