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NEW CALEDONIA

GROUPAMA RACE 2025

START JUNE 15TH



CERCLE NAUTIQUE CALÉDONIEN

• NOUMÉA YACHT CLUB •



Organizing authority *since 2008*

NOTICE OF RACE NEW CALEDONIA GROUPAMA RACE

DATES

From Sunday, June 15th to Saturday, June 21th, 2025

LOCATION

Nouméa, New Caledonia

ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

Cercle Nautique Calédonien
BP 235 – 98 845 Nouméa Cedex - New Caledonia

WEBSITE

www.groupamarace.nc

EMAIL

contact@groupamarace.nc

PREAMBLE

New Caledonia Groupama Race is a 654NM sailing race around New Caledonia.

The start of New Caledonia Groupama Race, including all categories (open, double, and cruising), will take place on Sunday, June 15th, 2025.

The departure procedures will be provided in the race instructions and during the briefing.



I. RULES

- 1.1** The rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2** Special Regulations Offshore Category 3 with modifications and specific requirements by the Organizing Authority (OA).
- 1.3** I.R.C class rules, parts A, B, and C.
- 1.4** Offshore Multihull Rating (OMR) or Multi 2000 Rating rules.
- 1.5** Between sunset and sunrise, when a boat cannot determine with certainty which tack another boat is on, she must keep clear of that boat. Competitors are reminded that part of definition of "room" in the Racing Rules of Sailing includes taking into account the existing conditions (including visibility). Nothing in the Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions relieves a boat of her responsibility under civil law to comply with the international Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea or local regulations.
- 1.6** Official Notice Board: Amendments to the notice of race will be posted on the event's website at www.groupamarace.nc and may be notified to competitors via email.
- 1.7** In case of conflict in translation, the French text shall prevail.
- 1.8** Appendix WP : waypoints rules will apply.

2. ADVERTISING

In application of World Sailing Regulation 20 (Advertising Code), as supplemented by the FFVoile (French Sailing Federation) advertising regulations, boats must carry the advertising chosen and supplied by the Organizing Authority (OA).

2.1 Race flags

Every boat registered for the race will receive a "New Caledonia Groupama Race" race flag upon arrival at Port Moselle. This flag must be displayed in the rigging (minimum height of 1.5m above the deck) from the opening of the race village, throughout the race, and until the prize-giving ceremony.

2.2 Bow stickers

The OA will provide each registered boat 2 "New Caledonia Groupama Race" stickers to be affixed to the forward quarter of the hull on both sides.

- 2.3** Other sponsor markings for the race may be added. They will be indicated by an amendment to this Notice of Race.



3. ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

3.1 Boat eligibility

The regatta is open to all monohulls with certified stability and multihulls. A boat shall:

- Be either a self-righting monohull or a multihull.
- Have a minimum hull length of 8m and a minimum waterline length of 7m.

Each boat shall have a fixed VHF radio that can be heard inside and outside the boat and a satellite phone with a minimum credit of 60 minutes.

The allowed classes to compete in the New Caledonia Groupama Race are as follows :

For Monohulls :

- IRC
- Cruising

For Multihulls :

- Offshore Multihull Rating (OMR)
- Multi 2000 Rating
- Cruising

As well as any other category determined by the Organizing Authority, according to the interest of the participants.

In any case and under the organizing Authority, one group or class will be established if there a minimum number of registered boats in order to provide a satisfactory regatta.

Boats shall nominate which Class they are entering at time of lodging their entries in the regatta before the 16 May 2025.

A boat shall be recorded as having sent a text message from the boat satphone to Race Control on +687 90 63 05 between 12 and 14 June 2025: "This is boat name xxxxx NCGR 2025". Boats not recorded as having sent such a text will not be eligible to start the race.

The OA may modify, alter, amalgamate, or divide any group, may reassign boats to other groups to equalize the groups. **The OA may cancel any group if fewer than 3 entries have been received by the closing date.** In this case, boats have the option to register in another group or class (if eligible) or receive a refund of the entry fees. The decision of the Race Committee is final and not subject to a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

For boats **in IRC with a valid 2025-2026** IRC certificate and based on the criteria of the organizing authority, as well as the number of registered boats, the fleet may be divided into groups. This will be notified in the sailing instructions.



CLASS	TCC RANGE
IRC Zero	1.275 and greater
IRC One	1.101 – 1.274
IRC Two	1.051 – 1.100
IRC Three	1.004 – 1.050
IRC Four	0.850 – 1.003

Boats in the cruising category will have the option to use the engine for propulsion.

However, they can only do so 2 hours after the start.

They shall record in a special log sheet, which is to be submitted to the OA, the time the engine was used for propulsion and the distance covered during that time.

The ranking will be based on the real time of the race and the information provided by the skipper's declaration regarding the use of the engine for propulsion and the distance covered during that time.

3.2 Crew eligibility

New Caledonia Groupama Race 2025 can be raced with a full crew or in double-handed mode.

For all rankings :

- For crews of at least 3 people, the minimum age is 16 years.
- At least 30% of the crew, including the skipper, shall have completed a Sea Survival World Sailing course approved. Copies of the certificates shall be submitted at the time of registration.
- For 3 people crews, at least 2 people shall have completed a Sea Survival World Sailing course. Certificates shall be provided at the time of registration.
- At least 30% (rounded up) of the crew, including the skipper or-sailing master, shall have completed at least a category 3 race or an equivalent passage.
- At least one crew member on the boat shall have a Senior First Aid Certificate or equivalent or a higher qualification certificate. Copies of the certificates shall be submitted at the time of registration.
- Each crew member shall have a Personal Location Beacon (PLB 406) or AIS beacon worn at all time. AIS beacons are allowed only if the boat have on board an AIS receiver.
- Insurance:
 - Each skipper must be in compliance of the national authority of their country of nationality or residence.



- Each crew member residing in France must present a valid FFVoile competition licence at the time of registration.
- Foreign skippers who do not hold a FFVoile license must present the following at the time of their registration:
 - ✓ Proof of their membership in a national authority that is a member of World Sailing.
 - ✓ Valid third-party liability insurance for the boat with a minimum coverage of 1.5 million euros.

For double-handed race:

Competitors interested in participating in the New Caledonia Groupama Race in double-handed mode must submit to the organization a document describing their offshore sailing experience, whether in racing or cruising, and their general nautical experience.

Candidates who have not previously completed a double-handed offshore race or a similar voyage must participate in a recognized offshore race that qualifies, as determined by the OA, or complete a minimum 300-mile double-handed course (in the Groupama Race configuration) in conjunction with the OA. The OA may refuse any entry if it believes that the registration does not comply with this article.

- All crew members shall be at least 18 years old.

All crew shall have completed a Sea Survival World Sailing course and hold a Senior First Aid Certificate or equivalent or a higher qualification certificate. Copies of the certificates shall be submitted at the time of registration.

- All crew shall have a Personal Location Beacon (PLB 406) or AIS beacon worn at all time. AIS beacons are allowed only if the boat have on board an AIS receiver.
- Insurance:
 - Each participant must be in compliance with the national authority of their country of nationality or residence.
 - Each crew member residing in France must present a valid FFVoile license with a medical stamp at the time of registration.
 - Foreign skippers who do not hold a FFVoile license must present the following at the time of their registration:
 - ✓ Proof of their membership in a national authority that is a member of World Sailing.
 - ✓ Valid third-party liability insurance for the boat with a minimum coverage of 1.5 million euros.



3.3 Boat registration

Eligible boats can register by completing the online registration form [here](#) and sending it to the Cercle Nautique Calédonien at contact@groupamarace.nc

To validate your official registration, the registration form must be duly completed and sent to contact@groupamarace.nc before May 16, 2025.

3.4 Late registrations may be accepted at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

3.5 Rating Request: Rating certificates must be submitted to the organization no later than May 31st, 2025. No rating changes will be allowed after this date, except in the case of a protest or to correct an administrative error (from the event organization or the rating authority).

3.6 Groups will be established definitively by the 8th of June 2025.

3.7 With written approval of the race committee, crew list can be modified after the 17th of may, 2025 to correct mistakes or take into account late crew changes. This list shall not be changed later than 14th June, 2025 at 10am. After any crew changes, the boat shall still comply with 3.2

4. REGISTRATION FEES

The required fees for all classes are as follows :

Boat length	Entry Fees (Tax included) until March 28th, 2025	Entry Fees (Tax included) after March 28th, 2025
8m <= BL < 10m	53 000 XPF	74 200 XPF
10m <= BL < 12m	68 900 XPF	90 100 XPF
12m <= BL < 14m	84 800 XPF	106 000 XPF
14m <= BL < 16m	100 700 XPF	121 900 XPF
BL > or = 16m	116 600 XPF	137 800 XPF

- **Reduced rates:** Entry fees to be paid by March 28th, 2025.
- **Increased rates:** Entry fees to be paid by May 16th, 2025.

Accepted payment methods:

- Credit card
- Online payment
- Bank transfer (details below)



**CERCLE NAUTIQUE CALÉDONIEN
BANQUE DE NOUVELLE CALÉDONIE**

BIC code : CEPANCNMXXX

IBAN code : FR76 1488 9000 8301 4062 0609 109

Account number : 14889 00083 01406206091 09

5. SCHEDULE

Upon the publication of the Notice of Race, registration will be open. You can send your [registration form](#) to contact@groupamarace.nc

➤ **Before Friday, May 16, 2025**

- The [registration form](#) completed and sent to contact@groupamarace.nc
- A short biography of the boat and its crew (10 lines)
- At least 2 high-definition photos of the boat under sail.
- Boat specifications (length, width, draft, marina space requirements, etc.)
- Entry fees: For reduced rates, before March 28th, 2025
For increased rates, before May 16th, 2025.

➤ **Friday, May 16, 2025**

Closing of registrations with the submission of the following documents :

- Boat insurance
- Crew composition and official licenses
- T-shirt sizes
Valid World Sailing approved Sea Survival Certificate or proof of registration for the exam
- List of PLB / AIS beacon identifiers
- Official documents for customs

➤ **Saturday, May 24, 2025**

Man overboard exercise under spinnaker.

➤ **From Monday, May 19 to Saturday, May 31, 2025**

Safety inspections for New Caledonian boats for final registration validation.

➤ **From Tuesday, May 03rd June to Friday, June 13th, 2025**



Safety inspections for foreign boats for final registration validation.

➤ **Tuesday, 03rd june 2025**

Final submission of the rating certificate.

➤ **Wednesday, June 11, 2025**

Friendly sunset regatta with all participants.

➤ **Friday, June 13, 2025**

Crew presentation evening at 6:00 PM at the Groupama Race village.

➤ **Saturday, June 14, 2025**

9AM Weather briefing, start procedure, and safety briefing at Cercle Nautique Calédonien.

11AM Media briefing

➤ **Sunday, June 15, 2025**

Departure: the scheduled warning signal time is 10:00 AM.

➤ **Saturday, June 21, 2025**

Prize-giving ceremony at Cercle Nautique Calédonien.

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions and any possible annexes will be provided before the briefing on Friday, June 13th, 2025 at 4:00 PM.



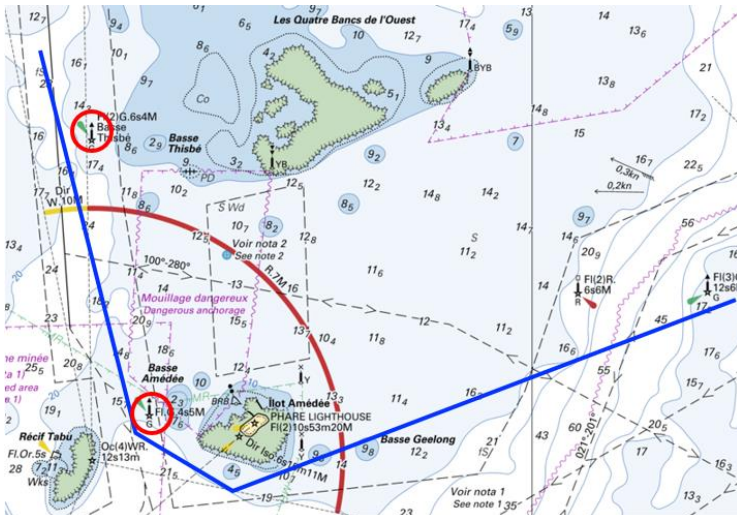
7. COURSE

The offshore race follows the course from Nouméa, around New Caledonia counterclockwise.

Finishing in Nouméa by rounding Cape N'Dua to the south and the Grand Passage at the extreme north of the territory, with the following consecutive GPS points :

North east end of the reef: S 18° 47.74' – E 163° 30.530'

North west end of the reef: S 19° 01.36' – E 163° 02.360'



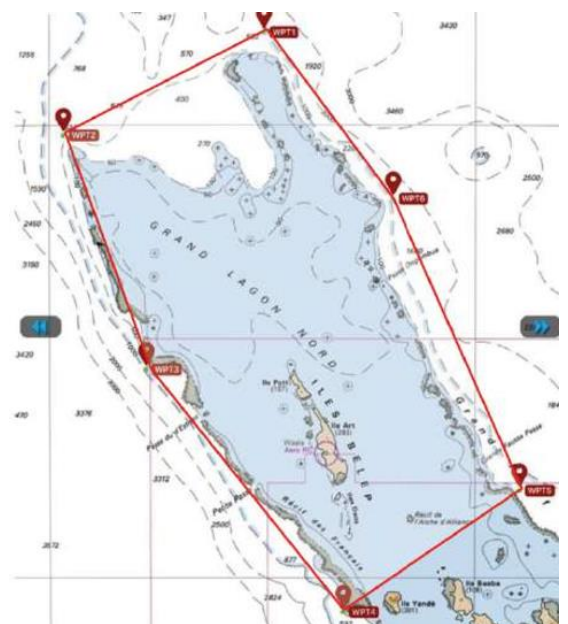
The race will start toward Amédée Lighthouse with two marks and Amédée Island to port, then around Cape N'Dua to port.

The GPS coordinates for the markers and islands are as follows :

Basse Thibée: S 22° 26.83' – E 166° 29.95'

Basse Amédée: S 22° 28.59' – E 166° 27.34'

Amédée Island to port



Exclusion Zone around Belep Islands

Boats shall not cross any line between WPT1 and WPT2; WPT2 and WPT3; WPT3 and WPT4; WPT4 and WPT5; WPT5 and WPT6; WPT6 and WPT1.

GPS positions shall use the WGS84 datum described as follows:

WPT1: S 18° 47.74' – E 163° 30.53'

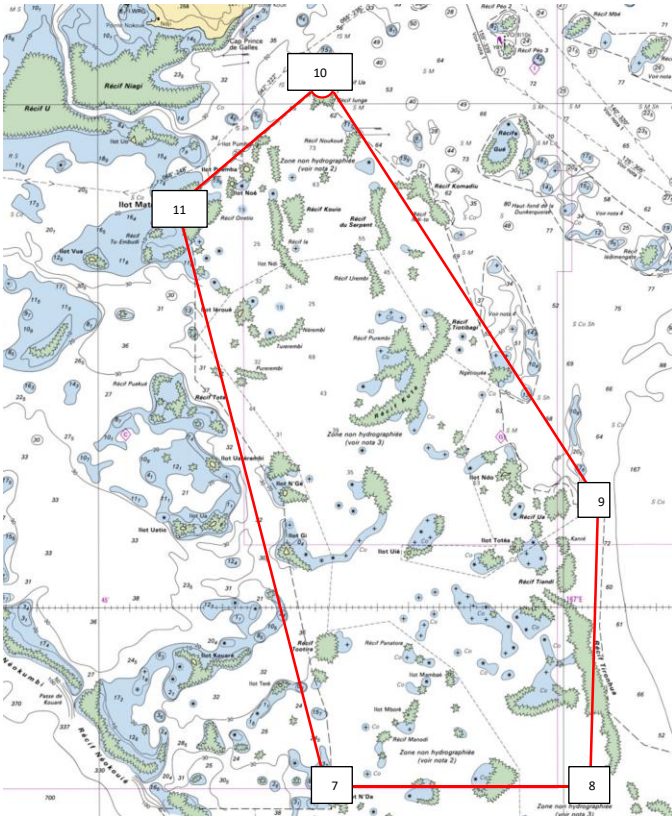
WPT2: S 19° 01.36' – E 163° 02.36'

WPT3: S 19° 32.43' – E 163° 13.97'

WPT4: S 20° 04.61' – E 163° 41.72'

WPT5: S 19° 48.45' – E 164° 06.60'

WPT6: S 19° 09.82' – E 163° 48.66'



South of Ouen Island : Nokoué Passage and Exclusion Zone

Navigation in the Nokoué Channel (along the south of Ouen Island) is prohibited.

Boats shall not cross any line WPT7 and WPT8; WPT8 and WPT9; WPT9 and WPT10; WPT10 and WPT11; WPT11 and WPT7.

GPS positions shall use the WGS84 datum described as follows:

- WPT7: S 22° 50.220' – E 166° 52.561'
- WPT8: S 22° 50.219' – E 167° 00.006'
- WPT9: S 22° 42.000' – E 167° 01.417'
- WPT10: S 22° 28.639' – E 166° 52.744'
- WPT11: S 22° 34.697' – E 166° 46.423'

8. RANKINGS AND PRIZES

Rankings for both crews and double-handed:

- ✓ Winner of the New Caledonia Groupama Race Main Trophy IRC (All monohull classes)
- ✓ Monohull Line Honors (elapsed time)
- ✓ Multihull Line Honors (elapsed time)
- ✓ Monohull IRC Offshore by group
- ✓ Multihull Multi 2000 Offshore by group
- ✓ Monohull Cruising Class
- ✓ Multihull Cruising Class

A prize will be given to the winner of each ranking if three competitors or more are entered in that ranking.



9. MEDIA, IMAGES AND SOUND

All boats shall be equipped with Iridium satellite communications (satellite phone). Communications between boats will be permitted at hours stated in the Sailing Instructions. You shall send a daily video (30 to 90 seconds) and 5 photos per day on board. The Organizing Authority will provide a SIM card for that.

10. CHANGES TO CLASS AND RACING RULES

10.1 IRC Rules

IRC rule 11.2 & 21.6.1: a boat in the IRC Handicap Category may carry one more spinnaker than shown on the boat's IRC Certificate without an increase of rating.

IRC rule 22.4: the maximum total weight of crew in kilograms that may sail aboard a boat shall not exceed the crew number printed on the boat's IRC Certificate multiplied by 87,5.

10.2 RRS (Propulsion)

RRS 42.3(i): A boat in the Cruising Division may use its engine for propulsion two hours after the start but must stop it prior the finish. The number of engine hours and the number of miles traveled shall be logged on the log book and forwarded to the organization.

10.3 Automatic Steering Devices

The autopilot is allowed in compass mode as well as wind mode (this-changes RRS 52 and IRC Rule 15).

II. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the race **entirely at their own risk** (see RRS 4, Decision to Race). The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

12. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall have valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of 1.5 million Euros or its equivalent for the event.



B. FURTHER INFORMATION

World Sailing safety courses will be held in 2025 and open to all New Caledonia Groupama Race participants.

Specific dates will be communicated by the Cercle Nautique Calédonien later.

For further information, please contact :

contact@groupamarace.nc



PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Please register my intention to participate in the New Caledonia Groupama Race 2024.

Boat name : Sail number :

Architect/Design : LOA :

Classe(s) :

IRC OMR Multi 2000

IRC Short-handed OMR Double-handed

Cruising Monohull Cruising Multihull

Cruising Monohull Double-handed Cruising Multihull Double-handed

Skipper : Owner :

Yacht Club : Country :

Address :

Email : Tel :

I would like to receive all information regarding the Groupama Race 2024.

I would like to receive information about the World Sailing safety training.

Bulletin Pre-registration form to be sent to Cercle Nautique Calédonien.

Cercle Nautique Calédonien
BP 235 – 98 845 Nouméa cedex

Email :
contact@groupamarace.nc

www.groupamarace.nc



APPENDIX 1

WP : RULES FOR WAYPOINTS

When stated in the notice of race, races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix.

WP1 CHANGES TO THE DEFINITIONS :

WP1.1 The definition *Mark* is changed to:

Mark An object or *waypoint* the sailing instructions require a boat to leave on a specified side, a race committee vessel surrounded by

navigable water from which the starting or finishing line extends, and an object intentionally attached to the object or vessel. However, an anchor line is not part of the *mark*.

WP1.2 Add new definition *Waypoint*:

Waypoint A geographic position on the surface of the water defined by WGS 84 latitude and longitude coordinates expressed in degrees decimal minutes (DDM).

WP1.3 The definition *Zone* is changed to:

Zone The area around a *mark* within a distance of three hull lengths

of the boat nearer to it. The area of the *zone* at a *mark* that is a *waypoint* may be changed in the notice of race or sailing instructions. A boat is in the *zone* when any part of her hull is in the *zone*.