

# Press pack

## THE 16<sup>TH</sup> Marie-Agnès Péron Trophy

This solo race created by Winches Club in 2005, which honours the memory of the sailor Marie-Agnès Péron, lost at sea during the 1991 Mini-Transat, has been part of the Class calendar since 2006.

It has been the second challenge of the *French Championships Offshore Solo Race* – Mini 6,50 since 2012.

This year, because of the global health crisis, the Trophy has been moved to mid-October from its traditional date in June.

**The course** (220 nautical miles) : Douarnenez – Iroise sea – South Brittany – Douarnenez



## The programme:

From Thursday 8 October: Free mooring period for boats in Tréboul marina.

**Tuesday 13 October at 09:00 :** Start of security checks and registration confirmation.

#### Wednesday 14 October:

18:00 : End of security checks.

18:30 : Welcome apéritif with race patron Capucine Trochet.

## **Thursday 15 October:**

08:00 : Time limit for registration applications. Breakfast.

09:00 : Security and weather briefing.

Departure expected at midday (depending on weather conditions)

**Saturday 17 octobre at 12:00 :** Announcement of results and prizegiving.

**Thursday 22 October:** End of free mooring period for boats.



## THE MINI:

Testing ground for offshore sail racing for over 25 years, the Mini has two categories : « PROTO » and « SERIES ».

#### It measures 6 metres 50.

Today the Mini Class numbers nearly 1000 boats, built since 1985. Since 1995, the successor of the emblematic *Muscadet* (Harlé design) is mainly for the *Pogo 1* series (Pierre Rolland design), joined by the *Pogo 2* (Groupe Finot-Conq design), the *Zéro* (Marc Lombard design), the *Super-Calin* (J.P. Magnan design), the *Tip-Top* (Sam Manuard design), the *Naus* (Disegnocontrario design), the *Dingo and Dingo 2* (Pierre Rolland design, the *Ginto* (S. Magnen design), the *Mistral* (Bernard Nivelt design), the *Nacira* (Nacira Design), the *RG 6.50* (N. Goldenberg design), the *Argo 6.50* (Marc Lombard design), the *Pogo 3* (Guillaume Verdier), the *Ofcet 6.50 and the new Vector – Maxi 6.50* (Etienne Bertrand design)...

## Security is the goal

One of the main concepts of the Class is making sure the Mini's evolve promoting security, whilst retaining their sporty and innovative appeal. This idea, marked by raw memories of the sea's dangers, has ended up by creating a boat/racer partnership which is amongst the safest on the circuit. Responsibility, design, materials, security checks, sea sense: on a Mini, everything is Maxi.

#### A springboard and a passion

The Mini concept unites the sailor, the boat and the sea. That's it! No contact with the land! As doubles or solo, this concept has launched many of the great offshore racing sailors of today.

Never before has an offshore racing school such as the Mini included so many highly-skilled names in such prestigious events. Some of the winners of the most exceptional prizes have quite often made their debut and won their first races in this series: Isabelle Autissier, Catherine Chabaud, Ellen Mac Arthur, Thierry Dubois, Laurent Bourgnon, Bruno Peyron, Michel Desjoyaux, Bernard Stamm, Jean-Luc Van den Heede... So many of them have gone on to participate in transatlantic races such as the Transat Jacques Vabre, the Vendée Globe, the Route du Rhum or the AG2R.



Today, the Mini class unites about 300 members, mainly racers, from all walks of life, from the carpenter to the engineer, from the sailing instructor to the banker, from the journalist to the professional skipper. It is above all an association of enthusiasts, for the lovers of these great little boats, who want to share the huge waves, the budget nightmares, the caprices of the weather and every moment of excitement that the sea offers!

The "Minists" skim across the Atlantic as well as the Mediterranean, thanks to the race organisers who, setting the bar high, have interwoven nautical and friendly links of the highest quality between the racers and the association.

The Board of Directors contributes to the dynamism of the Class in France and abroad. Each year, the race programme is enriched to form a coherent calendar, to mix things up a bit and attract new racers.



THE 2020 MINIS SEASON IN DOUARNENEZ

From 8th October onwards, about 75 Mini will gather in Douarnenez for the <code>Marie-Agnès Péron Trophy - a challenge which forms part of the « French Championships in Solo Offshore Racing – Mini 6.50». This race will mark the end of a season turned completely upside down by the Covid-19 crisis but one which hasn't dampened the enthusiasm of the Ministes for their race. So this year the Trophy will close the 2020 Atlantic racing season.</code>

## A strong end of season.

Before the departure, on the pontoons of Tréboul it's pure anticipation. The preparations are going well in the great atmosphere specific to the Mini races, visible on the quai de l'Yser.

Foreigners are faithful to the Mini circuit. Outside of France, not less than 16 nationalities have lined up at the start of the MAP and Mini-Fastnet in the last two years: Germany, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, Spain, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Russia, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Turkey and the USA.

During the race we can follow the flotilla's progress on maps. Every year Douarnenez is the key destination for the Mini 6.50 Class. During this October week more than 70 skippers will tread the boards of Tréboul's pontoons.

The Marie-Agnès Péron Trophy, solo over 220 nautical miles, is structured by a competitive framework which includes a stage of French Championships of Solo Offshore Racing – 6,50, the preparation of the Mini Transat in October 2021 and the classification in international ranking of the Class, while remaining, of course, a race apart. Moved from June to October, we have to factor in the autumnal Breton weather this year, which will change the race's outlook.

## Less than a year to work it out

This year will be a year of transition before the next Mini Transat which will take place in 2021. Many sailors must take possession of their boats and their goal will be just to finish the race on time. For others, the first places on the podium will be beckoning.

### A reminder of 2019's podiums:

The Marie-Agnès Péron trophy:

#### Series:

- 1 943 / GEOMAG / Ambrogio BECCARIA
- 2 910 / PRO YACHTING/ MACHADO Arnaud
- 3 951 / CLOAREC Paul

## Prototype:

- 1 945 / TREHIN Axel
- 2 865 / OFFSHORESAILING.FR / JAMBOU François
- 3 800 / ROUSSEAU CLÔTURES / LE MENE Erwan

## The Mini-Fastnet:

## Series:

- 1 943 / GEOMAG / Ambrogio BECCARIA -RIVA Alberto
- 2 905 / CHEMINANT URSUIT / D'ESTAIS Nicolas GOODCHILD Sam
- 3 944 / GRASSI Amélie BEAUDART Davy

## Prototype:

- 1 945 / TREHIN Axel COVILLE Thomas
- 2 865 / TEAM BFR MAREE HAUTE / JAMBOU François FIEVET Pascal
- 3 969 / CERFRANCE PRO / BOUROULLEC Tanguy AUBRUN Rémi



DOUARNENEZ, THE TOWN OF THREE PORTS, MEETING PLACE OF THE MINIS

Like other ports with a strong character, the sea remains inseparable from the image of the « Sardine Head » town. The past reinforces the strength of these roots which have created the town's three ports.

- The Port-Rhu: The Port-Museum, an exceptional site of conservation and maritime heritage, with its floating boats and its museum which hosts interesting exhibitions.
- Rosmeur fishing port: the sea's riches have made the town flourish and made Douarnenez the capital of tinned fish.

Tréboul marina, sailing mecca and rendezvous of sailors all over the world, has just hosted the *Grand Prix Guyader*. This is the starting point for the Mini's who have come to challenge the *Marie-Agnès Péron Trophy* and the *Mini-Fastnet*, two of the major races of the circuit.



Marie-Agnès Péron Trophy

## Organised by



# In partnership with:







































www.map.winchesclub.org

www.classemini.com

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