

**OCEANIC CONCORDAT**

**Major Oceanic Event Organisers met at 11:30 – 15:40 hours on Thursday 7 December 2017 at Fédération Française de Voile, 17 rue Henri-Bocquillon, 75015 Paris, France.**

1. Opening of the Meeting	1	5. Update on non-Concordat Oceanic Races	4
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting	1	6. Rolling 4 Year Events Program	6
3. Updates from Classes	1	7. Next Meeting	6
4. Update on Concordat Races	3	8. Any Other Business	6

**Present:**

Christophe Gaumont – Chairman

Alain Gautier – World Sailing Oceanic Panel

Mike Golding – World Sailing Oceanic Panel

Vanessa Boulaire – Class 40 – Office Manager

Hervé Favre – The Transat – La Route du Rhum - OC Sport – Offshore Sailing Events Director

Simon Forbes – World Sailing Technical and Offshore Manager

Jacques Lehn – observer

Halvard Mabire – Class 40 - President

Antoine Mermoud – IMOCA President

Lomano Takasi – Profil Grand Large – Project Manager

Sylvie Viant – Transat Jacques Vabre - Race Director

**1. Opening of the Meeting**

Christophe Gaumont (Chairman) welcomed all present to the meeting.

Apologies were received from:

Laura Le Goff – Vendée Globe CEO, Emmanuel Bachellerie Coordinator (Collectif Ultim), Sir Robin Knox-Johnston (Clipper Ventures), Phil Lawrence (Volvo Ocean Race), Xosé-Carlos Fernández (Barcelona World Race), Patrice Drouin (Transat Quebec- St Malo), Titouan Lamazou - Association Trophée Jules Verne.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

(a) Minutes

The minutes were noted of the Major Oceanic Event Organisers meeting of 16 June 2017 (which had been circulated and approved after the previous meeting).

(b) Minutes Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not otherwise covered on the agenda.

**3. Updates from Classes**

(a) Class 40

i) Class Activity

4 new boats are in build. The second-hand market is very strong. No major modifications to the class rules. The Route du Rhum is the big event for 2018 with a limit of 40 entries for the Class, though there is interest from more Class 40s. Also in 2018:

For the moment, foils are not permitted in the class. Phil Sharp with a 3<sup>rd</sup>-hand boat from 2013 remains competitive in the fleet. The Class has to be careful with cost and the Class 40 is very happy for others to pay for the research and development. The latest boat built is #153.

ii) Calendar of class events

23 April 2018 Les 1000 Milles des Sables, solo

26 May Atlantic Cup – USA

27 May Normandy Channel race – 975 miles

21 July Drheam Cup Destination Cotentin 736 miles – qualification for Route du Rhum

(b) IMOCA 60

i) Update on fleet

Antoine Mermod noted that 13 IMOCA 60s competed in the Transat Jacques Vabre, and all finished. The current fleet is a minimum of 20 boats, in 2017 most of the boats on the second-hand market have been sold. Three new boats will be built, 'Charal', 'Hugo Boss' and a currently undisclosed 3<sup>rd</sup> boat. The Class is planning to organise a one-day mandatory skipper safety meeting.

The event management contract with Open Sports Management (OSM) terminated at the end of 2017. Currently no external company is contracted.

It was noted that the Volvo Ocean Race had commissioned a Verdier-designed 60ft hull plug which had been built at Persico Boatyard (ITA). Antoine Mermod noted that the hull plug shape could produce an IMOCA 60. Antoine felt that the current situation with Volvo was causing confusion and that the new Volvo Ocean Race CEO should work together with IMOCA before going public on projects, but they will need to be win/win for both organisations.

ii) Calendar of class events

There will be a new event starting the first week of June in Monaco, which will be a two-handed race over 1,500 miles. The Giraglia Race will also be supported and possibly a solo race to Cascais as a qualifier for La Route du Rhum. Some boats may do the RORC Round Britain Race starting 12 August 2018.

(c) Volvo Ocean Race

i) Organisation and Class Activity

Since the last meeting, the Volvo Ocean Race CEO, Mark Turner, had resigned.

The new Volvo Ocean Race co-CEO Johan Salen had written to the Chairman on 6 December reporting:

"As you probably know the strategy to move to a two year cycle and make the next VOR in 2019 has been put on hold. Since we got involved 3 weeks ago we are in the process to accumulate viewpoints from all different types of stakeholders. I guess this will never really end, but after the Cape Town start our plan is to distil all this information and come up with a plan which then will be circulated to current teams and discussed with Volvo. To make a long story short we envisage to have a new strategy formally decided in February or maybe March."

Volvo Ocean Race Director Phil Lawrence sent his apologies, VOR staff were currently in Cape Town, preparing for the in-port race the next day. Seven of the eight Volvo Ocean 65s started the 2017-18 race on 22 October 2017.

(d) 'Ultim' – Maxi Multihulls

Emmanuel Bachellerie Coordinator of the "Collectif Ultim" was unable to attend the meeting but had briefed Christophe Gaumont earlier in the day:

- Four boats currently in the collectif, Sodebo, MACIF, Banque Populaire, Actual, and eventually the new Sodebo. [Subsequent to the meeting Team Actual was lost off Cape Horn] . In association: Idec Sport. It was observed that Idec did not comply with the Collectif rules because it's engine bollard pull did not meet the minimum requirement. Not in: Gitana, though competing in the 2017 Transat Jacques Vabre and 2018 La Route du Rhum.
- The Collectif have asked the FFV that they be recognised as a national class and that the class rules will be published by the end of the year.

ii) Calendar

- 24 April – 6 May 2018 Mediterranean event – 'Nice Ultim' fully-crewed.
- 21 April 2019 – Lorient-Bermuda-Lorient
- 29 December 2019 (Winter) World Tour, start from Brest.

A race program is planned of six race events, each boat would be able to deploy a 'joker' to avoid one event.

#### 4. Update on Concordat Races

(a) Volvo Ocean Race

Volvo Ocean Race started 22 October 2017 from Alicante. The route will be:

Alicante(ESP) - Lisbon(POR) - Cape Town(RSA) - Hong Kong(CHN) – Guangzhou(CHN)  
- Auckland (NZL) - Itajai (BRA) - Newport-R.I.(USA) - Cardiff(GBR) – Gothenburg (SWE)  
– The Hague (NED).

7 Volvo Ocean Race 65 boats racing.

(b) La Route du Rhum 2018

Hervé Favre reported that the start is 4 November 2018. Destination Guadeloupe are back as title sponsor. The fleet limit is 100, a problem will be the Ultims that do not fit through the lock gates into Bassin Vauban.

Currently entered:

7 "Ultim", 7 Multi 50, 10 Multi 'Rhum', 40 Class 40, 20 IMOCA 60, 15 Rhum Monohulls.  
The entry deadline is end of March.

The Race village will be open on 24 October, (for two more days than the last race), there will be a parade on the Thursday 25 and Friday 26 October in front of St Malo.

(c) Barcelona World Race

Antoine Mermod gave an update, highlighting changes contemplated to the race format. With the objective to make the race a bit easier to train new skippers on IMOCA 60 boats:

- 1 – One stopover in Sydney

2 – A possible change of co-skipper at Sydney

3 – A re-start with all the boats together

4 – A later start date - 12 January 2019.

The plan is that the Sydney re-start will be on 9 March 2019. Boats failing to re-start 48 hours after the re-start will “have to give up”. All IMOCA 60s with valid certificates may enter. (An earlier plan to limit eligibility of older boats has been dropped.)

[Subsequent to the meeting, the Barcelona World Race 2019 has been cancelled]

(d) The Transat 2020

Hervé Favre said that the plan is to run The Transat race again in May 2020, possibly end of May. The finish port is still to be confirmed.

(e) Transat Quebec-St Malo 2020

Patrice Drouin, President of GesteV had met in December with Christophe Gaumont and confirmed a July 2020 window for the Transat Quebec-St Malo 2020 which would be open to all classes as in the past.

(f) Vendée Globe 2020-21

The start is planned for 6 November 2020. In consultation with IMOCA, a selection process for the 30-boat entry limit is planned, based on the number of miles raced.

## 5. Update on non-Concordat Oceanic Races

(a) The Bridge 2017

Lomano Takasi (Project Manager – Profil Grand Large) reported on a successful event with crowds of 100,000 for the events in Nantes and St Nazaire. 185 companies partnered in the events. Profil Grand Large are planning a Tour of Europe for the Ultim class in 2021.

(b) Clipper Round the World Race 2017-18

Sir Robin Knox-Johnston sent his apologies as the Clipper Race is currently in progress. He sent a brief note regarding the failure of a safety harness tether clip and the loss of a crew member.

(c) Transat Jacques Vabre 2017

Sylvie Viant advised that 39 boats were registered as entries. Two did not start, there were 6 boats which retired, including the Multi 50 trimaran ‘Drekan Group’ which capsized. Unfortunately, the boat was lost as it was not able to be located. In future it will be proposed that multihulls should carry a second Yellowbrick Satellite Tracking device which can be deployed after a capsized.

Starters: 3 big multihulls, 6 Multi 50, 13 IMOCA 60, 15 Class 40.

Alan Gautier highlighted his opinion that from a sporting point of view, it was not good to have a class (Large multihulls) with only three entries, and that these 3 boats attract 85% of the major media coverage of the race. He proposed that there should be a minimum of 5 entries per class.

(d) Melbourne – Osaka 2018

The organisers of the Melbourne-Osaka Race have asked World Sailing for recognition on the [www.sailing.org](http://www.sailing.org) website as a major oceanic event. The race was first held 1987

(64 entries), and subsequent races in 1991, 1995, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2013.

Twenty-five entries are expected for 2018.

It was agreed to add the Melbourne-Osaka 2018 race to the Appendix 1 as a non-concordat race.

(e) Transat AG2R 2018

These will start Mid-April 2018 and be the last Transat with Figaro 2. The results will count towards the FFV championship, which means it will be essential to compete.

(f) Nice Ultim Med

The large trimarans will warm up off Nice from 25 April 2018 followed by an offshore race starting 2 May.

(g) IMOCA – Monaco Globe Series

This two-handed 1300 mile race for IMOCA Class starts 1 June 2018 from Monaco.

(h) Golden Globe 2018-19

Since the last meeting, Don McIntyre the organiser of the Golden Globe has moved the location of the start to Les Sables d'Olonne on 1 July 2018.

Christophe Gaumont noted that as the event would now be starting from France, this raised some issues. Races in the FFV Calendar are required to be conducted under the Racing Rules of Sailing, as the Golden Globe was not running under the RRS, this would imply the event would need to be subject to approval by the French Department of Maritime Affairs.

Christophe Gaumont advised that a meeting between the FFV and the Golden Globe organisers would be held in late December/early January 2018.

[Subsequent to this World Sailing meeting, Christophe Gaumont advised that the FFV/Golden Globe meeting was held : As the Notice of Race does not state that the RRS will apply, it is not a race according to the FFVoile regulations. So this race is more an "adventure", and will not be registered in the FFVoile official calendar. FFVoile have no power to authorize or forbid an adventure. only the maritime authorities can do that. So it will be an event, but not a race. No race officials will be there]

(i) La Dhream Cup – Destination Contentin

Starting from La Trinite sur Mer with a 50 mile race on 21 July 2018, followed by a start on 23 July for a 400 mile or alternatively a 700 mile race to Cherbourg.

(j) Lorient-Bermuda-Lorient

Starting on 21 April 2019, this 5,780 mile non-stop race is aimed at the Ultim class, other classes such as IMOCA and Multi 50 are invited.

(k) Ultim World Tour

The Ultim World Tour non-stop solo round the world race will start on 29 December 2019 from Brest and might see 6 large trimarans competing.

(l) Class 40 Round the World

Halvard Mabire noted that there were no longer any affordable great sailing adventures with a chance to win. Sailing needs an affordable great adventure, the Class 40 note a lot of demand for this kind of adventure with good organisation and a real sporting challenge.

## 6. Rolling 4 Year Events Program

- (a) The 4 year rolling events program 2017-2020 found in Appendix 1 was reviewed and updated. The rolling 4-year program in Appendix 1 was approved and is now endorsed by World Sailing.

## 7. Next Meeting

**To be confirmed 7 December 2018 at FFV, Paris.**

## 8. Any Other Business

- (a) World Sailing had proposed to the International Olympic Committee an Offshore Showcase event for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. The proposal is for a 9-10m yacht with one man and one woman. World Sailing have set a deadline for the Tokyo organisers to make a decision by the end of 2017.  
  
[Subsequent to the meeting, World Sailing have abandoned plans for an Offshore Showcase event in Tokyo]
- (b) Sustainability – Mike Golding, chairman of the World Sailing Sustainability Commission gave a presentation of the commission's strategy. <http://sailing.org/news/sustainability>

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 1539.

Attached: Appendix 1 Summary of Concordat and Other Events

**Appendix 1 - Summary of Concordat and Other Events Calendar 2018-21**

Concordat Events	Classes		2018	2019	2020	2021
Barcelona World Race	IMOCA 60			12 Jan*		
Volvo Ocean Race	Volvo Ocean 65 →			October ?		
The Transat	Monohull IMOCA 60 Class 40	Multihull 'Ultim' >60' Multi 50			May	
Vendée Globe	IMOCA 60				6 Nov →	
Québec St Malo	Monohull IMOCA 60 Class 40 39'-70'	Multihull 'Ultim' > 70' Multi 50 39'-70'			July	
Route du Rhum	Various Classes		4 Nov			

\* subsequent to the meeting: postponed

Other Oceanic Events	Classes		2018	2019	2020	2021
Transat Jacques Vabre	Monohull IMOCA 60 Class 40	Multihull 'Ultim' 70'-105' Multi 50		Oct/Nov		
Transat B2B	IMOCA 60			Dec?		
New York-Vendée	IMOCA 60				June*	
Clipper	Clipper 70			End Aug →		
OSTAR + TWOSTAR	Monohull + Multihull 27' – 60'				May	
Transat AG2R	Figaro		22 April		April	
Nice-Ultim Mediterranean	Multihull Ultim 80'-105'		April-May			
World Tour	Multihull Ultim 80'-105'			29 Dec →		
Golden Globe	Approved Monohull 32' – 36'		1 July			
Melbourne-Osaka			25 March			
Normandy Channel Race			27 May	May/June	September	
<b>Other Events</b>						
America's Cup	AC 75				Dec →	