



# Oyster Antigua Regatta 2023

5th – 8th April, Nelson's Dockyard Marina

Sailors for the Sea Clean Regatta Sustainability Report - April 2023



## Oyster Yachts Sustainability

The future of the oceans is in our hands and Oyster are committed to becoming the world's most sustainable yacht business, delivering experiences, adventures under sail with a positive impact on the planet.

By 2030, our ambition is to produce a yacht in the most sustainable manner possible, and one that can be entirely self-sufficient.

We recognise our responsibilities and are taking an ambitious approach to minimising our environmental impact by setting clear and achievable sustainability goals. As part of this, we have reviewed every aspect of our operations to minimise waste, reduce energy use and plastic consumption, whilst also considering the materials we use to manufacture our yachts.

Oyster are proud to be working with Sailors for the Sea on our Oyster Regattas to minimise the impact the event and the participants that attend them have on the environment.

After achieving Bronze Clean Regatta certification in 2017, Gold in 2019, and Platinum certification at the Palma Regatta 2022, we are committed to continue our environmental goals in all future Oyster Regattas.

#### **Best Practice 1 - Eliminate Single-Use Water bottles and provide refill stations**

We communicated to participants prior to the Regatta that there would be no single-use plastic at the event and asked that they bought their own reusable water bottles to use throughout the regatta.

#### **Best Practice 2 - Eliminate Plastic Straws**

Only 100% natural and biodegradable, chemical free, straws were offered at the Regatta.

#### **Best Practice 3 - Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware**

All caterers involved with the regatta had to use environmentally friendly sound alternatives to single-use plastics. Drinks were served in glass or wooden cups and food on reusable or recyclable dinnerware.

## **Best Practice 4 – Use or Provide Reusable Bags**

We gifted an Oyster Regatta holdall bag to each Oyster Yachts for them to use throughout the week and in the future.

Our Event partner Dolphin Sails made holdall bags out of sail cloth as prizes.





#### **Best Practice 5 – Award Practical Items or use a Perpetual or Upcycled Trophy**

The class winners were awarded the perpetual Oyster Regatta trophy which is used every year.

The Overall prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd in each class were handmade from wood and metal.

Our Event Partner Lewmar awarded winch handles as prizes on their race day.







#### **Best Practice 6 – Publicize your sustainability efforts**

Details of our commitment to delivering a clean regatta and some of the initiatives we followed are listed on the Antigua Regatta webpage on the Oyster Yachts website - <a href="Mailto:Antigua Regatta 2023">Antigua Regatta 2023</a> | Oyster Yachts (please see screenshot below)

#### Clean Oyster Regattas

Since 2017 Oyster have been working with Sailors for the Sea to ensure our Regattas are as clean as possible.

We have taken the steps below to minimise the impact the event has on the environment:

- · All event documents are sent electronically via email and the Oyster app to reduce paper waste
- No single-use plastics are supplied, and all caterers provide environmentally sound alternatives
- Participants are given the opportunity to donate to local marine organisations. At the Antigua Regatta 2023 participants supported the Environmental Awareness Group Antigua and Antigua National Parks coral restoration and turtle conservation projects

We would like to thank all the participants who made smart choices to help protect the water and ecosystems we love so dearly and support this program.







#### **Best Practice 6 – Publicize your sustainability efforts**

#### On the Oyster Event app

We created an Environment and Charity section on the event app which included information on the organisations we were working with, including Sailors for the Sea, ecoworks marine, and the Environmental Awareness Group Antigua.

Links to each organisations website were included so participants could learn more about what they do. vodafone UK 4G 15:41 31% 

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#### **OYSTER REGATTA GREEN BOATING GOALS**

How can you help make this a cleaner regatta?

- Nominate one crew member in charge of hydration during the regatta.
   He/she can be responsible for filling all water bottles/containers. How
   will you rehydrate on the race course without single use plastics? Think
   about sourcing your own larger containers to fit in onboard fridges.
- Be careful what goes into the ocean. Ensure you clean your boat with non-toxic cleaning products. Thanks to our friends at <u>Ecoworks Marine</u> you have a selection of products to ty! Deck soaps contain phosphates and nitrates that can dramatically affect water quality, especially in a closed harbour. Protect your skin with ocean-friendly sunscreen.
- Manage your waste. Help by properly sorting all recycling and compost so we can minimize the amount of waste headed to the landfill. The nearest recycling point is at Cobbs Cross.
- Learn more about the Clean Regatta Program. The world's leading sustainability program helping organisers and water-lovers become greener. Visit <u>www.sailorsforthesea.org</u> and join the community of Green Boaters.
- 5. Environmental Awareness Group Antigua. Thank you to all the participants who have already made a donation on the regatta entry form. Your donations will support the Marine Conservation Programme focusing on coral reef restoration and the conservation of sea turtles.

Thank you for your help!

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#### **Best Practice 7 & 16 – Involve Local Organisations**

Two local organisations, the Environmental Awareness Group and Antigua National Parks gave talks to participants on Registration Day about their Coral Restoration and Turtle Conservation projects on the island.

Participants were given the opportunity to donate to the organisations and £1,360 was raised which will help to fund and support the two projects above. The donation box on the Regatta entry form is shown below.

Donation to the Environmental Awareness Group Antigua (EAG) (All donations received will be passed directly to the organisation)

AMOUNT

Total amount due in £ Sterling

AMOUNT







#### **Best Practice 8 – Post Educational and Reusable Signage**

All educational signage was posted electronically to help aid our 'paperless' approach this year.

The Regatta Green Boating Goals were shared on the Oyster app >

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#### **Best Practice 9 – Serve Local Food and Source Seafood Sustainably**

All caterers were local and where possible used local ingredients, including lots of seafood which was sourced in local waters.

#### **Best Practice 10 – Organise a Green Team**

Oyster Regatta Green Team Millie Bolingbroke, Allie Smith and Rachel Robinson, were on site during the Regatta educating and encouraging participants to follow the Regatta Boating Goals.



## **Best Practice 11 – Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement and Signage**

The nearest recycling location was shared with participants





## **Best Practice 13 – Use Paperless Event Management**

All regatta documents were shared through the Oyster app and email, none were printed, which reduced a huge amount of paper waste at the event.

We believe 500 + sheets of paper were saved by using the app instead of printing race documents





#### **Best Practice 17 – Offer Vegetarian or Vegan alternatives**

All caterers at the Regatta provided vegetarian or vegan options

## **Best Practice 18 – Use eco-smart Race Management Techniques**

The race committee sent updates and results through the oyster app, nothing was printed.

We did not use any bow or mark stickers at the event.

#### **Best Practice 19 – Prevent Toxins entering the water**

We teamed up with Ecoworks marine who provided environmentally friendly cleaning products for all Regatta Yachts.

Participants were advised to be mindful of what goes in the ocean, in the Regatta Green Boating Goals and by the Green Team.

Notably, ensuring only non-toxic cleaning products and sun creams were used.

"2. Be careful of what goes into the ocean. Ensure you clean your boat with non-toxic cleaning products. Deck soaps contain phosphates and nitrates that can dramatically affect water quality, especially in a closed harbour. Protect your skin with ocean-friendly sunscreen. "





#### **Best Practice 20 – Encourage Green Boating Practices**

We created 5 Regatta Green Boating Goals for participants to follow:

- 1. Nominate one crew member in charge of hydration during the regatta. He/she can be responsible for filling all water bottles/containers. How will you rehydrate on the race course without single use plastics? Think about sourcing your own larger containers to fit in onboard fridges.
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