



# ROLEX BIG BOAT SERIES 2010

**NOTICE OF RACE - INFORMATION**  
San Francisco, CA, USA  
16 - 19 September 2010



St. Francis Yacht Club



**ROLEX**





St. Francis Yacht Club

**Dear Big Boat Invitee:**

On behalf of the members, officers, and directors of the St. Francis Yacht Club it is my pleasure to invite you and your crew to participate in the 46th annual St. Francis Perpetual Trophy Regatta, known as the Rolex Big Boat Series, to be held September 16th–19th, 2010.

Thanks to our presenting sponsor, Rolex Watch, U.S.A., social events with live entertainment are planned each night beginning with a Rolex Commodore's Reception on Wednesday evening, September 15th. Racing for all classes will commence on Thursday, September 16th and continue through Sunday, September 19th. Rolex has again generously donated watches for the winners of the St. Francis Perpetual Trophy, the City of San Francisco Trophy, the Atlantic Perpetual Trophy, the Keefe-Kilborn Memorial Trophy, the Richard Rheem Perpetual Trophy, and the Commodore's Perpetual Trophy. Classes that will be racing for these perpetual trophies and watches will be announced at the Rolex Commodore's Reception. We will hold the Awards Ceremony after the last race on Sunday.

The enclosed Notice of Race describes the particulars of the 2010 event. Please complete online registration at [www.stfyc.com](http://www.stfyc.com) as soon as possible to receive more information on the event. If you are planning to race in the IRC handicap divisions and have any questions about obtaining a certificate and/or information regarding the IRC rating system, please reference [www.us-irc.org](http://www.us-irc.org). This web site is very informative, and if you have further inquiries, it has contact information for the Official US Rating Office. Please get your applications for a measurement certificate in early to ensure that you will have the process completed by the deadline: <http://offshore.ussailing.org/IRC.htm>

Berthing at the St. Francis Yacht Club will be available at no charge at assigned locations starting on Monday, September 13th. Please make alternate arrangements for berthing before this date. Thank you for your cooperation.

An invitation is also extended to all men to attend the annual Tinsley Island Stag Cruise, which will be held September 23th–26th, 2010. If you need further information for either the regatta or cruise, please contact the St. Francis Yacht Club Race Office at 415.563.6363 or [raceoffice@stfyc.com](mailto:raceoffice@stfyc.com). We look forward to seeing you in September.

Sincerely,

**David H. Sneary** Commodore  
St. Francis Yacht Club





John Kilroy's TP52 *Samba Pa Ti*



Allen Brill  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer

ROLEX WATCH U.S.A., INC.  
665 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10022  
Tel. 212-758-7700

**Dear Competitors,**

On behalf of our partner the St. Francis Yacht Club, I am pleased to invite you to the 2010 Rolex Big Boat Series from September 16-19, in San Francisco, Calif. As the culmination of a busy West Coast sailing season, the Rolex Big Boat Series annually gathers the best one-design and IRC-focused sailors for four days of spirited competition on one of the most spectacular venues in the world. This year's regatta – the 46th annual – is no exception. With superlative race management, countless dedicated volunteers and a welcoming clubhouse, the StFYC has planned for another outstanding regatta.

Since our initial involvement with the Rolex Big Boat Series in 2002, we have watched the event build upon its strong foundation to become one of the most admired sailing regattas in the world. The strength of its reputation is founded upon your passion for the sport of sailing combined with the strong traditions of the St. Francis Yacht Club.

It is with great anticipation that we look forward to your participation in 2010, and we wish you fair winds and memorable competition.

Sincerely,

Allen Brill





## 1 RULES

**1.1** The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined by The Racing Rules of Sailing, the Prescriptions of US SAILING and the Deeds of Gift for the following trophies: St. Francis Perpetual, the City of San Francisco Perpetual, the Atlantic Perpetual, the Keefe-Kilborn Perpetual, the Richard Rheem Perpetual, and the Commodore's Perpetual. For Handicap Divisions: An IRC endorsed certificate is required and the IRC Rules, Parts 1, 2, and 3 shall apply. Yachts shall submit a copy of their IRC endorsed certificate not later than September 1st, 2010. No alteration in a yacht's TCC will be permitted after this date, with the following exceptions: as a rating protest, to correct Rating Office errors, or with prior written permission of the Organizing Authority (to be granted only in extreme circumstances with an accompanying \$500 fee). For One-Design Divisions: the respective class rules will apply, except for J/105 Fleet One Class rules and J/120 Fleet Five Class rules, which will replace the National Association Class Rules. The St. Francis Yacht Club is the Organizing Authority.

**1.2** Rule 40 is changed to read: "Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment at all times while racing. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices."

**1.3** IRC Crew Limitations: Either a boat's maximum total crew number shall not exceed the Crew Number printed on her certificate, OR the maximum total crew weight shall not exceed the product of the Crew Number printed on the boat's certificate multiplied by 180 pounds. Crew weigh-ins are not required for IRC entries, but IRC Crew Limitations may be subject to protest.

**1.4** IRC Sail Limitations: For the purpose of IRC Rules 26.1.5(d) and (e) this regatta is on consecutive days and the sails carried shall remain the same.

## 2 ADVERTISING

**2.1** Advertising for timepieces other than for Rolex, our title sponsor, is strongly discouraged

**2.2** Boats shall be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

## 3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

Participation in this event is by invitation only. Competitors may apply for entry online at [www.stfyc.com](http://www.stfyc.com). Entries will be notified of their acceptance by the Race Committee.

## 4 FEES

Entry Fee: \$15 per foot of overall boat length, rounded up to the nearest foot. All checks must be in US DOLLARS drawn on a US BANK and made payable to: St. Francis Yacht Club. Fees listed below expire on Wednesday, September 1st, 2010 for all entries. After that date, an additional \$250 late fee will apply. There are no exceptions to the late fee. All guests must obtain a guest pass at registration in order to gain access to the Club throughout the week. Each crew member will receive a competitor badge, and each boat will receive a few complimentary guest passes. Additional guest passes may be purchased during registration.

Jim Mitchell's **Vincitore**, winner of the 2009 Rolex US-IRC National Championship







Two Melges 32s race down the Bay with the Golden Gate Bridge in the background



## 5 CLASS DIVISIONS

Entrants will be divided into two groupings as follows: One Design Racing: J/120, Sydney 38, Melges 32, Express 37, One Design 35, J/105, Farr 40, Beneteau 36.7, Cal 40. IRC Handicap Racing: Yachts 35' LOA and above will be divided into divisions at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

A minimum of 6 boats per class will be required for a class start. If 6 boats per class are not entered by September 1st, the entered boats may be assigned to a handicap division if they hold a valid IRC endorsed certificate, or may not be eligible to race at the discretion of the Organizing Authority. Additional classes may be added at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

## 6 RACING AREA

Windward/Leeward Race Courses will be set on central San Francisco Bay and its approaches.

## 7 SCORING

Each boat's series score will be the sum of her scores for all races.

## 8 PRIZES

Trophies will be awarded based on fleet participation.

## 9 BERTHING & TRAILER STORAGE

All yachts competing in the event may be moored free of charge at pre-assigned locations beginning on Monday, September 13th until one night after racing concludes.

If you plan on keeping a storage trailer in the City parking lot, please visit the Race Office immediately upon arrival for an overnight parking permit. Trailers without permits may be towed.

## 10 REGATTA SCHEDULE

### Wednesday, September 15

1000 - 1900 Registration & Check-In  
1800 - 1930 Rolex Commodore's Reception / Skippers Meeting

### Thursday, September 16

1100 Racing Begins - Two Races Scheduled  
1700 - 2000 Rolex Party

### Friday, September 17

1100 Racing Begins - Two Races Scheduled  
1700 - 1830 Mt. Gay Cocktail Party

### Saturday, September 18

1100 Racing Begins - Two Races Scheduled  
1630 - 1730 No-Host Cocktails  
1930 Crew Dinner (Sign-up at Registration & Check-In)

### Sunday, September 19

1100 Racing Begins - Bay Tour Race  
1600 Rolex Trophy Ceremony



## ABOUT ST. FRANCIS YACHT CLUB

Founded in 1927, the St. Francis Yacht Club is steeped in over 80 years of yachting and racing traditions. From the start, the St. Francis Yacht Club's membership roster has included many of the Bay Area's most prominent citizens and greatest sailors. Early racers for the St. Francis included such champions as L.A. Norris, Mark Fontana, Myron Spaulding, Arthur Rousseau, Painless Parker and Lester Stone. Today, it is names like Paul Cayard, John Kostecki, John Bertrand, Stan Honey, Morgan Larson, Russ Silvestri, Zach Railey and Austin Sperry who continue to keep the St. Francis name in the forefront of world-class sailing.

The annual regatta schedule at the St. Francis is one of the most aggressive regatta calendars in the world. Part of the attraction of racing at St. Francis Yacht Club is the excellent and challenging racing conditions unique to San Francisco Bay. Both physically beautiful and naturally demanding, the Bay provides a racer with the ultimate in wind, current and weather conditions for truly competitive, exciting sailing. With the skyline of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge as a backdrop, the St. Francis Yacht Club prides itself on being able to provide all visitors with every comfort and amenity while dazzling them with their surroundings.

## ABOUT THE ROLEX BIG BOAT SERIES

The Big Boat Series has witnessed the "glory days" of SORC and IOR; over the years, it has accommodated the inclusion of Maxis, Sleds, and the notorious six-meter fleet. This event has marked the end of the S&S era and the explosion of one-design classes. It survived the 80's ups and downs, and it soared in numbers of entries in the nineties to reach 111 entries in 2008. In 1990 the series was shortened from its previous week-long format to its current schedule of seven races over four days. The St. Francis Perpetual Trophy Regatta – Rolex Big Boat Series – is known as the premier West Coast regatta. The Rolex Big Boat Series annually attracts many world-caliber sailors, all of whom are eager to win one of the six specially engraved Rolex timepieces awarded to the six Perpetual Trophy winners.

## 2009 PERPETUAL TROPHY WINNERS St. Francis Perpetual Trophy

Dedicated in 1964, the trophy was established to stimulate and encourage competition among large ocean racing yachts. The trophy has been awarded annually since the inception of the Big Boat Series 44 years ago to yachts invited to a race or series of races that are measured and handicapped in accordance with the current measurement rule and rate 40 feet or more. This trophy was donated by Commodore A.L. Sandy McCormick, and is the only one that does not rotate among the classes each year. It was presented to the premier handicap division, the IRC A class. Vincitore, the RP52 owned by Jim Mitchell (Zurich) won the five-boat division.

## City of San Francisco Trophy

On loan to the St. Francis Yacht Club since 1968, the trophy is one of the two golden spades used to break ground for the Golden Gate Bridge in 1933, Kjeld Hestehave (Richmond, CA) and his Tanton 73 Velos won it in the IRC B class.

## Richard Rheem Perpetual Trophy

The Richard Rheem Perpetual Trophy, established in 1972 in his memory of Richard Rheem whose famous yacht Morning Star was the elapsed time winner in the 1949 and 1955 Transpac races to Honolulu, went to Daniel Woolery's (Alamo, CA) King 40 Soozal, in the eight-boat IRC C class.

## Keefe-Kilborn Memorial Trophy

Established in 1976 to honor Harold Keefe and Ray Kilborn. Gerard Sheridan (San Francisco, CA) on his Elan 40 Tupelo Honey won the six-boat IRC D class.

## Atlantic Perpetual Trophy

The Atlantic Perpetual Trophy, established in 1978, features the ship's bell of the yacht Atlantic, longtime TransAtlantic Ocean record holder (1905). The bell was donated by John C. "Jack" Morris, and the trophy by Jack H. Feller Jr. Kame Richards (Alameda, CA) won the nine-boat Express 37 class aboard Golden Moon.

## Commodore's Cup

Created in 2004 to encourage competition in one-design racing on San Francisco Bay and awarded annually to the largest one-design fleet. Chris Perkins (San Francisco, CA) won the 25-boat J/105 class on Good Timin'.





## ROLEX BIG BOAT SERIES

ST. FRANCIS YACHT CLUB  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
SEPTEMBER 16TH TO 19TH, 2010



November 4th, 1769: Spanish explorer Gaspar de Portola enters what would become known as San Francisco Bay.

Alcatraz, or La Isla de los Alcatraces, gets its name from the pelicans that inhabit it. And the stunning Golden Gate Bridge is 168 years off. Knowledge is a factor at the Rolex Big Boat Series, for if you don't know the waters' history, it's advisable not to sail in them. But with a regatta that dates back 46 years, crews and skippers of these IRC and One-Design craft know the Bay's history and conditions that swirl within and around it. Beautiful in nature, competitive by design, the race reflects all the glamour that is San Francisco Bay. History is calling.

**ROLEX. A CROWN FOR EVERY ACHIEVEMENT.**



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