

12 METRE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2019



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A Sailing Spectacle Like No Other *12 Metre World Championship Set for Newport in July*

NEWPORT, RI (November 6, 2018) – With a little over eight months to go, [Ida Lewis Yacht Club](#), the [International Twelve Metre Association](#) (ITMA) America's Fleet and the [12 Metre Yacht Club](#) are gearing up for the largest-ever gathering of historic 12 Metre yachts in the U.S. at the [2019 12 Metre World Championship](#). Scheduled for July 8-13, the regatta will host 24 teams from seven countries, and the fleet will include Italian Patrizio Bertelli's [US-12 Nyala](#), which is the defending 12 Metre World Champion, and five yachts that have successfully defended the America's Cup: [US-16 Columbia](#) (1958), [US-17 Weatherly](#) (1962), [US-22 Intrepid](#) (1967 & 1970), [US-26 Courageous](#) (1974 & 1977) and [US-30 Freedom](#) (1980).



12 Metres racing in Barcelona during the 2014 12 Metre World Championship. The 2019 Worlds in Newport will be the largest-ever gathering of 12 Metres in the U.S. (photo credit: SallyAnne Santos/Windlass Creative)

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“The last 12 Metre World Championship was in Barcelona, Spain in 2014,” said Event Chair Peter Gerard, “so there is some pent-up energy for sure. Over the last two years, there has been an emphasis on developing new teams, training for the worlds and getting these iconic yachts into the best possible condition for competition.”

Making the trip to Newport from overseas are teams from the Northern Europe and Southern Europe Fleets. They will join the Americas Fleet for racing on Rhode Island Sound where a dozen America’s Cup competitions were held for just over five decades. Three of them (between 1930 and ‘37) were contested in the Universal J Class yachts, while nine (between 1958 and ‘83) were held in the 12 Metre yachts that are now famously etched into the “Golden Era” of America’s Cup history.



Left: Italian Patrizio Bertelli’s [US-12 Nyalá](#), the defending 12 Metre World Champion, will travel to Newport for the 2019 Worlds. (photo credit: SallyAnne Santos/Windlass Creative) Right: Also competing will be [US-22 Intrepid](#) and [US-26 Courageous](#), which have each defended the America’s Cup twice. (Photo credit: Stephen Cloutier)

The 12 Metres are divided into divisions based on when they were built. At the Worlds, eight of the contenders will sail in Grand Prix (for 12 Metres built in 1987, winged keel), seven in Modern (1967-1983), five in Traditional (1958-1966) and four in Vintage (1907-1958). Grand Prix, Modern and Traditional divisions mostly represent 12 Metres built for America’s Cup competition, while the Vintage division represents those built prior to the Cup’s 12 Metre era and when 12 Metres held a place in Olympic history.

Competing 12 Metres (to date):

Grand Prix Division

[US-46 America II](#), New York Harbor Sailing Foundation, New York, N.Y.

[K-24 Crusader](#), Richard Matthews/Sally Morton, Ipswich, UK

[KZ-7 Kiwi Magic](#), Johan Blach Petersen, Aarhus, Denmark

[KA-12 Kookaburra II](#), Patricio Bertelli, Rosignano Solvay, Italy

[KA-15 Kookaburra III](#), Maurizio Vecchiola, Morrovalle Macerata, Italy

[KZ-5 Laura](#), Jesper Banks, Denmark

[KZ-3 New Zealand](#), Gunther Buerman, Highland Beach, Fla./Newport, R.I.

(expressing interest: [US-42 America II](#))

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Modern Division

[KA-10 Challenge XII](#), Jack LeFort, Jamestown, R.I.

[US-32 Clipper](#), Hugo Stenbeck, Stockholm, Sweden

[US-26 Courageous](#), Ralph Isham/Steve Glascock/Alexander Auersperg/Ward Marsh/Arthur Santry, Newport, R.I.

[US-30 Freedom](#), Charles Robertson, Guilford, Conn.

[US-22 Intrepid](#), Jack Curtin, Toronto, Ontario/New York, N.Y.

[K-18 Lionheart](#), Harry Graves, Grand Isle, Vermont

[K-22 Victory '83](#), Dennis Williams, Hobe Sound, Fla./Newport, R.I.

(expressing interest: [US-27 Enterprise](#), [US-33 Defender](#), [US-24, Valiant](#))

Traditional Division

[US-21 American Eagle](#), Bob Morton/Cindy DeLotto, Newport, R.I./Edgartown, Mass.

[US-16 Columbia](#), Kevin Hegarty, Boston, Mass.

[US-18 Easterner](#), Scott Bernard, Annapolis, Md.

[US-19 Nefertiti](#), Sears Wullschleger, Sarasota, Fla.

[US-17 Weatherly](#), Jay Schachne, E. Greenwich, R.I.

Vintage Division

[K-17 Blue Marlin](#), Henrik Andersin, Kotka, Finland

[US-12 Nyala](#), Patrizio Bertelli, Rosignano Solvay, Italy

[US-6 Onawa](#), Earl McMillen, Newport, R.I.

[N-11 Vema III](#), Vema Syndicate, Oslo, Norway

Sponsors for the 12 Metre World Championship are [Helly Hansen Newport](#) and [Code Zero](#), while Official Logistics Provider is [Sevenstar Yacht Transport](#).

ROAD TO THE WORLDS AND NEW YORK YACHT CLUB'S 12 METRE JUBILEE

The global ROAD TO THE WORLDS WAYPOINTS Series, which started in 2017, has helped build competition in the Northern Europe, Southern Europe and Americas fleets and culminates with a series winner named at the conclusion of the [12 Metre Pre-Worlds Regatta](#), scheduled for just prior to the Worlds on July 6-7.

For some extended racing excitement beyond the Worlds, [New York Yacht Club](#) has invited the 12 Metre Class to participate in a "12 Metre Jubilee" at its [175th Anniversary Regatta](#) (July 15-20) and compete for a series of historic 12 Metre Trophies.

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Plenty of 12 Metre action in store for 2019 at the 12 Metre Worlds in Newport, R.I. (Photo credit: Stephen Cloutier)

“It will be a full summer of happenings,” said Gerard, explaining that the last four WAYPOINTS SERIES events* are scheduled for 2019 in New England as tune-ups for the Worlds. “This remarkably large fleet of 12 Metres, known for their historic significance, beauty and grace, will create a spectacle of 12 Metre racing that has not been seen here since the America’s Cup days of old.”

During the Worlds and the Pre-Worlds, most of the fleet will be berthed at Fort Adams where visitors will be able to view the yachts before and after racing. A large on-water spectator fleet is expected, and land-based spectators can catch the fleet sailing to and from racing at vantage points along the shores closest to Narragansett Bay’s East Passage, including Fort Adams, Beavertail Light and Castle Hill.

*2019 WAYPOINTS Series regattas: [New York Yacht Club’s](#) 165th Annual Regatta (June 14-16), [Edgartown Yacht Club’s](#) 12mR Regatta (June 21-23), [Ida Lewis Yacht Club’s](#) Newport Trophy Regatta (June 29-30), and the Pre-Worlds hosted by [Sail Newport](#) (July 6-7).

For more information

visit: <https://12mrworlds.com/> or <http://www.12mrclass.com> or contact Peter Gerard at pgerard53@gmail.com.

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