



## ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

Ta' Xbiex Seafront, Ta' Xbiex, Malta

### **IRC Report 2019 – RMYC MALTA**

I have little change to report from Malta.

The number of rated boats remains close to that of the previous years but the participation in club events is still generally low. We have not managed to turn this around and generate renewed interest in keelboat racing locally.

	<b>Total Certs</b>	<b>Rated Boats</b>	<b>New Boats</b>
August 2018	36	33	
December 2018	66	48	3
August 2019	30	29	1

The composition of the fleet also remains largely the same, mostly modern production boats within the 10 – 15 metre length band.

The racing programme which runs from March to December and still includes local coastal races, weekend regattas and short offshore races to destinations in nearby Sicily all run under IRC.

Weekend regattas to Gozo or nearby Sicily remain quite popular but interest in other racing events remains low.

Some new interest has come about in one design sportboat racing in the SB20 class.

The Club sailing school has grown substantially and is starting to produce some enthusiastic young sailors which is promising for the future.

The two offshore international races the Malta-Syracuse race and the 606 mile Rolex Middle Sea Race include both IRC and ORC Categories both showed growth. The Malta Syracuse which this year had a preliminary race from Messina to Syracuse, had a good turnout of around 30 boats. The Rolex Middle Sea Race remains strong with an expected fleet of around 115 boats currently on the list. The Rolex Middle Sea Race is due to start on the 19<sup>th</sup>

October. In this race almost all the boats are expected to enter the IRC Category with a significant number of boats entering both categories. Dual scoring these races attracts entries that normally race under either of the two rating systems while enticing them to enter in the other as well.

Godwin Zammit

Commodore RMYC  
IRC representative, Malta.