Marion to Bermuda Race 2021

Race Starts: June 18, 2021
So You Want to Race to Bermuda

- Why You Should Go
- The History
- The Race
- Preparing for The Race
  - The Boat
  - The Crew
  - Post Race
- Where to begin
Why Marion to Bermuda

Love of Sailing and Competition

- Reasonable offshore passage
- Strategic and tactical challenges
- Fair competition
- Last celestial race
"...a fine, often surprising sea story of men and women who share a distinctive understanding of what sailing really should be – an adventure by amateur sailors in normal cruising boats making their damp, exciting way across rough seas to a beautiful, beckoning, remote destination."

John Rousmaniere
Why Marion to Bermuda?
Resources to ensure success

- Well managed race
- Experienced RC
- CoPilot Program
- Safety at Sea seminar
Why Marion to Bermuda?
Simply... Bermuda

- Great landfall
- Events for entire family in Bermuda
But really, isn’t this reason enough?
Or Simply This
The History

• Founded in 1977
• Blue Water Sailing Club
• Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club
• Beverly Yacht Club
Marion Bermuda 2021
44 Years of Racing to Bermuda

- Continued emphasis on Celestial Navigation
  - Classes, copilots, webpage
  - 3% handicap benefit
- Offshore Youth Challenge
  - 66% of crew ages 16-23
  - Adult Sponsored & Coached
    - Academies
    - Colleges
    - Yacht Clubs
- Manufacturer Classes
- Multihull class
The Race

Start: Friday, June 18, 2021
Race Governance

- US Ocean Race

- Governed by
  
  *US Safety Equipment Requirements (USSER)*
  
  (as modified for MBR)

Notice of Race
Sailing Instructions
Racing Rules of Sailing
2021 MBR Safety Requirements

US Safety Equipment Requirements

Ocean Race

www.ussailing.org/competition

Modified for Marion Bermuda
www.marionbermuda.com/preparation/documents

• Easier to understand; Self-contained (no external docs)
• Streamlined inspection
• Storm trysail not required (but strongly recommended)
• Ability to steer with rudder disabled
• HMPE lifelines no longer allowed (2017)
• AIS required: both boat and crew (2021)
The Race

Length on Deck:

- Founders Division
  32’ to 80’

- Big Yacht Division
  81’ to 100’

- Sail Training
  
  *Tabor Boy*
  
  *Spirit of Bermuda*
The Race

• ORR Rating System
  - improvements for 2021
  - conditions adjustment
  - request spin / non spin / both

• Partial measurement

• Certificate required

• Time on time rating

• Apply beginning Mar 15

• Received by RC by June 11

www.ussailing.org/competition
Founders Trophy Winner
Marion Bermuda Race 2019
Cordelia  Blue Water Sailing Club
The Race

Choice of Navigation

• Celestial
  - 3% rating benefit

• Electronic

• Must declare navigation class by June 11, 2021
The Race

Weather Information:

• Prior to Captains Mtg
  -Subscription weather
  -Route planning services
  -Private communications

• Captains Meeting
  -No subscription services or private communications
  -Publically available only: Satellite phone, SSB VHF, Cellphone
The Race

- 645 Nautical Miles
- Start: Marion, MA
- Finish: St. David’s Light
The Race

Three Distinct Races:
- Buzzards Bay
- Gulf Stream
- Approach to Bermuda
The Race

Buzzards Bay:
• Prevailing SW winds
• Beat down the Bay
• Round Sow & Pigs
  Look out for those rocks!
The Race

Gulf Stream:
- Reach in 2-3 days
- Has its own weather, current, and sea state
- Develop strategic plan of attack
- Information:
  - Gulf Stream Companion
  - Ocean Prediction Center
  - Safety at Sea Seminars
  - Routing services
Gulf Stream- Race Day 2019
Ocean Prediction Center- National Weather Service
Gulf Stream Routing
Marion Bermuda 2019
The Race

Approach to Bermuda:
• The Bermuda high
• Read & re-read SI
• Check your charts
• Reefs, reefs, reefs
• St. David’s Light and the Finish Line

Note: Finish is a bearing not between the marks
Preparing for the Race

Review the requirements:

• Notice of Race
• Sailing Instructions
• US Safety Equipment Requirements
• Inspection checklist

www.marionbermuda.com
Preparing The Boat

• Initial Contact with CoPilot

• Talk/Walk-Thru with CoPilot

• Request a courtesy inspection
Preparing the Boat

• For well founded yachts
• Permanently installed
  - Permanent bunks
  - Enclosed head
  - Permanent galley
  - Comfortable cruising
• Ballast
  - Water ballast allowed
  - Retractable keel allowed
  - No canting keels
Preparing the Boat

• Spare GPS and compass
• Charts ....yes, paper
• Fuel range: 250 nm
• Water: 2 gal/crew
• Emergency food and water
• 2 manual bilge pumps (above & below decks)
Preparing the Boat

Secure items with airborne potential:
- Floor Boards
- Drawers
- Batteries
- Stove
- Tool boxes
Preparing the Boat

• Anchor & rode
• Emergency nav lights
  -Permanent or portable
  -Separate power source
• Drogue  *(Recommended)*
Preparing the Boat

Secure the mast

*Not Mandatory, but Strongly Recommended*
(Safety Requirement 2.6)

- At the step
- At the deck
Preparing the Boat

Hatch boards secured
  Outside cabin
  Inside cabin

Soft plugs for each thru hull
Preparing the Boat

Inspect quadrant and steering sheeves
Preparing the Boat

Anti-Jibe Device
Preparing the Boat

Jack Lines
port & starboard
Preparing the Boat

• Storm Jib with orange patches – *Required*
• Solent Stay - *Recommended*
• Storm Trysail – *Recommended*
• Display sail numbers when sails not set
Preparing the Boat

Rescue Devices:
• MOB System
• Retrieval System
• Life Raft
APPROVED LIFE RAFT
SOLAS ISAF ORC ISO 9650-1
Preparing the Boat

SOLAS Flares  Required

note:  Handheld LED distress flare meets USCG requirements for night time use only
Preparing the Boat

EPIRB
Registered to boat

Required
Preparing the Boat
PERSONAL AIS REQUIRED

Personal AIS Transmitters

- Alerts those nearby of MOB
- Easily Attaches to Life vest or held in pocket
Preparing the Boat
PLB NOT REQUIRED BUT RECOMMENDED
Preparing the Boat

Communications

• Satellite phone or other satellite comm device
• VHF boat; handheld
  *(DSC/GPS recommended)*
• Cell Phone
• GPS
• Weather receiver
Damage Control

• Engine Spares Kit
  – Impellers
  – Filters
  – Belts
  – Manuals: Engine manual and parts diagrams
  – Special tools specific to your engine
Damage Control Gear
Damage Control

• Damage Control Kits
Two Manual Pumps
In Cabin and on Deck
Minimum capacity 10 GPM
Preparing the Boat

Abandon Ship Bag

- EPIRB / GPS
- VHF (waterproof)
- Flares
- Strobe light
- Signal mirror
- First aid kit
- Water
- Emergency rations

Comprehensive listing of contents at www.landfallnavigation.com
ABANDONSHIP BAG CONTENTS

SURVIVAL GEAR
1. EPIRB
2. Handheld Waterproof VHF Radio with AA Battery Case & Spare Batteries
3. 3ea. Red Handheld & Parachute Flares and 2 Orange Smoke Canisters
4. Handheld GPS w/ Spare Batteries
5. Dye Marker in Baggy
6. Waterproof Flashlights & Spare Batteries & 12 Red Chemical Stick Lights
7. Medical Kit & First Aid Book
8. Water Maker or Water Packet Kit
9. Sea Sick Pills & Multi Vitamins
10. 4 Survival Blankets
11. 2 Large Sponges
12. Signal Mirror & Whistle
13. Manual Horn
14. Magnetic Compass

PERSONAL ITEMS
1. Duplicate Passports, Credit Cards & Cash
2. Personal Medications
3. Spare Prescription Eye
4. Spare Sun Glasses
5. Toilet Paper in Baggy
6. Waterless Cleansing Pads
7. Long Sleeve Shirts & Polypro. Underwear
8. Tooth Brushes & Paste
9. Vaseline/ Skin Care Sun Block
10. Box Zip Lock Bags
11. Notebook & Pencils
12. Watch Cap
13. Sun Hat

OPTIONAL GEAR
1. SART
2. Spare Life Raft Knife
3. Spare Life Raft Pump
4. Life Raft Repair Clamps
5. 2-4 Thermal Protective Aids
6. 2 Food Rations
7. Life Raft Survival Book
8. Rescue Kite
9. Fishing Kit
10. Waterproof Matches
11. Spare Sea Anchor
Preparing the Boat

Map of where things are:
- Fire extinguishers
- Thru-hulls
- Spare parts
- First Aid Kit (Offshore)

Finally, have boat inspected by approved Marion Bermuda Race Inspector.
Preparing the Crew

• Open to all World Sailing Group Classifications
  Note: Approval needed for Group 3 crew
• At least 3 crew unless “Double Handed”
• Safety-at-Sea Seminar (March 2021 UMass Boston)
• Proper gear
• Pre-race medical exams
• Physical stamina and personality for offshore
Preparing the Crew
Suggested Gear

• Life vest w/harness and tether; re-arm cartridge
• Sailing gloves
• Headlamp

• Cold weather clothing
  watch cap
  gloves (waterproof)
  boots & socks
• Sea sickness meds
• Sunscreen / lip balm
• Personal medications

• Warm weather clothing
• Valid passport
• Return crew letters

• Cold/warm sleeping bags
Preparing the Crew

Experience Required:

• Skipper and enough crew to manage boat must have offshore experience (250 nm)

• SAS within 5 years
  
  30% of crew must have World Sailing Offshore Certificate;
  Skipper & Navigator mandatory

• Shorthanded – all 16+

First aid  **Strongly recommend**

  2 certified first aiders
Preparing the Crew

Training prior to the Race:

• Setting all sails
• Set storm sails
• Man overboard drill
• Abandon ship procedure
• Use emergency tiller
• Steer with rudder disabled

www.landfallnavigation safety/storm survival
Approximate Race Costs*

**Equipment:**
- Life Raft (rental) $ 800
- EPIRB (rental) $ 175
- P/AIS $ 300
- Sat Phone (rental) $ 200
- SOLAS Flares $ 400
- Charts $ 200
- Med Kit Upgrade $ 200
- Storm Jib $ 700
- Misc. Equip $ 500

**Soft Costs:**
- Entry Fee $ 950
- Crew Fee (4) $ 200
- Insurance Rider $ 400
- Survey for Rider $ 400
- ORR Certificate $ 300
- Weather & GS $ 500
- Fuel $ 400
- Food $ 600
- Emerg. Supplies $ 200
- Dockage $ 900

*$3,475
$4,850

*Based on a 40’ boat*
Bermuda Arrival

Clearing Customs only at RHADC

• Finish after sunset, anchor in St. Georges
• Go to RHADC in the morning
Bermuda Arrival

Entry Package provides key info:

• Berthing (Sun, June 27)
• Services at RHADC
• Re-provisioning food and fuel
• Repair Services
Bermuda Activities

- Family events for all ages
- Pre-finish events for waiting “shore-crew”
- Gosling Rum parties
- Nightly entertainment
- Golf, beach, shop, ....
Bermuda Activities

• Gala Awards Ceremony on Saturday
Where to Begin

Start a “To Do” list!
Where to Begin
Visit our website
www.marionbermuda.com

• Review “Yacht Eligibility and Requirements” in NOR
  If uncertain about boat’s eligibility, submit inquiry to: race@marionbermuda.com
• Review the USSER & Inspector’s Check List
• Request a CoPilot through the website
• Request courtesy inspection
• Join us on Facebook  Friends of Marion Bermuda
CoPilot Program

• Assist with race preparation
• Answers from experienced owners
• Informal, One-on-one
• Phone, email, in-person
• CoPilot@marionbermuda.com
Dates and Stuff to Remember

Fall 2020 / Early 2021
• Life raft/sat phone rental
• Valid passports for race and return crews

March 13-14 Safety at Sea Seminar – UMass Boston

April 16 Early registration ends

April 30 Sailing Instructions posted
Dates and Stuff to Remember

June 11
• Declare navigation class
• Spinnaker declaration
• Complete crew list submitted; after, all changes in writing
• Election to enter “races within race”
• Online registration closed
• Boat inspection complete
• ORR rating certificate from US Sailing

June 14
Communications device verification opens

June 14
Team Race application deadline

June 12-14
Early on site registration by appointment; see NOR

June 15
On site registration opens

June 17
• Boat acceptance - all changes made & inspected
• On site registration ends
• Skippers meeting - skipper & navigator mandatory
Other Stuff to Remember

• Insure valid inspection dates for:
  Life Raft  MOM  Flares
• EPIRB, AIS and PLBs registered to boat
• Insurance rider (and probably survey)
• Boat schematics – thru hulls and safety equipment

• Customs clearance App:  CBP ROAM
• Ensure all crew members passport number in the App
• Letter of departure for each return crew arriving by air
• Medical history form for each crew
• Crew familiarity with boat
• Perform mandatory safety drills

• Refueling plan  (Hamilton or St Georges)
• Departure plan from RHADC
Resources

During the Race:
• GPS tracking (Yellow Brick)
• Satellite phone (and SSB)
• Maritime Medical Access
  Dept Emergency Medicine
  George Washington Univ
Resources

www.marionbermuda.com
• Notice of Race
• Sailing Instructions
• Safety Equip Requirements
• Equipment Checklist
• Offshore Racing Rules
• Racing Rules of Sailing

www.offshoreracingrule.org
• Rating certificate

Publications
• Gulf Stream Companion by Ocean Navigator
• Ocean Navigator
• Offshore Sailing by Bill Seifert

Facebook Friends of Marion Bermuda
Resources

Sponsors:
• Kingman Yacht Center
• R&W Rope Rigging Solutions
• Landfall Navigation
• Hinckley Yacht Services
• Team One Newport
• Life Raft Survival Equipment
Resources

Committee Contacts:

• Executive Director - Allan McLean
• Administration – Nan Johnson
• Registration - Al Minard
• CoPilot Program – Roy Greenwald
• Inspection - Ernie Messer
• Race Operations - Mary Pierce
• Safety at Sea - Ed Stott
• Marketing – Ray Cullum

race@marionbermuda.com
Thank You

See You in Bermuda!