



ENGINEERING CHALLENGE CUP 2020

Bulletin 13, March 17 POSTPONEMENT OF THE ECC EVENT TO 2021

Dear Skippers and Commodores,

After bulletin 12 of March 11th, just 7 days ago about the Corona Virus, we have to inform you about the consequences for our ECC 2020 event. The situation in Europe evolved to a pandemic, with already many casualties. We only hope you and your nearest are not infected by this virus, as we realise many of us still might be in the next weeks/months. We do feel very sorry for those who have lost their live due to this sudden attack to mankind.

Up to today we had good hope that the situation would normalize towards our event, however we now realize this is not realistic anymore. The situation in each European country is different, as well as the governmental measures to manage the situation to prevent peaking and overheating healthcare systems. The way we travel today will not be the same tomorrow. Beside the health situation, this crisis has a huge impact on airline companies, bars, restaurants, social gathering in general. Today some countries do not allow to travel at all, same for companies who do not allow their personnel to travel.

It is therefore very realistic to assume that this will not be over by May 9th.

Many of us realize that they cannot participate in the ECC and try to think about its consequences, similar as we do too. We have investigated to postpone the ECC to the autumn of this year. However, we came to the conclusion that we expect that less than 50% of the fleet might be able to join for several reasons. Furthermore we concluded, that in such a scenario, the next ECC in May 2021 would be endangered due to the very short preparation time.

The only option left now is to postpone the ECC2020 to May 2021. We are now investigating the possibility to copy-paste and move the complete ECC2020 Organisation to 2021. The priority in this scenario is to minimize financial damages for all expenses we have already made.

Expected new date will be: arriving Saturday May 8, 2021 and departing May 15, 2021.

These above mentioned expenses consist of: charter cost, travel expenses, entry fee and maybe other costs.

Let's summarize, each of them:



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Charter Contract

We do not know how hard the crisis will hit the charter companies and if they are still there next year. Today we have requested them to transfer our down payments and we have to wait for their reactions.

If you intend to participate for next year's event, we would like to receive your notification, so we include your request in our bundle towards the charter companies. In this case, please send an e-mail to Sasha with a copy to us.

If you do not intend to participate next year but want to cancel this years ECC, ask Sasha for support to cancel your contract with the charter company.

Travel expenses

Again there are two options: to postpone or to cancel, depending on your booking.

Entry fee

The entry fee is non refundable, however we will investigate if we can reduce the fee for 2021. This year's price giving party company received serious deposits, Medals are already delivered, polo's are in the print-shop, so you will receive these next year if feasible, etc.

Sponsors

Sponsors will be contacted to make arrangements for the ECC2020 in 2021.

As soon as we have a reaction from the charter companies and we have received your reaction on this bulletin so we have a clear picture of how a new ECC could look like, we will inform you about the outcome.

The ECC goes beyond the horizon, but does not disappear, we remain looking forward to a joyful time and request for your understanding and support.

Navigare necesse est,

Pieter Hadjidakis (Commodore)

Eddo Cammeraat

OC team ECC 2020

ecc.sailing.2020@gmail.com

www.eccsailing.com



Comment from ECC Admiral, John Hall Hall

Dear ECC colleagues,

It is such a shame that the event has had to be postponed, but I think we all have to agree that there was no better option. Of course it will be as much fun as ever for us and I hope everyone will keep their bookings and participate in the 2021 event. After a two year gap it will surely be even more eagerly anticipated than normal. At the same time, don't forget that all the charter companies have been and will be very severely impacted by the Coronavirus and half of them may not survive. Please keep that in mind as we steer the new course for the event in 2021 balancing the wishes and needs of all parties.

On behalf of all participants, many thanks, Pieter & Eddo, to you, your team, Sasha King and High Point Yachting for navigating us through this highly unpredictable period and, rest assured, you have the full support and confidence of all of us.

Best regards,
John Hall Hall
ECC Admiral



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