

## PRESS RELEASE

**AN INTERNATIONAL FRIDAY AT BARCOLANA, WITH THE FIRST EDITION OF THE “GENERALI SEA TALK” AND THE SAILORS FROM ISLAND SAILING CLUB AND ROYAL LONDON YACHT CLUB**

**TODAY AT SEA: BARCOLANA INVITATIONAL - VENEZIA GIULIA COLLIO CUP, THE REGATTA FOR THE ITALIAN NAVY LEAGUES SHIPOWNERS, THE SPECTACULAR FINE ART SAILS REGATTA AND THE MIXED OFFSHORE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP**

**BARCOLANA51 AND HIGH-TECH: THE GREAT SUCCESS OF E-SAILING AND THE NEW TRACKING DEVICE BY KWINDOW FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS**

*Trieste, 11 October 2019 – What a Friday at Barcolana: more than 50 events took place on land and at sea today, with two days left to Barcolana51 presented by Generali. This evening, Barcolana paid tribute to the United Kingdom by celebrating the group of sailors who are here in Trieste thanks to the twinning agreement between sailing club Società Velica di Barcola e Grignano and Island Sailing Club and between Royal London Yacht Club and Yacht Club Adriaco. The British sailors, the dean of yachting journalists Bob Fisher, together with Francesco Ettorre, Riccardo Bonadeo, David Brunskill, Chicco Isenburg and Bruno Catalan, Dondo Ballanti, Piro Onoranti, Giovanni Sicola, Silvano Kapelj were invited to watch the exceptional screening of Franco Pace's documentary on the 1979 Fastnet race. Shortly before the many regattas that were raced today, Barcolana and its presenting sponsor, Generali, organized the first edition of **Generali Sea Talk**, whose major topics this year are diversity, mixed crews and mixed organizations. The Chinese sailor Vicky Song and the British sailor Dee Caffari, both Barcolana's testimonials, talked about this topic with Anna Chiara Lucchini, General Group Head of Leadership Development and Academy by Generali, and with Mitja Gialuz, at the newly refurbished Palazzo Berlam: Sea Talk was the first event to be organized in the building after its inauguration. *“This year and for the first time – stated **Gialuz** – there's a women's crew that competes in the regatta, racing for victory. But we want to do something more: diversity will be the theme for Barcolana's next edition and for next year. We don't want gender quotas or women's crews, but mixed crews, where people are suited for their role according to their skills and talent and not gender. As a sailor, I can say that gender is not important aboard: only skills and merits count. To fulfill this aim, we all need to work together today and in the future so that more and more young girls sail and practice this sport. This can help us strengthen the important role played by women in society. As a sailor, I know that there are no gender differences aboard a boat. Trust is built by working hard.”**

**ENTRIES** – Registrations are going very well at sailing club Società di Barcola e Grignano: today, 1,847 boats had registered for the regatta at 6.30 pm.

**AT SEA** – The second edition of **Barcolana Invitational – Venezia Giulia Collio Cup** took place on the Friday before the regatta: this competition is open to the sailing clubs of the Gulf of Trieste (in its broadest sense) that every year bring hundreds and hundreds of sailors to Barcolana. Despite the non-existent wind, 12 teams were at the start line to race the three qualifying tests for the stadium race final to be held in the evening: Società Velica Oscar Cosulich, Società Velica di Barcola e Grignano, Yacht Club Cupa, Diporto Nautico Sistiana, Società Triestina della Vela, Società Triestina Sport del Mare, TPK Sirena, Società Nautica Pietas Julia, Yacht Club Adriaco and Circolo della Vela Muggia. The stadium race final was won by Società Triestina della Vela, Yacht Club Adriaco arrived in second place and Società Velica Oscar Cosulich arrived third.

**BARCOLANA NASTRO ROSA** – The first edition of the Mixed Offshore European Championship by Barcolana and Nastro Rosa was won today by Lisa Berger and Christian Kargl. The event was organized by SSI and will soon collect the legacy of the Giro d'Italia. The Austrian team of Lisa Berger and Christian Kargl won after a 187-mile navigation, with very light wind. The seven two person mixed crews - each made up of one man and one woman – set off from St. Mark's square in Venice last Wednesday, crossing the Adriatic Sea up to Rovinj, continued down to Lošinj before sailing round San Giovanni in Pelago and sailing their way up towards Trieste. The Austrian team was in the lead for most of the regatta, followed by the French and the Belgian team. The finish line was located opposite Barcola and SVBG, which celebrated the first European champion of this new Olympic sport, which will be new to the Olympic games in 2024. The great teams of the Mixed Offshore European Championship will also race the Barcolana regatta, aboard their 30-foot hulls.

**THE OTHER RACES** – The Star Class yachts have taken to the sea today too in the traditional **Fine Art Sails** regatta dedicated to the Andrew Simpson Foundation. A series of famous artists, unique painted Star sails, great champions of this legendary class, charity organizations. These are the ingredients of the Fine Art Sails – an international project combining sailing, art and charity while celebrating the Star yachts - the queens of this type of boats. Victory was snatched by Danelon and Gazzetta (Yacht Club Adriaco), Planine and Armenio (Società Nautica Pietas Julia – Società Velica di Barcola e Grignano) came second and Zlatich and Simoni (Società triestina della Vela) third. The Gulf has also been the venue for the first day of the monohull regatta - **Barcolana One Design** –and for the old-time favourite challenge between Italian Navy League sections - **Barcolana Regata Armatori LNI**.

**E-SAILING COMES UP TRUMPS** – There's nothing new about Barcolana being the largest regatta in the world, but the success of its e-sailing version has really come up trumps. More than 150 thousand competitors turned up yesterday for the qualifying tests at the e-sailing Academy in Piazza dell'Unità, ahead of the e-Barcolana final on Saturday. Overall, more than 150 thousand e-sailors worldwide have entered the race. You can still qualify for Sunday's finals.

**TRACKING BY KWINDOW** – The KWINDOW tracking platform is Barcolana51's latest innovation that will be used to track boats during the Regatta on Sunday. The device works through an external hardware and traditional mobile technology. As per official notice by the Regatta Committee, Megayachts, Super Maxis and other yachts selected by the Organizing Committee are required to install the "Kwindoo Tracking" app on a mobile phone that will be taken aboard the boats during the regatta. Once the app is installed, enter the event "Barcolana" and start tracking your position at 09.45 am on Sunday until 15 minutes after crossing the finish line. Kwindoo support staff will be available to help install the app on Saturday at the entry/registration office. The app may be installed by all the other competitors too if they wish or by anyone who wishes to follow the regatta on Sunday through the app, starting from 10.30 am, <https://www.barcolana.it/it/25065/Tracking-by-Kwindoo>.

**MSC** - MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company, world leader in global container shipping and logistics, makes a come back to Barcolana after last year's experience with its sailing yacht MSC Team, a 10-metre Psaros33 with a 48 square metre mainsail and 140 square metre spinnaker.

The crew will include: Nicolas Groux (tactician), Massimiliano Venezian (trimmer and MSC Senior Vice President), Joel Kunzi (bowman), Simone Arienti (mast), Sebastian Wittgenstein (mainsail trimmer and MSC Group Financial Director) and Mikis Psarofaghis (trimmer mate).

**WHAT'S ON TOMORROW** – The Saturday before Barcolana begins with **Go To Barcolana from Slovenia by Kempinsky & MK Group**, the regatta that takes Slovenian sailors to Trieste, adding value to the connection between the sailors of the Adriatic sea and transferring the boats in groups and with a competitive spirit. The start is scheduled for 11.00 am from Portorose, with finish line located opposite Piazza Unità. The traditional welcome and prize-giving ceremony for the crews will take place at 5 pm. At 10.30 am there will be the traditional **Barcolana Classic – SIAD Trophy** and the parade of the ladies of the sea along the Rive seafront. Official start of the race scheduled for 11.30 am. Moored along the quays of the Yacht Club Adriaco, the vessels (about 70 are expected) will form a marvellous floating maritime museum, from large yachts that once sailed the oceans to Losinj's typical small boats, known as *passere*, from boats carefully restored by local shipwrights to the ones designed by Carlo Sciarrelli. Later in the morning (11 am), the second part of the tests for **Barcolana One Design** regatta will take place, followed by the awards presentation for the 2019 winners. The always much awaited, exciting and spectacular **Barcolana by Night** will be raced in the evening and followed by a crowd of thousands of people along the Rive seafront on the night before Barcolana. At sunset (5.30 pm) there will be the regatta for Meteor class and at 6.00 pm for Meteor class.

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