

## News Release

For immediate release

4<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### Melges IC37 fleet growth accelerating

Since the first UK based Melges IC37 made a dramatic entrance onto the UK IRC yacht racing scene at Cowes Week, the order book for this highly competitive, one design, racing boat has burgeoned. The resultant community will have a social focus that has never been seen before in the UK. Winning races in a wide range of conditions against tough and experienced competition, the widespread appeal of this new design from Mark Mills is like nothing seen before at this size, performance level and budget.

Conceived as a strict one-design, the new boat has also achieved a remarkably dominant display under IRC. Owners will now have a unique luxury of choice in competitive yacht racing: either in a proven high-performance, strict one-design series or entering IRC events knowing the boat is competitive in all conditions.

#### 2019 results so far

|                                  |  |          |
|----------------------------------|--|----------|
| Cowes Week                       | 1 <sup>st</sup> overall IRC 1              | 8 boats  |
| Royal Southern September Regatta | 1 <sup>st</sup> overall IRC 1              | 19 boats |
| IRC Autumn Championships         | 2 <sup>nd</sup> overall (by ½ point) IRC 1 | 15 boats |
| Hamble Big Boat Championships    | 1 <sup>st</sup> overall                    | 7 boats  |

The IC37 currently leads IRC1 in the Hamble Winter Series

With four teams already onboard for the 2020 season, momentum is clearly accelerating for the UK IC37 Class. The first batch of builds will commence shortly at the UK builder, Fibre Mechanics.

Five events are confirmed for the 2020 UK IC37 Class championships, with an additional six events highlighted as potential training regattas for teams to hone their boat handling and speed calibration and ensure they are quick off the mark for the One Design circuit.

The schedule of events can be found at <https://ancasta.com/ic37calendar>

The second UK boat (which will be hull #33 globally) will go to Jerry Hill and Carlo Vroon. Jerry is a former SB20 World Champion and a seasoned One Design campaigner, while Carlo has been part of the highly successful “Tonnerre” offshore team, is a long term Melges 24 owner and is RORC Rear Commodore. Jerry comments:

*“We have carefully watched the launch and development of this class, and now having sailed the boat a few times, everything about the boat and the class, just seems right for the UK scene. The boats are very manageable, but rapid downwind and very rewarding when you get it right. But for us one of the key factors is the class rules that restrict spending in a lot of sensible ways. It seems to us that the IC37 has*

*struck the right balance between a high-performance boat, strict one design racing and careful cost control. We are looking forward to the growth of this class in 2020 and beyond.”*

UK builder Fibre Mechanics has confirmed it is able to deliver ten boats by the start of the 2020 season, with future boats being completed every two weeks after that.

The ability to have a fleet of boats ready for the 2020 season is another pull for the UK buyer. Looking at current interest, numbers could grow into the mid 20s quite easily.

Several key brands are interested in supporting the UK IC37 Class. Announcements will be made shortly.

For further information and details of the 2020 programme please contact:

Sam Pearson  
Ancasta Raceboats – UK dealer  
[IC37@ancasta.com](mailto:IC37@ancasta.com)  
+44 7759 424900

Ian Atkins  
Regional VP, Melges IC37 Class Association  
[ian@crofton301.com](mailto:ian@crofton301.com)  
+44 7785 323821

**Ends**

#### **Notes to editors**

Hamble Winter Series Report can be read here - <https://www.yachtsandyachting.com/news/223588/HYS-Hamble-Winter-Series-week-4>

In the USA the class is now well established. The inaugural National Championships was recently held with 20 boats taking part – Video highlights can be seen here - <https://youtu.be/1gCAGNvqbp0>

The New York Yacht Club also hosted the bi-annual inter-club Invitational Trophy, sailed for the first time in Melges IC 37's – Video highlights can be see here - <https://youtu.be/MFMaIFslgkQ>

High res images are available online at <https://maa.agency/media-centre>

#### **About Ancasta International Boat Sales**

- Ancasta International Boat Sales has 17 offices across Europe.
- Ancasta Race Boats is a specialist branch of Ancasta International focusing on performance yachts.
- Ancasta is the largest Beneteau Power and Sail dealer in the UK.
- Ancasta is the largest UK dealer for Prestige Luxury Motor Yachts dealer and Prestige Yachts in the Balearics.
- Ancasta is exclusive UK dealer for Lagoon Catamarans.
- In addition, Ancasta is a new boat dealer for CNB Yacht Builders and McConaghy Yachts.
-



- The Ancasta Group incorporates Hamble Yacht Services Refit & Repair and Advanced Rigging and Hydraulics, both operating from Port Hamble.
- For more information on Ancasta visit [www.ancasta.com](http://www.ancasta.com)

Media enquiries via MAA: Susannah Hart – [susannah@maa.agency](mailto:susannah@maa.agency), tel: 023 9252 2044