

# OVERVIEW - THE CARIBBEAN MULTIHULL CHALLENGE – ST. MAARTEN

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Back in the 1970's, a now famous boat builder - sometimes referred to as the originator of multihull sailing in the Caribbean – Peter Spronk – began building technologically advanced multihulls in Cole Bay here in Sint Maarten. And through today, SXM is known for having a large contingent of multihulls that run the range from those built for pure comfort to those that are built for uncommon speed.

In recognition of this past and future, Robbie Ferron, founder of the SMYC, has encouraged the Sint Maarten Yacht Club to introduce a brand new regatta strictly for Multihulls that will premier in the high (and windy) season on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2019. Called the Caribbean Multihull Challenge – Sint Maarten (*occasionally abbreviated to CMC-SXM in this document*) this regatta is open exclusively to multihulls and as such it will contain features that are revolutionary to yacht racing:

★ Since multihulls prefer longer courses which include fast reaching, rather than the windward-leeward courses favored by monohulls, the new Caribbean Multihull Challenge – Sint Maarten will be designing courses that feature a greater percentage of fast reaching opportunities.

★ Race starts will also be different as multihulls prefer reaching or running starts to minimize the risks of slow tacks rather than the traditional monohull all-important windward start.

★ Both of these features add to the sailing fun for competitors where fast sailing is the core multihull enjoyment.