

Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

The Event

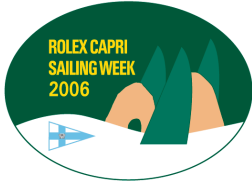
Following a successful introduction last season, the Rolex Capri Sailing Week returns to the turquoise waters of Capri. This year the regatta will run from 27th April to 1st May 2006, an early start to the Mediterranean sailing calendar when owners and sailors traditionally assemble in the Neopolitan island of Capri.

As with the Rolex IMS Worlds, held three years consecutively on the Blue Isle, the Rolex Capri Sailing Week will again host an impressive fleet. The event will feature one design classes, Swan 45s and Farr 40s, as well as the handicap divisions of I.M.A. Mini Maxi, and Comet 41S, 45S, 50, 51S.

The regatta is hosted and organised by the Yacht Club Capri (YCC) in collaboration with the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda (YCCS), and with the support of the Italian Sailing Federation (FIV) and the Unione Vela Altura Italiana (UVAI).

The Title Sponsor for the Regatta is Rolex SA, Geneva. The regatta fleet will be moored in Capri's Marina Grande, about one hour by ferry from Naples.

The racing area will be on the waters around the Island of Capri. The four days of racing will feature both windward/leeward and coastal courses with a maximum of 9 races to be sailed.



Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

Provisional Programme

Thursday 27th April

Inspection, Registration and Briefing
Welcome cocktail - YCC
Crew welcome party – Anacapri

Friday 28th April

Coastal Race or W-L Race
After race refreshments - Marina Grande

Saturday 29th April

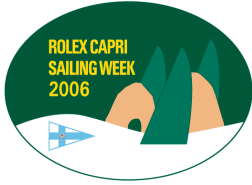
Coastal Race or W-L Race(s)
After race refreshments - Marina Grande

Sunday 30th April

Coastal Race or W-L Race(s)
After race refreshments - Marina Grande
Rolex Party

Monday 1st May

W-L Race(s)
Prize Giving



Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

About the boats and the racing

For its' inaugural event last year, the Rolex Capri Sailing Week attracted a very competitive fleet, which is divided into one-design divisions for Farr 40s and Swan 45s, as well as, IMS/ ORC handicap divisions, including the new Mini Maxi class. The Mini Maxi class is competing for the first time this year; there will also be a division for the Comet.

About the Farr 40 Class

The Farr 40 is a high performance one-design racing yacht created for amateur helmsmen racing at top level international and regional regattas, under strict One Design Class Rules.

The Class Rules are intended to ensure that Farr 40 yachts are as identical as possible in all respects, such that the skill of the sailing team is the only reason for success. This one-design class, first launched in 1997, is a modern boat equipped with all the techniques of state-of-the-art racing, without the worry of constant development and obsolescence. With over 130 boats built to date, the class has grown rapidly to fill an all-too important gap in the market, where the owners are the people in full control.

Many of the fleet's owners are past players of other professional programs that have found Farr 40 one-design racing, where they helm the boats themselves, much more satisfying than leaving the fun in the hands of the professionals. Many owners are building their sailing skills at the highest levels without having to dedicate their whole lives to a top-notch program. Owners are becoming the rock stars, winning nominations (and trophies) as national Sailor of the Year in the USA and Holland in 2004. Most of the fleet do hire the best professionals in the field to fill the roles of tactician and sail trimmers.

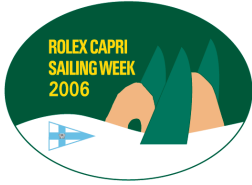
The two principal guiding clauses of the Farr 40 OD Rule are:

Classification

While racing in Farr 40 One Design Class events, the crew including owner(s) or charterers, shall be composed of Group 1 (Amateur), competitors except that not more than 4 crew members may be other than Group 1. Competitor Grouping shall be determined by application of current ISAF (International Sailing Federation) Sailor's Classification Code.

Steering

While racing in One Design Class events, only Group 1 Farr 40 One Design owners and their immediate family members may steer. There is no owner exception, an owner or family member who is not a Group 1 may not steer in such events.



Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

About the Swan 45 Class

The founding philosophy of the Swan 45 Class was to create a successful, sustainable and professional class that retains the core values of Nautor's Swan - namely, producing exceptional quality yachts, with both racing and cruising capabilities. Designed by German Frers, never before has a yacht achieved success on the race course, while also providing the comforts of cruising.

The framework of the class, with the owner/driver rule at its heart, has endorsed this philosophy. With some of sailing's best known owners signing up to be a part of the 'family', the Swan 45 appeals to both their competitive spirit, as well as their 'leisurely' dreams! This unique dual-purpose capability has guaranteed the success of both the class and the model, ensuring the Swan 45 is not only fun to own, but is also a long-term investment with an strong re-sale value.

From the moment this performance-driven Swan was launched in 2001, it has attracted considerable attention within the sailing world. In 2002, the Swan 45 proved her individual racing prowess on the international circuit with impressive results at major regattas, including winning the Giraglia Rolex Cup and honours at the Zegna Trophy. With these results, high acclaim from professional sailors and renowned owners, the foundations were laid for the first year of the Swan 45 Class Racing Circuit.

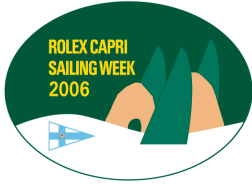
A key element to ensure the success of the Swan 45 Class is the structure of the global racing programme. The aim of the class is to develop a programme for the regattas as the Star Class did so successfully all over the world. Nautor has committed to an impressive race programme through to 2010, which includes the organisation of the Swan 45 Gold Cup every 18 months.

Classification

No more than 5 crew classified as Group 3 under ISAF Regulation 22, Sailor Classification, may be aboard the boat while racing under these Class Rules.

Steering

The Swan 45 Class is an 'Owner Driver' Class. The provisions for helmsmen other than bona fide owners are included solely: a) to provide for relief helmsmen during a long race, b) to accommodate charterers, c) to provide for an owner or charter helmsman unavoidably absent for part of an event.



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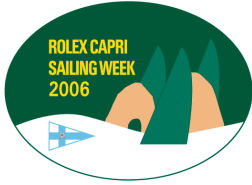
About IMS

The IMS (International Measurement System) provides elapsed time corrections for a broad range of sailing yacht types utilizing speed predictions from computer models based on the fundamental principles of hydro and aerodynamics. The ORC (Offshore Racing Congress) manages the system, optimising it as improvements in speed prediction are developed.

The IMS Rule is used in conjunction with the IMS Regulations, a separate document covering such matters as sail inventory limits, permitted building materials, class divisions and accommodation regulations. Whilst the front end of the fleet is always impressive to watch on the water the nature of handicap racing, of which IMS racing is one current example, means that the winners invariably come from somewhere in the pack.

Often the biggest boats are out in front sailing in isolation with just a stopwatch with which to judge performance. Further back in the pack, boats of a similar size find the racing a lot more tactical and enjoyable as there is always someone nearby with whom to judge immediate performance. On a big boat way out in front, a bad tack and a boat length is lost, something that is impossible to see when the opposition is over the horizon behind. But the same bad tack and same lost boat length on a smaller boat surrounded by similar-sized competition, can be the difference between making the weather mark or not and perhaps even the difference between ultimately winning and losing the race.

A well-honed amateur crew with a competitive and well-maintained production boat can often pull off surprising results in a fleet like this. The IMS Rule is designed to see no difference between these two groups. Therefore no crew should ever be underestimated.



Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

About the Organisers

The Yacht Club Costa Smeralda (YCCS) was founded on May 15th 1967 by its current President, His Highness the Aga Khan, and a small group of Founder Members, as a non-profit sporting association whose purpose was to bring together nautical sports enthusiasts and those who love the sea. The Board of Directors, the Commodore and the Secretary General supervise all of the Club's social and sporting activities.

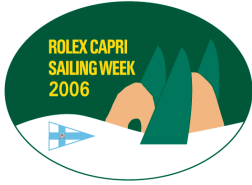
Affiliated with both the Italian Sailing Federation (FIV) and the Federazione Italiana Motonautica (FIM), the YCCS promotes and organises a series of major sporting events for which it is renowned throughout the world. These include the Rolex Settimana delle Bocche, the Rolex Swan Cup, the Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup, the Rolex Sardinia Cup, the Veteran Boat Rally and the Rolex IMS Offshore World Championship. The YCCS has also organised many other World and European Championships in various classes, such as the Star Class World Championship, the 12-Metre World Championship and, the Rolex Farr 40 World Championship. The YCCS is the administrative headquarters of the Offshore Racing Council (ORC) and the International Maxi Association (IMA).

In addition, the YCCS burgee was also to be found aboard Azzurra, the first ever Italian Challenger for the America's Cup, in Newport in 1983, and Destriero, which brought the Blue Riband back to Italy in 1992 after smashing all previous Atlantic crossing records. 2004 marked the 20th anniversary of the YCCS's first collaboration with Rolex, which is also the Club's Official Time Keeper.

The YCCS Clubhouse, overlooking Porto Cervo Marina, is considered one of the most prestigious and beautifully functional structures of its kind anywhere in the world. The adjoining Piazza Azzurra, the centre of the Race Village during sporting events, hosts a series of cultural initiatives throughout the rest of the year. The Clubhouse offers Members and regatta participants 24 guest suites, a modern Wellness Centre and a Restaurant and Bar on the panoramic Poolside Terrace. Patrons can also avail themselves of an established sailing school with over 25 years of experience.

Yacht Club Costa Smeralda

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Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

Yacht Club Capri (YCC) was founded in 1999. The president is Massimo Massaccesi and the two vice presidents, Tonino Cacace and Roberto Russo, are both locally born businessmen. The members include some of the most famous national and international figures in the worlds of business, finance, entertainment and sport, such as Marco Tronchetti Provera, Luca Cordero di Montezemolo, Antonio D'Amato, Aurelio De Laurentiis and Diego Della Valle. The Capri Yacht Club has been admitted to the Italian Sailing Federation. Its sailing school – successfully inaugurated in 2002 – operates under the aegis of the Italian Olympic Committee.

The delightful clubhouse is located right on the harbour of Marina Grande and in the thick of action, where the staff of the YCC are always on hand to serve fresh coffee in the morning or cool drinks in the afternoon.

Yacht Club Capri

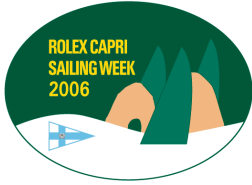
Marina Grande

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Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

About Capri

Capri's combination of natural and man-made attractions are unique. The island (6km x 3km) abounds in hills, cliffs, olive groves, vineyards, and garden terraces overlooking the blue water of the Mediterranean. Naples and Vesuvius loom in the distance, with white ferries and hydro-foils zigzagging across the bay. Paths and steps offer countless opportunities to explore the island on foot, while churches, historic villas, and a ruin or two offer sightseeing opportunities for the ambitious tourist.

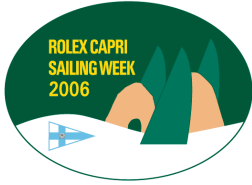
Capri has two main villages

Capri, the main town, is situated at the eastern half of the island, and located on the saddle between Monte Santa Maria and Monte Tiberio in a commanding location above the two "Marinas". Capri offers an unparalleled view that sweeps from the island of Ischia to the Sorrento Peninsula, taking in the entire expanse of the Gulf of Naples. With its characteristic arcades that merge into a labyrinth of narrow alleys and streets, Capri works its own special charm on every visitor. The steps of the famous Piazzetta are an unofficial rendezvous for a colourful congregation of guests from all over the world, taking in the unprecedented view.

The port of Capri, known as Marina Grande, is the island's most important harbour, and is fully equipped with modern port facilities. This is the location of the Rolex Capri Sailing Week Race Office and Media Centre. From the Marina Grande a funicular makes the trip up to the town of Capri in four minutes. There is also a well-paved road to Capri, along which are situated the Chiesa di San Costanzo (Church of St Costanzo) from the 11th century and the Scala Fenicia (Phoenicians Stairs), climbing steeply to the Castello di Barbarossa. For centuries, these stairs were the only connection between Capri and Anacapri. In the town of Capri is the lovely Certosa di San Giacomo, the 14th monastery that will be the venue for the Rolex Party on Sunday evening, 1st May.

The second largest town on the island, Anacapri is situated on a fertile plateau at the foot of Monte Solaro. Anacapri's historical centre will be the location of the Rolex Capri Sailing Week Welcome Party on Tuesday evening, 17th May. It is a captivating vacation resort surrounded by Mediterranean countryside of exceptional beauty. Monte Solaro, 589 metres above sea level and an unforgettable lookout point, is reached from Anacapri by means of a chairlift or footpath. Visible near the mountain station of the chairlift are the ruins of a fortress, Fortino di Bruto, that was erected by the British in 1806 on the foundations of a medieval structure.

Along the road from Anacapri to Damecuta are the excavations of three villas from the days of Imperial Rome. In Damecuta itself, rich in archeological finds, a detour must be made to the Torre di Damecuta, erected in the Middle Ages to defend Capri's coasts from marauding pirates. From here again, there is a splendid view of Ischia, Procida and the Gulf of Naples.



Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

Another point of interest reached from Anacapri is the world-famous Grotta Azzurra (Blue Grotto), undoubtedly one of the world's most famous limestone caves. The Blue Grotto is also accessible by boat from Marina Grande. The source of the Grotto's enduring fame is the strong reflection of colour as well as the submerged remains of Roman walls, definite proof that the grotto was once above sea level.

A boat trip around the island, is an overwhelming experience, showing Capri from a completely different viewpoint and providing rare views of the breathtaking beauty that makes Capri so famous. Because of the island's size it is easy to explore either on foot, or with the inexpensive minibuses that connect the various residential areas and sights.

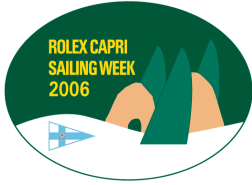
Capri's History

Of all the islands of the Parthenopean Gulf, Capri is the only one not of volcanic origin in this almost exclusively volcanic area. Capri has been settled since the Late Stone Age. At the time the Phlegrean volcanoes were at their most active, Capri and the Sorrento Peninsula formed a solid block. Under the pressure of the orogenic forces during the ensuing geological periods, Capri gradually broke away. Soaring up from the depths of the sea, Capri's limestone composition is revealed in the island's slopes and its steep but unusual dolomite walls, not to mention its numerous natural grottoes that, together with the cliffs in the southeast, have made Capri world famous.

Capri's elevation above sea level is very unstable, as can be seen from the slow but unrelenting fluctuation in the island's shoreline. Over the centuries this fluctuation has caused a drop in the water level in the famous Grotta Azzurra (Blue Grotto) and the 'Bagni di Tiberio' (Tiberian Baths). This has been proved beyond doubt by architectural finds from Roman times that were made in both these places.

The origin of the name "Capri" is a hotly disputed subject. While Strabo called the island Caprea or Island of the Coarse Stones, Varro named the island Capreae after its odd profile and its characteristic fauna, predominately wild goats. Other theories contend that this name is not correct and regard Capros (wild boar) as the origin of the present Capri. At any rate, it is certain that the island was a Greek colony, even though it is hard to pinpoint the exact date.

In 29 BC Caesar Augustus visited the island, which he acquired from the Neapolitans in exchange for the neighbouring Isle of Ischia. The island attained its greatest glory under Caesar Augustus' successor, Tiberius, whom took up residence on Capri about 26 BC, from where he ruled the Roman Empire for the last ten years of his reign. His stay on the island is reflected in numerous names that still appear on today's maps. The ruins can still be seen of at least three of the 12 villas built by Tiberius, the Roman Emperor whom legend has sheathed in mystery and ruthless violence. The most famous of these villas is undoubtedly the Villa Jovis (Jupiter's Villa), which commands a view of the entire Gulf of Naples from its location atop the Capo.



Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

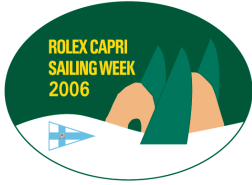
Capri's History *Continued*

The remains of another villa can be inspected in Damecuta, while other finds dating from Imperial Rome can still be seen near Case Palazzo a Mare, the site of the Bagni di Tiberio, the Emperor's Bath. All traces have been lost of the other nine villas, said to have been erected in honour of the 12 main Roman gods, particularly since it is so difficult to recognise them in the abundance of Roman ruins that cover the island.

After the death of Tiberius the island fell into decline and shared in the fate of Naples and the most important ruling families. It was endlessly attacked by barbarians and pirates, and was repeatedly struck by earthquakes that played a major part in wiping out the traces of the island's ancient heritage.

The Lombards and Normans alternately took possession of the island, only to be followed by a succession of Aragonese and Anjous, until it finally came under control of the Spanish, who dominated the entire Neapolitan area for a considerable period of time.

In the 17th century, the island's residents succumbed to the plague. Thereafter, the Bourbons took over the island, followed by struggles between the English and the French over Capri's strategic location. Prior to the unification of Italy, Capri belonged to Naples. From the beginning of the previous century up until today Capri has been sought out by numerous writers and scholars.



Rolex Capri Sailing Week 2006

Rolex Capri Sailing Week – media contacts

Yacht Club Costa Smeralda Press Office

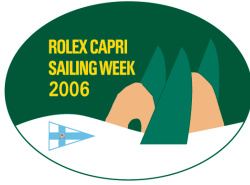
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Rolex and Sport

Rolex made its debut in sport in 1927 when a swimmer, Mercedes Gleitze, swam across the English Channel wearing a Rolex Oyster, the first truly waterproof watch.

Since 1933, Rolex has been a partner on Himalayan expeditions. On those ascents, the climbers wore Rolex. The Oyster Perpetual was the first watch to reach the highest point on earth during Sir John Hunt's successful Mount Everest expedition in 1953, when Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tensing Norgay reached the summit.

In 1967, the golfer Arnold Palmer was presented with a Rolex in recognition of his achievements on the golf course.

This was the beginning of a long and continuing association with golf. Rolex now has a major commitment to five sports internationally; these are yachting, golf, tennis, equestrian and motor sport.

Rolex 2006 Yachting Events Calendar

Throughout 2006 Rolex is involved in many sporting events - a full list follows

Rolex Miami OCR

22 – 27 January 2006

Miami, FL, United States

Established in 1990, the annual (Olympic Classes Regatta) organized by the Olympic Sailing Committee of US SAILING, is sailed on Biscayne Bay and features elite-level competition in the classes selected for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. As the only International Sailing Federation (ISAF) grade-one ranking event in the U.S.A. for Olympic classes, the Rolex Miami OCR has a track record for high attendance by foreign teams.

Rolex TP 52 Global Championship

7 – 12 March 2006

Miami, FL, United States

The 2006 Rolex TP52 Global Championship is a championship regatta that will be hosted at Acura Miami Race Week. The week will feature six days of racing including windward/ leeward, a distance race (18-24 hrs) and a coastal race in the challenging sailing conditions off Miami. The highly competitive fleet features level racing with strict owner/driver rules for the championship.

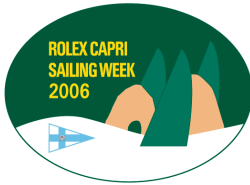
Rolex International Regatta

24 – 26 March 2006

St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands

The "Rolex" is a fun-filled competition for Corinthian and professional sailors alike, in the subtropical Caribbean setting of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. The regatta combines one-design and handicap racing for yachts in up to 10 classes, including spinnaker and non-spinnaker divisions.

In 2006, the regatta celebrates its' 33rd season and Rolex has been a partner since the very beginning.



Rolex Capri Sailing Week

27 April – 1 May 2006

Capri, Italy

Following a successful introduction last season, the Rolex Capri Sailing Week returns to the turquoise waters of Capri providing spirited competition for the start of the Mediterranean racing season. Hosted by the Yacht Club Capri and the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, the Rolex Capri Sailing Week provides a week of highly competitive racing for the Swan 45 and Farr 40 one-design and IMS handicap classes. The strikingly picturesque island provides a stunning backdrop to the on-the-water racing action in the Bay of Naples, off Capri.

Rolex Antigua Sailing Week

30 April – 6 May 2006

English Harbour, Antigua, West Indies

Now in its 39th edition, the Rolex Antigua Sailing Week is the traditional finale to the Caribbean racing season. The week has evolved from a regatta for local yachtsmen into an international event that spans 6 days, attracting over 200 yachts, and 1500 participants – both well-known professionals from the America's Cup and grand-prix racing circles, and top competitive amateurs.

The steady trade winds produce great sailing conditions for the yachts to race both 'round the buoys and point-to-point. Ashore, the nightly social activities follow the fleet to some of the most idyllic locales on the island.

Sardinia Rolex Cup

5 - 10 June 2006

Porto Cervo, Sardinia, ITA

This coveted team trophy, organised by the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, is competed for every two years. Each nation team participating at the Sardinia Rolex Cup 2006 will comprise three yachts: a Farr 40, a Swan 45, and TP52. ISAF has designated the regatta the Offshore Team World Championship, and upwards of 6 national teams will also be racing for the Rolex Offshore Team World Championship Trophy.

Giraglia Rolex Cup

11 – 17 June 2006

St. Tropez, France – Genoa, Italy

One of the most renowned distance races in the Mediterranean, the Giraglia has been a tradition for European sailors for over 50 years. From the race start off the historic port of Saint-Tropez, France, the fleet head through the idyllic Iles des Hyeres and across the sea to the Giraglia, a rocky islet off northern Corsica, before racing to the finish at Portofino Italy (and the prize giving in Genoa, home to the organisers the Yacht Club Italiano), a total distance of 243 miles.

Bol d'Or Rolex

17 – 18 June 2006

Geneva, Switzerland

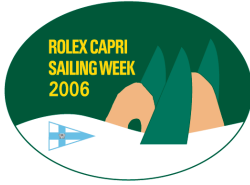
Close to 600 boats gather every year to compete at this 93-mile race on Lake Geneva, Switzerland. The event is widely regarded as the most important sailing competition on inland waters. This spectacular, long-distance race is organised by the Société Nautique de Genève.

Rolex Commodores' Cup

25 June – 2 July 2006

Cowes, Isle of Wight, United Kingdom

The Rolex Commodores' Cup is an international offshore regatta for three-boat national teams. Organised by the Royal Ocean Racing Club, this biennial event is held over seven days at Cowes, Isle of Wight. The Rolex Commodores' Cup is designed to test the teams over a variety of courses. A Pro/Am Crew Rule requires that each crew consist of a minimum of 50% amateur sailors.



VIII Trofeo S.M. La Reina - Copa Rolex

30 June – 2 July 2006

Valencia, Spain

The Real Club Náutico de Valencia will host this year's Trofeo S.M. La Reina - Copa Rolex. As in past editions, there is expected to be a very high turnout, upwards of 100 boats. The competitive fleet of TP 52s and IMS 500, 600, 670, C and D will enjoy three days of racing in the waters off Valencia.

NYYC Race Week at Newport presented by Rolex

15 – 23 July 2006

Newport, RI, United States

This biennial race week has become a favorite of sailors with its split format. The regatta's first four days feature handicap racing for IRC, PHRF NYYC CR and Classic yachts. Then, a daylong distance race on Wednesday divides the week and is an option for either fleet. The second half of the week features three days of one-design racing for ten or more classes, including North American championships for Beneteau First 36.7, J/44, J/109, Farr 395, and Farr 40, and national championships for Melges 32.

Rolex Baltic Week

6 – 13 August 2006

Neustadt, Germany

Following a successful premiere in 2004, the Norddeutscher Regatta Verein (NRV) Hamburg will organize a third Rolex Baltic Week in early August 2006. The event will encompass three different regattas - and once again it will take place on Lübeck Bay in Neustadt/Holstein on the Baltic Sea. This year's highlights will be the IMS Offshore World Championships and the Star Class European Championships. The Rolex Baltic Week 2006 will again feature the Swan Race, a regatta exclusively for Nautor's Swan yachts.

Rolex Farr 40 World Championship

1 – 9 September 2006

Newport, RI, United States

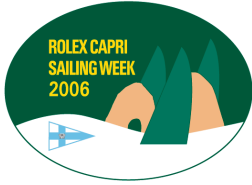
For 2006, the World Championships will move to Newport, Rhode Island. Upwards of 35 racing sailboats – 40 feet long and all identical in design, will race over four days in ten challenging races for the world championship crown, the World Cup, and a coveted Rolex timepiece. Each crew is made up of four professional and five to six amateur sailors. Each yacht must be driven by its amateur owner/helmsman. Racing is precise, tactical and intense. With all other factors equal, skill and timing are crucial.

Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup

4 – 9 September 2006

Porto Cervo, Sardinia, Italy

The Costa Smeralda provides a stunning setting and perfect sailing conditions for the Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup. The conditions are ideal to highlight the high-tech performance of these stunning 20+ meter yachts. With the fleet racing competitively all week, the race viewing is spectacular, and the social events very elegant and festive. The first Maxi World Championship took place in 1980, created by the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda in Sardinia. The regatta is now an annual event, with owners and crews enthusiastically returning to Porto Cervo each September.



Rolex Swan Cup

11 – 17 September 2006

Porto Cervo, Sardinia, Italy

Porto Cervo becomes the centre of Swan world in September 2006 with upwards of 100 Swan yachts competing in this weeklong regatta. Recognized worldwide as one of the preeminent designers/ builders of luxury sailing yachts, this biennial event attracts both racing and racer/cruiser yachts. A draw for top sailors, the Rolex Swan Cup provides a spirited week of racing and gala social events for which the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda is renowned.

Rolex Big Boat Series

14 – 17 September 2006

San Francisco, CA, United States

Established in 1964, the St. Francis Yacht Club's Big Boat Series takes place annually on San Francisco Bay. In 2005, Rolex became title sponsor of this prestigious regatta which includes very competitive one-design and handicap racing. Big Boat is widely recognized as one of the most important sailing events in the U.S. Sailors come from around the world to compete in this "granddaddy" of big boat racing.

Rolex Middle Sea Race

17 – 28 October 2006

Marsamxett Harbour, Valletta, Malta

The takes place in the heart of the Mediterranean and covers one of the most beautiful racecourses in the world. Starting and finishing in Malta, the route includes the deep azure waters of Sicily and the Straits of Messina, the islands of Pantelleria, Lampedusa, and even the active volcano of Stromboli, as course marks. In addition, two days of coastal races around Malta and Gozo take place prior to the start of the long-distance race.

ISAF Rolex World Sailor of the Year Awards

07 November 2006

Helsinki, Finland

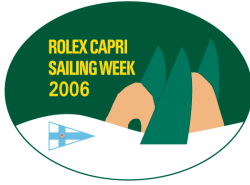
These awards recognize the top male and female sailor in the world. The winners are selected by the 112 ISAF Member National Authorities from an impressive field of nominees chosen by the global sailing community. Recent winners have topped their fields, from one-design to offshore racing. This year's award ceremonies will take place in Helsinki.

Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race

26 December 2006 – 1 January 2007

Sydney – Hobart, Australia

Mention the leading ocean races in the world, and the Rolex Sydney Hobart is certainly in the top three. This 628-mile offshore race organised by the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia provides a tough test for skippers, tacticians and crews alike. This year's race will be the 62nd annual edition of this time-honored event. In this race, Rolex saw a yachting classic that attracts a well-seasoned fleet ready to test themselves against the challenging conditions.



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To learn more about Rolex and its involvement with sports in general visit www.rolex.com.
For more information about the Rolex Yachting portfolio visit www.regattanews.com.