

PRESS RELEASE 13 OCTOBER 2018

THE BARCOLANA OF RECORDS IS ABOUT TO KICK OFF! OVER 2642 BOATS AT THE START LINE

THE GREAT FESTIVAL FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REGATTA

Trieste, 13 October 2018 – Trieste's great festival, with over 2642 registered yachts, is ready for the great event. On Sunday morning at 10.30 am, right after the Italian Air Force display at 10.10 am, the largest regatta in the world will kick off. The 50th anniversary of the Regatta, the presence of the tall ship Vespucci, over 400 events on land and at sea organised by SVBG with a team of great sponsors, including first and foremost Assicurazione Generali, have attracted a number of record yachts, sailors and spectators. The final number of entries will be known tomorrow morning: tradition has it that Barcolana accepts ship-owners that reach Trieste by sea at the last minute to join the regatta. "SVBG - stated its Chairman **Mitja Gialuz** – wishes to thank all ship-owners who have decided to be part of this festival at sea and on land. We have worked a lot to promote across Europe the 50th edition of the event and its message of eco-sustainability. Fifty years ago the founding fathers of this regatta saw 51 yachts racing in the Gulf of Trieste and tomorrow there will be thousands of sailors. I want to dedicate this great edition of the regatta to the SVBG members, to those who founded the yacht club and to their families, because it brings so much attention to Trieste".

THE COMPETITORS – Winning Barcolana means being first in the largest regatta in the world. The defender, Spirit of Portopiccolo, has a local Dream team made in Friuli Venezia Giulia: its crew members are brothers Gabriele and Furio Benussi, Lorenzo Bressani and Alberto Bolzan. The challenger, CQS Tempus Fugit, has a mixed bag of crew members, from local sailors (Slovenian helmsman Mitja Kosmina, tactician from Veneto Enrigo Zennaro and also Antonio Masoli and Marco Furlan, Andrea Casale, Andrea Visintini), to Australians, New Zealanders, Germans and English, all captained by skipper Ludde Ingvald. The yacht's mainsail bears the logo of Assicurazioni Generali, the event's main sponsor that has decided to sponsor the yacht to give greater visibility to Barcolana and highlight the presence of an international challenger at the event. The battle will be fought among more than 2000 boats and the start will be decisive for all those yachts that will be lining up at the start line at 10.30 am ready to hoist their gennakers and spinnakers to race a regatta with wind that is expected to drop.

On Friday, organizers decided to widen the start line by 500 metres to be able to accommodate all registered boats at the start line, extending it to two miles in length. Moving the Mark at Miramare (the western end of the line) gives greater space at the pre-start, where many outsiders will might get in the way of the defender and challenger. The 118 ft yacht Viriella, the largest vessel to have ever entered Barcolana will be steered by Mauro Pelaschier, Anemos by Vasco Vascotto, who reached us today from the US, Pendragon A2A will be steered by Lorenzo Bodini, the former Maxi Jena – renamed Way of life will have a Slovenian team. They will all

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compete against each other along the same 13-mile race course with finish line in the waters off Piazza dell'Unità.

GENERALI CUP – Generali Cup, the regatta organised by the Generali Group, main sponsor of Barcolana, for its employees, is back after its first edition in Barcolana49.

The 50 sailors among the employees of Generali have been selected from 14 countries by the Group in the spring and in the summer.

The crews arrived in Trieste on Friday and took part in a competitors briefing held by Francesca Clapcich, one of the two Italian sailors who just competed in the Volvo Ocean Race regatta. The first three regattas raced by the Generali crews took place this morning and were favoured by moderate wind gusts.

The fourth regatta was raced in the Gulf of Trieste as a Stadium Race. The race course was composed of six marks and could be perfectly seen by spectators - especially from the Rive Seafront - and from the sailboats moored in Bacino di San Giusto ahead of Sunday's regatta.

After the first three regattas in the Gulf of Trieste, which were made strenuous by the Bora wind, SEA ROAR Generali 4 with skipper Philippe Bodou (crew: Alessandro Rossi, Roberta Marangon Rosin, Carlo Balestrieri, and Mirko Tillman) ranked first in the temporary overall ranking after scoring two first places and one second place. Second: local champion Paolo Cerni on Dream Team Generali 7, with two second places and one first place.

The fourth and decisive regatta was raced in the afternoon with Bora wind gusts between 22 and 29 knots. G Shock Generali 3 took advantage of the wind gusts and after sailing passed the tall ship Vespucci won the regatta, thus changing the overall ranking order: Dream Team Generali 7 passed Sea Roar Generali 4, but the overall winners of the Generali Cup 2018 were Paolo Cerni and his crew, followed by Sea Roar and G Shock.

The prize-giving ceremony took place aboard the tall ship Amerigo Vespucci. The Generali crews will race aboard the same sailboats in the Barcolana regatta tomorrow.

BARCOLANA CLASSIC BY SIAD – The radiant sunlight and a perfect light breeze were the ideal framework for many events at sea on the eve of Barcolana 50.

Barcolana Classic by Siad kicked off the traditional parade of the ladies of the sea: almost 100 hundred wooden vessels sailed in Bacino S. Giusto in complete safety. Because of the strong wind gusts the Organizing Committee decided to bring forward the start to 12.10 pm for vintage, classic and Sciarrelli yachts which set sail on a windward-leeward course to be raced twice with start line in the waters off Barcola and a mark near Miramare Castle. About half an hour later the "Spirits of Barcolana" set off, while the *Passere* boats were unable to leave their moorings due to 25 knot winds which then dropped to 20 knots.

Line honours went to Tiziana IV, a 15.5 metre-sloop designed by Carlo Sciarrelli, launched in 2002 by the Monfalcone-based shipyard Alto Adriatico. Second vintage vessel to cross the line by a head was the spectacular Siegfried Rittler's Tilly XV, a German Sonder Class built in 1912 for Prince Henry of Prussia, brother of Emperor William II.

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TV LIVE BROADCAST - RAI SPORT will cover the regatta with live commentary by Giulio Guazzini starting at 9.45 (shown also on Rai TGR FVG). For the first time the regatta will be broadcast live abroad in 90 countries with commentary in English on Nautical Channel, the English network on sailing. The English commentary of Nautical Channel will also be available on the Barcolana Facebook. TV production will be managed by Videe, and the helicopter live coverage will be managed by Elifriulia. The international channel will be using augmented reality.

INFO:

Barcolana Press Office: Wordpower srl ufficiostampa@barcolana.it

Francesca Capodanno +39 349 8810482 - francesca.capodanno@wordpower.srl

Serena Cappetti +39 3331301526 - serena.cappetti@wordpower.srl

Martina Baldazzi +39 339 2229911 - martina.baldazzi@wordpower.srl