



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Barbados Supports Trackers for Annapolis-to-Newport Race

*Annapolis, MD (June 7, 2019)* — Sailors participating in the Annapolis-to-Newport Race have come to expect a first-class event in every respect.

From arrival in Annapolis until the prize-giving ceremony in Newport, host Annapolis Yacht Club delivers a spectacular experience that has produced tremendous loyalty among competitors. It is through the generous assistance from numerous sponsors that organizers are able to make the Annapolis-to-Newport Race among the most respected on the East Coast.

Annapolis Yacht Club is pleased to announce the return of two important partners and welcomes a new one for the biennial distance race, which begins today on the Chesapeake Bay.

Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI), the organization for promoting tourism to the beautiful island of Barbados, has joined the 2019 edition of Annapolis-to-Newport as the Official Travel and Leisure partner. For the second time in the past decade, BTMI will sponsor the race trackers that are mandatory aboard every boat.

Barbados' profile as a sailing destination has risen over the past few years due to the island hosting many prestigious and successful sailing events, including four world championships.

"We are honored to be the Official Travel and Leisure partner of Annapolis-to-Newport Race. Sailing has a long history in Barbados, so we are looking forward to connecting with the sailing community on the East Coast and informing them about our offerings back home, said Petra Roach, U.S. Director of BTMI.

"Sailing is a natural sport for us since the island is surrounded by warm clear water, strong steady breezes, and sheltered bays. Travelers from around the world love visiting Barbados to participate in our highly anticipated races, the most popular being Barbados Sailing Week. It is also the opening regatta for the Caribbean's race season."

Gosling's Rum joins the event for the first time as the Official Spirits partner for the Annapolis-to-Newport Race. Gosling's is the oldest and largest exporter of finely crafted and award-winning rums in Bermuda. It has been owned and continuously managed by the Gosling family since 1806.

"Having supported sailing events in both Annapolis and Newport for many years, being an Official Sponsor of the A2N is a natural fit," stated Malcolm Gosling, President & CEO, Goslings International Limited. "We are also grateful of the support of Gosling's Rums and Gosling's

Stormy Ginger Beer we receive from the sailing communities of both seaports! This is a perfect opportunity to show our continued appreciation.”

Also, Boston Beer is back as the Official Beer partner and will have a presence on both ends of Annapolis-to-Newport. Founded in 1984 by Jim Koch, the company is best known for brewing the award-winning Samuel Adams Boston Lager.

“We are very fortunate to have the generous support of numerous sponsors who help make the Annapolis-to-Newport Race a premiere event,” A2N chairman Jim Praley said. “We are constantly striving to improve the overall experience of competitors and partners such as Barbados Tourism Marketing, Boston Beer, and Gosling’s are integral to making that happen.”

Barbados Tourism Marketing is providing a crucial service by sponsoring Yellow Brick race trackers that provide a two-fold purpose. Most importantly, the trackers allow race organizers to know the positions of all boats competing in Annapolis-to-Newport. It is also a fun way for A2N fans following at home to see the progress of the fleet and identify the leaders.

“Safety is our top priority and the Yellow Brick trackers provide a vital tool for the race committee to monitor every entry,” Praley said. “We are grateful to Barbados Tourism Marketing for recognizing the importance of the trackers and supporting our ability to equip all boats with this necessary equipment.”

BTMI will be awarding an all-inclusive holiday trip to one skipper in the race. This holiday package includes flights for two people and lodging in Barbados, a picturesque Caribbean Island long considered one of the world’s most spectacular vacation spots.

“Gosling’s Rum is enthused and excited to be part of such a wonderful race between to great cities. Gosling’s Rum, Annapolis, and Newport are all synonymous with first-class sailing. We look forward to welcoming all of the racers into Newport with an ice cold Dark ‘n Stormy,” Gosling’s Rum Event Director Rinear Coulter said in reference to the company’s trademarked cocktail.

Boston Beer provides the perfect complement to Gosling’s for competitors offering a toast for good fortune prior to the start and celebrating a safe arrival following the finish.

The Boston Beer Company brews more than 60 styles of Samuel Adams beer, relentlessly pursuing the development of new styles and the perfection of classic beers. The Samuel Adams portfolio of beers includes the flagship Boston Lager, seasonal brews, Brewmaster styles, and the Barrel Room Collection.

Both Gosling’s and Boston Beer will be served at the Newport Yachting Center Hospitality Tent. Annapolis-to-Newport Race organizers are thrilled to announce the prestigious prize-giving ceremony will be held on The Deck at Waites Wharf with Gosling’s Rum and Boston Beer flowing there as well.

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