



NOTICE OF RACE 2008 / 2009

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1. ORGANISATION

1.1 Organiser

The company S.A.E.M. VENDEE with a capital of 2.500.000 Euros – whose registered offices are located at 20, rue Pasteur, BP206, 85005 La Roche-sur-Yon Cedex – registered at the Register of Companies in La Roche-sur-Yon under registration number 451 518 641, is organising a single-handed non-stop no assistance round-the-world yacht race, referred to hereinafter as « LE VENDEE GLOBE 2008 », which will start out of Les Sables d'Olonne on 9th November 2008.

1.2 Contributors

In its capacity as owner of the VENDEE GLOBE yacht race as well as the name VENDEE GLOBE, the S.A.E.M. VENDEE shall be represented by Mrs Sophie VERCELLETTO.

The S.A.E.M. Vendée has instructed the company Ambrose Light represented by Mr Denis HOREAU, to prepare the race management of the 2008 edition of the VENDEE GLOBE.

The race medical service will be managed by the Institut Mer et Vie with the participation of Dr Jean-Yves CHAUVE, official race doctor.

He shall be instructed by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE to contribute to the best possible medical safety of competitors before the start, in other words between 16th October 2008 and 9th November 2008 and throughout the race.

The Fédération Française de Voile will be in charge of umpiring the event.

The umpiring authorities will comprise a Race Committee, a Measurement Committee and an International Jury. The Fédération Française de Voile shall appoint a Chairman to preside over the three authorities.

2. PRINCIPLE OF THE RACE AND RESTRICTIONS

Principle :

The VENDEE GLOBE is a single-handed, non-stop race WITHOUT ASSISTANCE.

The term WITHOUT ASSISTANCE should be understood to mean that in no event may competitors receive personalised outside assistance, nor may competitors benefit from a voluntary, recurrent and planned intervention, aiming to improve their performance or that of their boat. They shall not therefore receive :

- Personalised weather assistance (Art 2.1).
- Outside assistance (Art 2.2).
- Personalised medical aid, with a view to improving their performance (Art 2.3).

Contact by telephone or e-mail are authorised between the competitor and one or more people ashore in so far as the contents of these contacts does not include personalised weather assistance, nor personalised medical aid, with a view to improving the performance of the boat and/or the skipper.

In the event of damage requiring repairs to the boat, or in the event of an unforeseen medical incident which might affect the competitors health, advice may be given by a third party at a distance.

2.1 Personalised weather assistance : routing

Routing is prohibited.

Routing shall mean any specially prepared indication, whether personalised or for a group of competitors, coming from the outside, with the exception of authorised weather information sources, and providing assistance in the understanding of the various weather situations and the choice of course(s) to be followed or not to be followed.

Each competitor shall be required to sign a written statement at the start and the finish of the race in which he undertakes that his family, his sponsor(s) and his shore team shall comply with this rule.

The details of this rule shall be the subject of an additional clause issued no later than 31st December 2007, and drawn up together with the pre-entered competitors.

2.2 Outside assistance

During the race, competitors shall have no material contact with another vessel or aircraft. He shall not receive provisions in any way whatsoever.

Competitors may put into port at anchor, or onto a mooring buoy by his own means but shall not receive any outside assistance, with the exception of medical assistance strictly limited to the provisions of article 2.3 below. He may not draw alongside a quay or another vessel.

Competitors are not authorised to go ashore nor to disembark beyond the limit of the greatest high tide.

Failure to comply with this article shall result in the competitor being deemed out of the race and following a ruling of the jury, the competitor in question shall no longer be classified.

Any competitor wishing to draw alongside a quay or a vessel, go ashore, receive outside assistance or receive supplies shall only be able to do so within the harbour area of the port of Les Sables d'Olonne and with the prior consent of the race management.

The competitor shall not be permitted to restart the race any later than 10 days after the start of the race.

The stability criteria with which the boats must comply are calculated before the start for each boat. This means that in the event of a change in the configuration of a boat (stepping of a new mast after having dis-masted or other incidents) and repairs being carried out in the harbour in Les Sables d'Olonne within the time limit provided for under the Notice of Race, the boat's stability criteria will be checked. If it is likely that the work carried out have changed the boat's stability, new measures and new calculations in accordance with the I.M.O.C.A. class rules shall be carried out.

2.3 Medical assistance (amendment to I.S.A.F. Rule 41)

Direct intervention by a doctor on board is forbidden.

Medical advice given by telephone, radio or fax shall not be as considered as assistance.

Never the less, competitors shall notify the race doctor each time they seek medical advice other than via the race's official medical assistance. In such cases, the doctor who does not belong to the race's official medical organisation shall furnish the Race doctor with all relevant information relating to the pathology concerned.

The term medical advice shall mean any aid provided by a doctor at distance, that aid being intended to resolve an unforeseen medical incident affecting the competitor's health. Any other intervention shall be considered as enabling the competitor's performance to be improved.

In the event of an extreme urgency, competitors may provide extra medicine to fellow competitors who are ill. Extra medicines may also be taken on board at the following official waypoints : Cape of Good Hope, Cape Leeuwin, Cape Horn.

The list of substances concerned shall be presented to the Race doctor beforehand and he shall grant or refuse his permission.

This procedure shall be the subject of a detailed report submitted to the jury which shall decide whether or not to hold a hearing.

3. COURSE

Start off Les Sables d'Olonne after a course in the bay.

Competitors shall leave :
Cape of Good Hope to port
Cape Leeuwin to port
Cape Horn to port

Antarctic to starboard.

Finish in the bay of Les Sables d'Olonne.

Compulsory waypoints or gates will be decided upon together with the pre-entered competitors and distributed by a in the form of an additional clause to the Notice of Race no later than 31st December 2007. However, these compulsory waypoints or gates may be modified after 31st December 2007 in the event of a major climatic event arising, such as the dispersion of ice following breaking of pack ice or another major phenomenon having an effect on safety.

Prior to the start date, the organiser shall commission a study of drift ice.

4. AUTHORISED BOATS

4.1 Admitted class

Only monohull sailing boats with a hull length of between 59 and 60 feet, complying with I.M.O.C.A. 60 foot Class Rules 2008 shall be permitted to enter.

4.2 Refusal to allow a boat to race

The organiser reserves the right to refuse a given boat to take part in the race if she does not appear to be in good condition or sufficiently well fitted out, dangerous or if she fails to comply with the obligations of the Notice of Race and the safety rules.

5. OFFICIAL TEXTS AND DEFINITIONS

5.1 The following rules shall apply

- The ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008 (R.R.S.).
- The International Regulations for Avoiding Collisions at Sea (COLREGS).
- The Offshore Special Regulations, Category 0 (O.S.R) currently in force.
- The I.M.O.C.A. Class Rules 2008 or those currently in force and any possible additional clauses*.
- The Notice of Race for the «VENDEE GLOBE 2008», and its appendices, additional clauses and amendments.
- The Sailing Instructions for the «VENDEE GLOBE 2008» (S.I.), their appendices and their amendments.

Sailing texts and their amendments will be issued and signed by the Chairman of the Race Committee, the Chairman of the Measurement Committee or the Chairman of the Jury. These are the only texts which shall apply to competitors.

Texts relating to the organisation, safety, inspection of boats, presence of competitors at briefing sessions at various events will be issued and signed by the race management. These are the only texts which shall apply to competitors.

French is the official race language. The organisers shall do its utmost to make available to competitors an English language version of each text relating to the sporting and organisational elements of the race.

5.2 The R.R.S. are amended as follows :

Rules of Part 2 (when boats meet) : shall only apply to the start and 30 miles beyond the start line, then once again 50 miles from the finishing line, for those parts of the course covered by day. For the rest of the course, these rules are replaced by part B (steering and sailing rules) of the International Regulations for Avoiding Collisions at Sea (COLREGS).

RRS 41 (Outside help) : amends article 2 of the Notice of Race.

RRS 42 .2 (Prohibited actions) : add « (f) repeated movements of the keel and/or mast which are not necessary for the boat's stability ».

RRS 45 (Hauling out, making fast and anchoring) : amended in article 2 of the Notice of Race.

RRS 50.2 (Spinnaker poles, whisker poles) : cancelled.

RRS 54 (headstays and headsail tacks) : does not apply.

RRS 61 (Protest requirements) : amended in the S.I.

RRS 62 (Repairs) : amended in the S.I.

RRS 63 (Hearings) : amended in the S.I.

RRS 64 (Decisions) : amended in the S.I.

* Subject to the ISAF and the FFVoile approving the amendments to the I.M.O.C.A. Rules 2002.*

5.3 Exceptional circumstances

In exceptional circumstances and in situations which might involve competitors' safety, race management may need to formulate specific directives with which competitors must comply.

These new directives shall be issued in order to respond in the best way possible to cases of force majeure. They may amend one or more rules referred to herein. If so, they shall be the subject of a fully detailed report submitted to the jury.

5.4 Competitors' undertaking

In entering the event, the competitors in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 undertake to comply with the applicable rules set out above.

Particularly article 3 of the RRS 2005-2008, Fundamental Rules :

« When a competitor enters a race, with regard to the application or interpretation of the texts referred to above and the resolution of any disputes relating thereto, he waives his right to any appeal or review other than those provided for under the RRS. »

5.5 Publicity rights - image

Under the provisions of the French law n° 84-610 of 16th July 1984 relating to the organisation and promotion of sporting activities, as amended by French law n° 2003-708 of 1st August 2003, competitors are reminded that entering the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 means that their image and name, the image of their boat, those of their sponsor(s) and partners as well as those of their shore crew and members of their family present in Les Sables d'Olonne (public places, press rooms, pontoon, boats berthed, support craft), may be used by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE and services providers commissioned to take care of race communication, communicating and/Or enhancing the value of the VENDEE GLOBE, on any territory or any media support whatsoever, without any time limit for their use.

It is agreed that these images shall be exploited in generally foreseeable conditions, and free from any malicious intent.

6. PROGRAMME AND CALENDAR

6.1 Notice of Race

As soon as the Notice of Race for the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 has been issued, it will be available upon request from the S.A.E.M. VENDEE and on the internet from the event's

website on www.vendeeglobe.org.

6.2 Issue of applications for entry by the SAEM

Applications for entry will be sent out by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE as requested by each competitor, once the Notice of Race has been published. No application will be sent out by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE after 31st December 2007.

6.3 Audio-visual and photographic appendix

The audio-visual and photographic appendix will be published no later than 31st December 2007.

6.4 Waypoints along the course

Course waypoints will be published no later than 31st December 2007.

6.5 Returning applications

Competitors must return complete their application to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE before 1st July 2008. Should they fail to do so, their application shall be considered as being incomplete and shall not be validated.

Additional documents required to complete the application as set out in article 9.4 of this Notice of Race must be received by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE between 1st July and 1st August 2008.

6.6 Date for completion and validation of qualifying passages

Qualifying passages must be completed and validated by 1st July 2008.

6.7 Up-to-date medical certificate

Any up-to-date medical certificate (issued no earlier than 1st September 2008) shall be forwarded to the Race doctor between 1st September and 1st November 2008.

6.8 Arrival date for competitors and their boat in Les Sables d'Olonne

Competitors shall be physically present in Les Sables d'Olonne at 10h00 on Saturday 18th October 2008. The boats shall be docked alongside the VENDEE GLOBE pontoon at the berth indicated by the organiser.

6.9 Start date

The race shall start on Sunday 9th November 2008.

7. RESPONSIBILITY / LIABILITY

7.1 Competitors shall take part in the competition at their own risk and peril and they alone shall be responsible for their participation (Part 1, Rule 4 of the RRS : decision to race). Each competitor shall have sole liability for deciding whether or not to start or to continue racing, with regard to his knowledge, the equipment he has at his disposal, wind strength and weather forecasts etc .

7.2 The organiser and its partners shall bear no liability for information supplied by the organisers before or during the race and which may influence a decision made by a competitor.

7.3 Liability of competitors

7.3.1 Look-out, in particular radio and/or Inmarsat look-out, which may be undertaken by the organisation, shall be considered by competitors as optional and random and shall in no event be considered as an extra safety facility upon which they may rely.

7.3.2 Competitors' attention is drawn to « Part 1 – Fundamental Rules » of the RRS wherein a boat or competitor shall provide all possible assistance to any person or vessel in danger when he is able to do so. In such cases, the competitor shall as soon as he has diverted from his course, furnish the International Jury with all necessary information. The Jury shall make its decision after having given consideration to all such information.

7.4 Rescue and assistance at sea are governed by international rules and regulations currently in force.

7.5 Competitors bear personal liability for damage to property and personal injury caused to themselves, their boat or to third parties or third party property.

7.6 Competitors shall take out third party liability insurance cover for themselves as well as for their boat, tender and any other ancillary craft and be able to provide documentary evidence thereof to the organisers.

All competitors will be asked to provide a certificate of third party liability insurance cover for their boat, tender and other ancillary craft. Further cover (with the exception of death and disability insurance) shall be left to the competitors' discretion.

The organiser shall bear no liability in the event of one or more competitors failing to comply with the above obligations.

7.7 It is a fundamental term of a competitor's participation that they furnish the organisers with the form (signed and dated) stating that they waive their right to take legal action against the organiser, its partners, service providers and insurers. This form is attached to the application for entry.

7.8 Responsibility of the organiser

The responsibility of the organiser and its partners shall be restricted to ensuring the logistical and maritime organisation together with the sporting fairness of the competition.

In particular :

Any inspections which the Race Committee might undertake , upon its own initiative, or upon the request of the Race Director, the Jury or any other authority, shall be undertaken with the sole aim of ensuring compliance with the rules, this Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions, any additional clauses and appendices.

The organiser shall bear liability for nothing other than that which is contractual.

The organisers shall only bear liability for applications submitted to it if it has formally accepted to deal with the request, either itself or by one of its officially approved representatives authorised to deal with such matters. This shall apply particularly to various requests for help, and even extend to requests for assistance at sea.

8. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

8.1 Age

The VENDEE GLOBE 2008 is open to any person aged 21 or over at the start date.

8.2 Nationality

The competitor's entry shall bear the same nationality as that of the competitor.

8.3 Number of participants

The number of competitors in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 shall be limited to a maximum of 27, as follows :

- 24 competitors entered in accordance with the procedure set out in article 9 of this Notice of Race.
- 3 guest competitors who may be invited by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, in accordance with the procedure set out in article 9.6 of this Notice of Race.

8.4 Medical

Each competitor shall have his general practitioner fill in and sign a race medical file furnished by the race doctor, the contents of which file is set out in appendix 2, the medical file appendix. This file must be counter-signed by the competitor himself.

The medical file must be attached to the application for pre-entry and sent to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE as soon as possible and before 1st July 2008. It shall be addressed to the Race doctor and marked "private and confidential" and bear the words "medical file – for the attention of the race doctor".

In the event of chronic or progressive pathologies, or pathologies which may lead to a deficiency, the race doctor may :

- Either give an unfavourable opinion.
- Or, before giving an opinion on a competitor's participation, request that specialist and second medical opinions be sought. In such cases, the competitor should consult the specialist(s) as instructed by the race doctor. The race doctor shall furnish the Race management with his final conclusions.

In the event of the race doctor deciding that there are sufficient medical grounds to refuse to allow the competitor to participate, the competitor may appeal against the race doctor's decision. Such appeals must be submitted to the National Federal Doctor.

In accordance with article 9.1 of the Federal Medical Commission's rules and regulations, there shall be no right of appeal against the opinion of the National Federal Doctor regarding the competitor's participation.

In the event of the competitor suffering from chronic or progressive pathologies, or from pathologies which may lead to a deficiency after the medical file has been lodged, the competitors shall advise the Race doctor as soon as possible.

The same procedure shall apply to all competitors, whether French or from overseas.

8.5 Compulsory training courses

All competitors shall have taken part in the following courses :

- A medical course (see article 10.2 hereafter).
- A course relating to safety and survival at sea (see article 10.2 hereafter).

A description of these courses is set out in appendix 1, medical and survival at sea training course appendix.

8.6 Valid passport

Each competitor shall hold a passport which shall be valid for at least five months beyond 1st November 2008.

8.7 Organiser

8.7.1 In accordance with RRS 76, the organiser shall reserve the right to refuse an entry in the event of failure to comply with one of the above mentioned articles, or for any other reasons whatsoever.

8.7.2 Decisions made by the organiser shall be final and there shall be no right of appeal against them (RRS 76.1). They shall be notified no later than 1st July 2008.

8.8 Qualifications for competitors and their boats

8.8.1 Principles of qualification

- Have to complete a qualifying passage on the boat he will be helming in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.
- The qualifying passage must be sailed single-handed, without putting into port, non-stop and without any assistance.
- The qualifying passage and validation passage if applicable have to be completed no later than 1st July 2008.
- The qualifying passage shall be monitored by race management via the boat's Inmarsat C. The competitor shall send one e-mail message to the Race management every 24 hours via the Inmarsat C to report his position and to report on conditions. The competitor shall bear the cost of sending messages and positions (for the qualifications provided for under articles 8.8.2.4 and 8.8.2.5).
- The boat's I.M.O.C.A. measurement certificate shall be issued before the boat sets out on her qualifying passage.
- Any modification changing one or several criteria of the boat's initial measurement certificate shall give rise to an application for the issue of a new measurement certificate. If a change relating to the boat's safety and/or stability (mast, keel...) occurs after qualification, the boat and her skipper shall :
 - Obtain a new I.M.O.C.A. certificate.
 - Complete a validation passage of 1500 miles with the new equipment before 1st July 2008. The course must have been validated by the race management of the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

8.8.2 Qualifying and validation passages

The following courses will be taken into account for qualification :

8.8.2.1 The VENDEE GLOBE 2004 raced by the same competitor on the same boat as the one entered in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 and if the competitor finished classified.

If the boat has undergone one or more important change(s) which might influence the boat's safety and/or stability (mast, keel...) since the VENDEE GLOBE 2004, the boat and skipper shall :

- Obtain a new I.M.O.C.A. certificate.
- Complete a validation passage of 1500 miles with the new equipment before 1st July 2008. The course must have been validated by the race management of the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

8.8.2.2 A SINGLE-HANDED TRANSATLANTIC RACE of 2 700 theoretical miles in which the competitor finished classified and complied with all of the conditions set out in article 8.8.1.

8.8.2.3 The VENDEE GLOBE 2000, the VENDEE GLOBE 2004 or A TWO-HANDED RACE NON-STOP AROUND THE WORLD run since 2004. To be qualified, the competitor must have participated in one of these three races on a 60 foot I.M.O.C.A. monohull and have finished classified. In addition, he will have to sail a validation course at the helm of the boat he shall be sailing in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

A "Validation Passage" shall mean an ocean passage of 2500 miles without dropping anchor or putting into port, and complying with all of the conditions set out in article 8.8.1. This course shall have received prior approval of the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 race management.

A competitor who sails his qualifying passage in compliance with article 8.8.2.3, shall have a report drawn up at the end of his passage certifying that the boat and skipper sailed the passage in good conditions of safety. This report shall be submitted to the race management no later than one month after the qualifying passage has been completed, so that the race management may validate the competitor, following approval on behalf of the commission comprising the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, the I.M.O.C.A. and the race's International Jury (representing the FFVoile).

8.8.2.4 A PASSAGE IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE

A competitor may apply to race management to sail a passage in the northern hemisphere or the southern hemisphere other than competing in a race. He must be able to prove that it was impossible for him to take part in a race.

The race management shall call a meeting of a commission comprising the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, the I.M.O.C.A and the race's International Jury (representing the FFVoile).

This commission shall make a ruling as to whether the grounds for the application are well-founded.

The passage sailed in the northern hemisphere shall comply with the following waypoints :

- Pass north of 52°N latitude for at least 12 hours.
- Cross the lines of longitude 5°W and 50°W and back, whatever the direction chosen.

8.8.2.5 UN PARCOURS DANS L'HEMISPHERE SUD

A similar course in the southern hemisphere will be studied by the Race management should a competitor so request, in the same conditions as article 8.8.2.4.

Any competitor who would complete his qualification in complying with the articles 8.8.2.4 or 8.8.2.5 shall lodge a report on the passage sailed, certifying that both boat and skipper completed the passage in good conditions of safety. This report must be lodged by the race direction no later than one month after the end of the qualifying passage so that the race Director can confirm the competitor's qualification, after opinion having been given by the commission comprising the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, the I.M.O.C.A. and the race's international Jury (representing the FFVoile.).

8.8.3 Exceptional circumstances arising after 1st July 2008

Exceptional circumstances shall only apply to competitors satisfying the following conditions in full :

- I. Have furnished the S.A.E.M. VENDEE with a complete application for entry with the exception of the document certifying that the competitor has complied with the obligations set out in articles 8.8.1 and 8.8.2 of this Notice of Race before 1st July 2008.
- II. Not having qualified due to essential modifications relating to safety having been made to his boat (unexpected change to mast, keel or rudders) following an accident (dismasting, rupture...) and which prevented him from starting a race or qualifying passage or from having finished such a race or qualifying passage before 1st July 2008.
- III. Or not having been able to sail a passage to validate the equipment newly installed on the boat after having qualified for reasons beyond the competitor's control (late delivery of equipment, manufactured parts failing to comply with specifications, etc.), before 1st July 2008.

In such cases, the competitor shall submit an application for dispensation to the race management.

Race management shall call a meeting of a commission comprising the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, the I.M.O.C.A., race management and the race's International Jury (FFVoile representative).

This commission will decide whether the application is well-founded or not.

In the event of the commission ruling in the competitor's favour, he shall :

- Obtain a new I.M.O.C.A. certificate following the changes made to the boat .
- Sail a qualifying passage of 3500 miles before 1st September 2008, over a course to be defined by the Race management.

Or

- Sail a passage of 1500 miles before 1st September 2008 in order to validate the new equipment.

In order to comply with the provisions set out in article 8.8.3, a qualifying passage or passage sailed to validate new equipment carried out with dispensation shall be completed before 1st September 2008.

Once the competitor has completed his qualifying or validation passage, he will then be invited by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE to take part in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

8.8.4 Exceptional circumstances where article 8.8.3 cannot apply

If a competitor is unable to comply with the deadline set out in 8.8.3, namely before 1st September 2008, for reasons beyond his control, and which were totally unforeseeable, he may submit an application for dispensation to the race management for the date to be postponed to the 1st October 2008.

This request shall be addressed to race management by post before 1st September 2008.

Race management shall call a meeting of a commission comprising the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, the I.M.O.C.A., race management and the race's International Jury (representing the FFVoile).

The commission shall make a ruling as to the grounds of the application.

In the event of the commission ruling in favour of the applicant, the competitor will be invited to take part in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008, once he has completed his qualifying or validation passage.

9. PRE ENTRY AND ENTRIES

9.1 Entry procedure

Applications for entry in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 shall be made as follows :

- Once the Notice of Race has been published, the S.A.E.M. VENDEE will send the Notice of Race for the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 and an application for entry upon request.
- The competitor will then be able to compile his application for entry. The various elements making up that application shall then be forwarded to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE as soon as possible : deposit cheque, qualification, compulsory courses etc. In order to be considered as pre-entered, the competitor shall at least forward the documents set out below.
- All of the documents comprising an application for entry shall be forwarded to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, once the Notice of Race has been published and before 1st July 2008.

9.2 Application for pre-entry

To be forwarded to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE before 1st July 2008.

In order to be considered as pre-entered for the VENDEE GLOBE 2008, and officially recognised as such, competitors shall forward to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, at least the following documents as soon as possible :

- Entry form, duly filled in by the competitor.
- Competitor's information sheet.
- A cheque for the deposit in the sum of 20 000 Euros (to be made out to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE).
- Medical file (Appendix 2). This file must be sent marked "confidential" and will be forwarded to the race doctor.

The S.A.E.M. VENDEE will announce the list of pre-entered competitors on the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 website.

9.3 Application for entry

To be forwarded to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE before 1st July 2008.

A complete application for entry must include all of the following documents .

- Entry form, duly filled in by the competitor.
- Competitor's information sheet.
- A cheque for the deposit in the sum of 20 000 Euros (to be made out to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE).
- Medical file (Appendix 2). The file must be sent marked « confidential » and will be forwarded to the Race doctor.
(The first four items on the list are to have been sent during the pre-entry process).
- Full description of the boat.
- Documents certifying that the competitor has complied with the obligations set out in articles 8.8.1 « Principles of qualification » and 8.8.2 « The qualifying course».
- The boat's I.M.O.C.A. certificate.
- A list of numbers and identifications for the boat at sea : Call Sign, Inmarsat, Cospas-Sarsat, etc.
- A waiver agreement in favour of the organisers.
- Photocopy of the safety course participation certificate.
- Photocopy of the medical course validation certificate.
- Photocopy of the boat's radio licence.
- Photocopy of the restricted radio operator's licence or equivalent for non-French participants.
- Photocopy of the hexadecimal distress beacon coding.
- Photocopy of the survival rafts booklets.

Once the S.A.E.M. VENDEE has received all of these documents, the competitor shall be considered as having completed his application for entry in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

The list of the first 24 complete applications for entry shall be announced by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE on the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 website. Applications for entry which are received subsequently shall not be considered as being entered in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

9.4 Additional documents for the application for entry.

To be forwarded to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE between 1st July 2008 and 1st August 2008.

- Competitor's sponsor(s) information sheet.
- A sheet setting out details of the competitor's vaious contacts ashore during the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.
- A sheet about the competitor's shore crew.
- A sheet concerning the installations and equipment the competitor wishes to use ashore between 19th October and 9th November 2008 in Les Sables d'Olonne : containers, mobile workshops etc.
- A deposit in the form of a cheque for the value of the positioning beacons (made out to the S.A.E.M VENDEE). The amount will be communicated by the organiser as soon as possible.
- A deposit in the form of a cheque for the value of the postioning terminal equipment (made out to the order of the S.A.E.M. VENDEE). The amount will be communicated by the organiser as soon as possible.
- A photocopy of the 2008 sailing permit or equivalent.
- A photocopy of the competitor's passport.
- A document certifying third liability insurance cover.
- A document certifying death and invalidity insurance cover.
- One or several digital colour photos showing the hull and all of the appendages.
- A digital colour photo of the boat under sail and a digital colour photo of the skipper.
- A digital colour photo of the hull, clearly showing the 2m² area of fluorescent paint to assist recovery in the event of capsiz.
- A full-length digital colour photo of the competitor (ashore, front and back views) wearing the survival suit which he will be taking with him on VENDEE GLOBE 2008.
- The boat's new I.M.O.C.A. 2008 measurement certificate if issued.
- A colour illustration of the markings on either side of the main sail to be used for the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

9.5 Updated medical certificate

To be sent to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE between 1st September 2008 and 1st November 2008.

The competitor's doctor shall issue an up-to-date medical certificate which shall be signed by the doctor and the competitor himself.

This document shall set out :

- Any pathologies arising after the date the medical file was lodged.
- The results of several medical examinations which the competitor shall undergo. (The contents of these examinations shall be defined before 1st July 2008, depending on legal developments).

9.6 Invitations

In addition to the list of 24 competitors whose file has been received by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE, the latter may invite 3 competitors to enter the race from among those complete applications for entry received after the first 24 applications or who were unable to enter in accordance with the procedure set out in article 9.3 of the Notice of Race and who were unable to furnish in their application for entry « The documents

certifying that the competitor has complied with articles 8.8.1 « Principles of qualification » and 8.8.2 « Qualifying passage ».

In such cases, and unless article 8.8.4 applies, the competitor shall comply with articles 9.3 and 9.4 before 1st September 2008 and article 9.5 between 1st September 2008 and 1st November 2008.

9.7 Cancellations and reimbursements

Competitors who start the entry process from the date upon which the Notice of Race is published may withdraw their entry in accordance with the following procedure :

9.7.1 They must inform the S.A.E.M. VENDEE by recorded delivery letter with acknowledgement of receipt before 1st July 2008 (postmark acting as proof of posting).

9.7.2 All sums paid over will be refunded to competitors :

- Whose application was not accepted
- Who withdraw their application in writing, to be received by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE before 1st July 2008 (postmark acting as proof of posting).

9.7.3 Sums paid over by competitors who withdraw after 1st July 2008 incl shall not be refunded in full. The amount of 5 000 euros incl VAT shall be retained.

9.8 Deposit.

No entry fee is required to enter the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

However, a deposit of 20 000 euros in the form of a cheque must be sent with your pre-entry application. This cheque shall be cashed upon receipt by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE.

Funds thus collected will be put onto an interest bearing account to be chosen by the SAEM Vendée. Interest gained will be paid over to each entrant pro rata the amount and date upon which the funds were invested when the balance of the deposit is refunded.

A first sum of 10.000 euros will be paid back to the competitor once his entry becomes final.

If the pre-application does not give rise to an entry in the race, except in situations where article 9.7.3 applies, the full amount of the deposit shall be refunded.

The balance of the deposit, namely the sum of 10.000 euros shall be refunded :

- To the competitor's shore team, as soon as the competitor has crossed the Equator, in a north-south direction.
- To competitors having sustained damage compelling them to retire from the race.

If financial penalties are applied to one or more competitors for failing to comply with one or more articles of this Notice of Race, the penalties shall be deducted from the deposit, in the event of the deposit not having been refunded at that time.

The penalties in question are set out in article 16 of the Notice of Race.

9.9 Postal address

All documents forming part of the application must be sent by recorded delivery – with acknowledgement of receipt – to the following address :

S.A.E.M. VENDEE
DIRECTION DE COURSE DU VENDEE GLOBE 2008
20, rue Pasteur
BP206
85005 La Roche-sur-Yon Cedex
France

10. COMPETITORS OBLIGATIONS

10.1 Inspection of safety equipment and compliance of the boat with the I.M.O.C.A. measurement certificate

There will be two inspection sessions.

Dates

- Session 1 : Monday 20th to Sunday 26th October 2008
- Session 2 : Sunday 2nd to Friday 7th November 2008

Competitors' presence

Competitors shall be on board from 20th to 26th October 2008 to take part in the 1st session of inspections according to the appointment made with the Chairman of the race's measurement committee.

Presence of shore team

The shore teams all be present for the various inspections for both sessions, from 20th-26th October and from 2nd-7th November 2008.

10.2 Training courses

10.2.1 Medical training course

In order to be able to assist oneself or another competitor in difficulty in the right manner, a certain number of medical skills will be required of competitors.

All competitors shall take a medical training course which satisfies the following criteria :

- Course run by an officially-approved organisation for training doctors and paramedical staff in medical emergencies (the organisation must be approved by the Race doctors).
- Course content shall comply with the criteria set out in appendix 1, the medical course appendix.
- Completed the course in the last 5 years, in other words, between 9th November 2003 and before 1st July 2008 .

At the end of the course, competitors shall receive a certificate confirming having taken part in the medical training course run by the training organisation concerned.

10.2.2 ISAF approved safety and survival training course.

In compliance with the requirements set out in the ISAF's Offshore Special Regulations, competitors shall have taken part in a survival at sea training course.

For all competitors, this course must be taken in a centre approved either by the ISAF or the F.F.Voile, or one of the ISAF member national authorities.

At the end of this training course, before 1st July 2008, competitors shall send to the Race management a certificate confirming their participation in a course within the last 5 years – since 9th November 2003.

10.3 Briefing sessions

All briefing sessions are compulsory :

- Welcoming briefing session : 19th October 2008 at 10h00.
- Start and weather briefing session : 8th November 2008.

Competitors shall be informed at a later date of the dates, times and locations of other compulsory briefing sessions which shall also be displayed on the official notice board.

10.4 Public relations

The presence of competitors who are pre-entered and entered shall be compulsory for the following events :

- Press conferences.
- Official events organised before the start.
- The conference which follows each competitor's finish.
- The prize-giving ceremony.

The date of the official skippers' presentation evening will be decided upon together with the I.M.O.C.A.

The dates, times and places of public relations operations will be communicated to those who are pre-entered and entered and will be displayed on the official notice board.

10.5 Compulsory boat markings

Boat markings shall comply with French legislation.

10.6 Official race markings

The rules set out below relating to boat markings are the result of an agreement drawn up between the S.A.E.M. Vendée and the I.M.O.C.A.

Official race boat marking zones are described below. Never the less, the organiser reserves the right to change the description of the markings in keeping with new proposals which may be put forward by the I.M.O.C.A. Modifications to the description of boat markings may be made by an additional clause no later than 31st December 2007 depending on the new propositions which may be made by the I.M.O.C.A..

The organiser is looking into the possibility of a entering into a partnership agreement with a telecommunications operator. With the consent of the I.M.O.C.A., there could be markings for this partner on the transmission tool fitted on the boat.

All of the compulsory markings set out below shall be carried out and the cost borne by the organiser. Competitors must fix markings on their boat and ensure that they remain in good condition until their return to Les Sables d'Olonne, upon the condition that the markings comply with the technical specifications drawn up by the I.M.O.C.A.

As a departure from article A5 of the I.M.O.C.A. class rules, each competitor shall display the following on his boat.

10.6.1 On the mainsail

A marking 7.06 m² at 1/3 of the mast height measured from the deck upwards and above the first reef.

The organiser shall supply each entered competitor with two such markings as soon as possible and no later than 1st July 2008.

Competitors will be notified of the way in which the markings are to be attached.

A neutral area of 0.50 m shall be left clear around the logo so that it can be identified more easily.

Competitors shall comply with the following for the benefit of the organisers or their partners.

No other logo shall be fixed in the horizontal strip defined by the space reserved for the organiser, extended to include the neutral zone (as set out above).

If the competitor wishes to display a vertical marking on his mainsail for his sponsor(s) or partner(s), he shall comply with the marking zones reserved for the organisers as set out above. He shall reserve enough space in the mainsail for the latter to display his markings.

10.6.2 On the backstay or shrouds

One or two race flags measuring 2m by 1.5m.

If the competitor's boat has a backstay, visible to port and starboard, a single race flag shall be displayed roughly 3 metres above the waterline.

If the competitor's boat does not have a backstay, the race flag shall be displayed on the starboard shroud and on the port shroud roughly 3 metres above the waterline.

In any event, the flag's luff shall be taught.

10.6.3 On the guard-rails, fastened onto the stanchions and pushpits

Two dodgers each measuring 2.1m by 0.6m printed on either side. Half of the dodger's surface area shall be at the disposal of the organisers.

Dodgers must be pulled taught vertically and horizontally along the cockpit to port and starboard.

10.6.4 On the forestay

A line of 5 flags each of the following dimensions 2m by 2.5m.

10.6.5 Visibility during the production of the image bank

Whether produced by the competitor's video service or the race video producer.

- A marking on either side of the mainsail as set out above.
- Port and starboard dodgers as set out above.
- Race flags as set out above.

10.6.6 Visibility in the harbour before the start and after the finish

From 19th October to 9th November 2008 at 10h00.

Upon the boat's return to Les Sables d'Olonne and up to and including the prize-giving ceremony.

- A line of 5 flags along the forestay as set out above.
- Port and starboard dodgers as set out above.
- Race flags as set out above.

10.6.7 Visibility at sea

Markings on either side on the mainsail as set out above :

- From 19th October onwards and throughout the duration of the event.

Port and starboard dodgers as set out above, and the race flags set out above :

- From 19th October onwards, then after the start for a distance of 300 miles beyond the starting line,
- At the end of the race, at any time when the competitor shall be roughly 300 miles from the finishing line,
- At any time during the race, upon the express request of the video production unit, whether in writing or orally.

10.6.8 Availability via the competitors' communication services of images to the various distributors.

As soon as the organisers have provided competitors with the dodgers, race flags and logos mentioned above, the competitor's communication services shall only distribute images of their boat which display the markings set out in art. 10.6.7.

10.7 Licence

In accordance with Rule 75.1 of the RRS, each French competitor shall include a copy of his Club-FFVoile sailing permit with his application for entry. Foreign competitors shall supply an equivalent document issued by their national authority or the member of a club or other organisation affiliated to their national authority for the relevant year, in other words, for 2008. French competitors ensure that their licence is renewed for 2009.

10.8 Insurance

10.8.1 Third party liability insurance

Each competitor shall have third party liability insurance for sailing, with minimum cover of 3 Million euros.

He shall provide the S.A.E.M. with written evidence thereof in the form of an insurance certificate no later than 1st August 2008.

10.8.2 Competitor's insurance

Each competitor shall subscribe to the group death and invalidity insurance policy taken out by the I.M.O.C.A. Competitors who already hold death and invalidity insurance cover may opt out of this group insurance.

He shall provide the SAEM written evidence thereof in the form of an insurance certificate no later than 1st August 2008.

The organiser may require complete copies of the insurance policies to be produced if they consider that the insurance certificates provided by the competitors cannot be used.

10.9 Bringing the medical certificate up to date

Competitors shall provide the Race doctor with an up to date medical certificate as described in article 6.7 between 1st September 2008 and 1st November 2008.

10.10 Medical assistance during the race

A remote medical assistance and advice service shall be available and accessible to competitors 24h/24h. The service shall be provided by the race doctor and his assistants.

Competitors shall have sole responsibility for deciding whether or not to call upon this service during the race.

If a competitor contacts another doctor during the race, by telephone or by e-mail, the doctor in question shall inform the Race doctor and provide information about his diagnosis, prescriptions and information about the evolution of the competitor's pathology.

If the race doctor considers that the competitor's medical condition is incompatible with his safety and that he ought not to continue the race, he should so inform the Race management. So that all the measures necessary to the safeguard of the competitor's life be taken, the race management may request the intervention of another competitor or of safety and rescue services of the country concerned, with or without the competitor's consent.

10.11 Boat's medical kit

A medical kit is compulsory.

The list of products comprising the kit shall be approved by the I.M.O.C.A. and the Race doctor.

If extra medicines are to be taken on board, the competitor shall communicate the list thereof to the race doctor before 19th October 2008.

In accordance with article 19.6.2 of the I.S.A.F. Rules (Appendix 3 – Section II, Anti-Doping Code), certain prohibited substances may be carried to treat an emergency situation. In the event of one or more of these substances being used, the competitor shall inform the race doctor as soon as possible of the reason and the method used for taking the substances in question. Moreover, he shall make a note in his log book of the circumstances which led him to taking the substance(s) in question.

10.12 Signing on and off

Competitors must fill in the Signing On Sheet and hand it to the Race Committee before 08h00 on 9th November 2008.

After finishing the race, competitors shall hand to the Race Committee a Signing Off Sheet within 6 hours of their arrival in Les Sables d'Olonne (crossing the finishing line).

10.13 Competitor's obligations once pre-entered

Starting from the date of their pre-entry, pre-entered and entered competitors shall undertake to furnish the organiser with any written, images or photos providing information about the boat, the skipper, the preparation, which may be used by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE in particular on the race website and in newsletters.

10.14 Competitors' obligations during the race

Once every 24 hours, competitors shall inform Race management, by telephone or by e-mail, their position in latitude and longitude, and a rapid description of their state of health and that of the boat.

Should a competitor be unable to transmit this information directly, they shall do their utmost to ensure that this information is transmitted to Race management by another competitor.

At the end of the race, in the phase of approach to Les Sables d'Olonne, each competitor shall inform the Race management of his position, 48 hours, 24 hours, 12 hours and 6 hours from his ETA.

11. COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

11.1 Equipment supplied by the organisers to monitor the boats

11.1.1 Positioning beacons

The organiser shall furnish each competitor with a set of beacons. An additional clause shall set out the conditions upon which the beacons are to be supplied.

A deposit in the form of a cheque shall be requested of each competitor and shall be returned to him upon his return in Les Sables d'Olonne, once the beacons have been returned.

11.1.2 Positioning terminal

The organiser shall supply each competitor with an Inmarsat C positioning terminal or similar.

Each competitor shall be responsible for installing the terminal (fitting and fixation as well as installing the electricity cables). Installation instructions will be supplied.

This equipment shall be switched on and connected round the clock throughout the duration of the race.

A deposit in the form of a cheque made out to the S.A.E.M. VENDEE representing the value of the equipment shall be requested of each competitor and shall be returned to him upon his return in Les Sables d'Olonne, once the terminals have been returned.

11.2 Use of competitor's own equipment

In addition to the positioning terminal supplied by the organisers for each boat, the boat's Standard C should enable the organiser to carry out regular pollings if necessary. It shall be switched on permanently.

11.3 Files supplied by the organiser

The organisers shall supply all competitors with four position polls a day. The cost of transmitting these polls shall be borne by the S.A.E.M. VENDEE.

12. POWER, ENGINES

12.1 Each boat shall have an engine as provided for under the I.M.O.C.A rules.

12.2 In accordance with Rule 42.1 of the RRS, during the race, no other means of propulsion other than the force of the wind in the boat's sails may be used.

In accordance with Rule 52 of the RRS, no motorised mechanism in any form whatsoever may be used in manoeuvring when the boat is underway, whatever the source of energy, apart from the exceptions provided for under the I.M.O.C.A. class rules.

All sail manoeuvres shall be carried out manually by the competitor.

12.3 A hole of at least 4 mm shall be drilled in the shaft drums so that the event's measurer can pass a seal cable through. A broken seal cable may give rise to the competitor's disqualification.

12.4 The boat's batteries must be soundly fastened in place. It must still be possible for the measurer to seal the batteries if necessary, as provided for under the I.M.O.C.A. Class rules.

13. RANKINGS

Real time rankings will be drawn up for the race once penalties or bonuses have been awarded by the jury.

Additional rankings may be drawn up in accordance with the modalities set out in the sailing instructions.

14. PRIZES

At the end of the VENDEE GLOBE 2008, 490 000 Euros incl of tax shall be awarded in the form of cash prizes as set out below :

Overall rankings in the VENDEE GLOBE 2008 :

- 1st : 150 000 Euros TTC
- 2nd : 90 000 Euros TTC
- 3rd : 60 000 Euros TTC
- 4th : 40 000 Euros TTC
- 5th : 30 000 Euros TTC
- 6th : 20 000 Euros TTC

If five or more competitors rank above sixth place, they shall receive an equal share of the unawarded 100 000 Euros incl tax.

If fewer than five competitors rank above sixth place, each competitor ranking higher than sixth shall receive the sum of 20 000 Euros incl tax.

The remainder shall be shared out in equal shares between all of the ranked competitors.

15. RULES RELATING TO THE USE OF THE VENDEE GLOBE TRADEMARK

15.1 Using the VENDEE GLOBE trademark

Competitors, their sponsor(s) and partner(s) shall be allowed to use the VENDEE GLOBE trademark and/or its logo for internal communication purposes only. It shall be compulsory for the competitor to have the trademark block of logos associated with the VENDEE GLOBE and the main private partner of the VENDEE GLOBE 2008.

Any use of the VENDEE GLOBE trademark and/or its logo for external communication purposes shall be subject to the prior consent of the S.A.E.M. VENDEE.

A contract shall be drawn up between the S.A.E.M. VENDEE and all of the competitors, sponsors and partners setting out the modalities of use for the VENDEE GLOBE trademark, the VENDEE GLOBE logo and the restrictions linked to the private partnership.

15.2 Nom and/or logo

The organiser reserves the right to refuse a name or a logo which it shall consider to be of bad taste, offensive or provocative.

The organiser's decision shall be final.

Markings which fail to comply with this Notice of Race shall be excluded.

Competitors considering using names or decorations which might not comply with the spirit of this rule shall enclose a representative colour illustration of their proposed name or decoration with their application for entry submitted to the S.A.E.M. for an opinion.

16 PENALTIES

16.1 Penalties

The following penalties shall apply :

16.1.1 Official race markings

A penalty of 20.000 Euros incl tax for each breach of the provisions of article 10.6.

16.1.2 Inspections

16.1.2.1 A penalty of 5.000 Euros incl tax for each day beyond the deadline for competitors who are not present on 19th October 2008 after 10h00 in Les Sables d'Olonne.

16.1.2.2 A penalty of 5.000 Euros incl tax for each day beyond the deadline for boats which are not present at the race pontoon on 19th October 2008 at 10h00 in Les Sables d'Olonne.

16.1.2.3 A penalty of 5.000 Euros incl tax for each day beyond the deadline for competitors who fail to comply with the inspection schedule.

16.1.3 Briefings sessions and official receptions

A penalty of 5.000 Euros incl tax for each briefing session, official reception or prize-giving ceremony marked by an absence.

16.1.4 Breach of the rules

16.1.4.1 Breach of the I.M.O.C.A. 2008 class rules :

Penalties provided for in the class rules. They are subject to amendment agreed with the I.M.O.C.A. class and set out in the sailing instructions.

16.1.4.2 Breach of the R.R.S. :

Substitute penalties are set out in the sailing instructions.

16.2 Exceptional circumstances

16.2.1 In exceptional circumstances, a competitor may ask to be represented by a third party in the various compulsory manifestations described above. Such demands will be examined upon the condition that the competitor submit his demand in writing to the Race management as soon as possible, stating the reason for his absence, and the identity and status of his representative.

16.2.2 Should exceptional circumstances prevent a competitor from presenting his boat in Les Sables d'Olonne at 10h00 on 19th October 2008, the competitor may appeal against the penalties set out above. This demand will be examined upon the condition that the competitor submit his explanation in writing to the Race management as soon as possible, clearly setting out the reason for his boats absence.

16.2.3 A commission comprising the organiser and his representatives shall be authorised to grant dispensations in both of the situation described above. Their decision shall be final and there shall be no right of appeal.

16.2.4 If the competitor obtains a dispensation as mentioned at article 16.2.1, his representative shall have to comply with the same obligations as the competitor.

17. CONTACTS

S.A.E.M. VENDEE

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