



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ENTRIES PASS 100 FOR 2011 ORC INTERNATIONAL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

CRES, Croatia -- The Offshore Racing Congress (ORC) and the **Sailing Club of Rijeka (SCOR)** are pleased to announce that as of this week 117 teams from 15 nations have committed to converge on Cres, Croatia for the **2011 ORC International World Championship**, held over 18-26 June 2011. This is the highest and most diverse turnout of any ORC championship regatta in its 40-year history, and is an event sanctioned by the **International Sailing Federation (ISAF)** as the sole official offshore World Championship.

“We are really pleased by the extraordinary number of teams coming to Cres, and the strong number of early entries we had: even before the first of the year there were already almost 80 entries,” says **Zoran Grubisa**, event Chairman from SCOR. “This is because Cres is well-known as a very attractive destination, and our previous regattas held there have proven that the area is suitable for a world-class event such as this.”

Entries are still being accepted until 18 May with an entry fee of €600, but after that date they will be accepted only at the discretion of the organizers, and with an entry fee of €1000.

Most entries in the fleet are from a variety of production racer/cruiser designs, but there are also many high-performance race boats entered in this year's Worlds. These include two TP52's, **Aniene 1a Classe** from Italy and **Aquila** from Austria, **Roberto Monti's** Felci-designed GP42 **Airis**, a veteran of the past two seasons in the Audi MedCup from Italy, and the Farr-designed canting-keeled Cookson 50 **Calipso IV**, also from Italy and owned by **Piero Paniccia**. It is a testament to the versatility of the ORCi rating system that this wide diversity of boat types can be fairly rated and scored in the same competition.

Besides this spectrum of competitive boat designs, the fleet also contains a significant array of sailing talent, including numerous past World, national, and regional champions in ORCi, as well as several past Olympians and America's Cup team members. Examples include Italian AC veterans **Tomasso Chieffi** and **Paolo**

Cian, who are tacticians on, respectively, the reigning European ORCi Champion **Man**, a GS42R05 owned by **Riccardo Di Bartolomeo**, and the NM 38 **Scugnizza** owned by **Enzo del Blasio**. Croatian Olympic Finn sailor **Karlo Kuret** will be the helmsman on the Salona 42 **All 4 One**, and fellow Croatian Olympic Laser sailor **Mate Arapov** will be on board the GS56R **Marina Kaštela**.

While most entries are from the Adriatic region, the event has also drawn interest from teams from as far away as the USA. **Alice Martin** and her team from Chicago are taking a break from racing their Sydney 38 at home to charter the Salona 34 **One** for the Worlds in Cres. Martin is excited about the event.

“Every year we try to look for an out of town sailing adventure,” said Martin. “Last year it was the Newport-Bermuda Race, and this year we will bring much of the same team to Cres. What attracted us to come here is the beauty of the area, the timing in our schedule, and having the opportunity to compete at a World Championship. This all gives us a lot of bragging rights at home!”

All official activities for the 2011 World Championship will be held at the **ACI Marina** in Cres, including berthing, the regatta center, and media center.

After measurement and registration on Saturday and Sunday, 18-19 June, inshore racing will start on Monday 20 June on courses set between Cres and the Istrian coastline. On Tuesday 21 June will be the start of the 24-hour offshore race, with finishes expected on Wednesday 22 June. Thursday 23 June inshore racing resumes through Saturday 25 June, the final day of competition.

Nine races are scheduled: seven Windward/Leeward races and an offshore race scored as two races. One discard will be allowed if all nine races will be completed. The championship is valid if at least four windward/leeward races and one offshore race or at least three windward/leeward races and two offshore races are completed.

Patrons of the 2011 ORCi World Championship include the **Town of Cres**, the **City of Rijeka**, **Primorsko-goranska County**, the **Town of Cres Tourist Association**, and the **Port Authority of Cres**.

Sponsors of the event include **ACI Marina**, **Salona Yachts**, **Maestral**, **Lenco**, **North Sails**, **Ventex**, **Erste Bank**, **Restaurant Marina ACI**, **Weather Routing Inc.**, **Camp Kovacine**, **Hotel Kimen**, **Yacht Pool** and **Apartmani Cres**.

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For more information on the 2011 ORCi World Championship, visit www.scor.hr.

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