



## Media Alert | Great Britain SailGP Team ready for action in Bermuda

- Due to weather conditions racing will begin a day earlier, on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> in SailGP Season 2.
- Broadcast schedule remains unchanged with Friday's racing being pre-recorded and broadcast in SailGP's allotted time slot on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- SailGP Media Hub opens online to help facilitate coverage of the global championship. Sign up now to watch today's press conference.
- Great Britain SailGP Team helm Sir Ben Ainslie ready to face "the toughest line-up we have ever seen in sailing".

HAMILTON – April 23, 2021 – After an intense week of training on the water in Bermuda's Great Sound, the Great Britain SailGP Team is ready for the action to begin with racing starting today, Friday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, in SailGP Season 2.

For the opening event for the season, the first day of racing will now take place a day earlier than scheduled. The weather on Saturday is forecast to be extremely light, therefore it is highly unlikely racing can take place and so the decision has been made to move the racing to ensure a spectacular event.

Due to SailGP's global broadcast agreements, racing on Friday will be pre-recorded and broadcast at SailGP's allotted broadcast time on Saturday and distributed to all of its global broadcast partners, comprising 175 territories worldwide. SailGP will not be publishing any race results or race content from Friday across its channels.

The format of the event's racing will see three fleet races take place today, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, (with all eight boats racing together) and two fleet races on Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup>, followed by a final 'podium race' on Sunday with three teams competing to decide the winner of the Grand Prix.

The Season 2 opening press conference (virtual) will feature the league's eight world-class helms, plus Sir Russell Coutts and take place at 09.30 am local (13:30PM BST) on Friday, April 23. It can be accessed via sign-up through the SailGP Media Hub ([mediahub.sailgp.com](https://mediahub.sailgp.com)).

The Great Britain SailGP Team features Ben Ainslie on helm and includes a vast amount of sailing experience including Olympic Gold medallists Iain 'Goobs' Jensen and Matt Gotrel, as well as Luke Parkinson, Neil Hunter and Rich Mason who were all part of Great Britain's challenge for the 36<sup>th</sup> America's Cup. The team has been putting their F50 to the test this week in Bermuda in preparation for the action.

In Bermuda the team has also been joined by Olympic Gold medallist Hannah Mills, the first triallist in the team's female development programme. For more on Mills and the programme [click here](#).



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The Great Britain SailGP Team F50 catamaran flying above the waters of the Bermuda Sound

"It's been great to be back in Bermuda", said Ben Ainslie. "It's such an iconic venue for us in the sailing world. To be back out on the Great Sound in these F50s, getting ready for SailGP has been brilliant. To have eight of these F50s racing around such a tight track with the best sailors in the world, it is what sailing has been crying out for. We are really pumped for the event ahead.

"Our team brings quite a lot of experience in these foiling boats. We've raced in one SailGP event, back in Sydney in early 2020, which was a really good event for us and we took the win. We know we can perform well.

The second season of SailGP features an all-star sailing line-up including the likes of Jimmy Spithill (USA SailGP Team), Pete Burling and Blair Tuke (NZ SailGP

Team), Nathan Outteridge and Francesco Bruni (JPN Sail GP Team) and Tom Slingsby (AUS SailGP Team). Commenting on the competition, Ben Ainslie added:

“This could be the toughest line-up we have ever seen in sailing. That’s why we are all so excited to see how this race is going to play out. It’s going to be some of the most exciting racing people have ever seen so tune-in, get involved and enjoy the action.”



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The Great Britain SailGP Team has been pushing their F50 to the edge in training

Original plans for the SailGP media center and photo boats for accredited press have been replaced with this comprehensive digital hub as a way to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. At the SailGP Media Hub access will be given to live streams of the races, ability to participate in online press conferences, access to SailGP’s virtual mixed zone – with the world-class athletes post-racing – plus access to key race information and media releases.

### **Media Program //**

- **April 22** // SailGP Media Hub goes live\*
- **April 23** // SailGP Season 2 opening virtual press conference at 9:30am (Bermuda) followed by Race Day 1. 2 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.
- **April 24** // Race Day 1 broadcast. No on-water activity due to weather
- **April 25** // 2 p.m.- 3:30 p.m. Race Day 2. Mixed Zone for virtual interviews after racing

## **Media Hub Info //**

Register now! Access to the SailGP Media Hub is simple - just create your login at [mediahub.sailgp.com](https://mediahub.sailgp.com).

## **VNR Access //**

To access and download all SailGP VNR content, please register for an account on the AP Video Hub;

1. To register visit: <https://apvideohub.ap.org/login>
2. Enter the following details at login:

Username: RegisterSailGP

Password: F50Catamaran

1. Follow the instructions to create an account.
2. Any registration issues please contact Rebecca Hart at SNTV - [rhart@sntv.com](mailto:rhart@sntv.com) / +44 796 551193

## **Imagery //**

Rights free imagery for editorial use is available at: [images.sailgp.com](https://images.sailgp.com)

## **How To Watch //**

Race coverage is available in the UK on Sky Sports and YouTube.

- Race Day 1: 24th April, 18:00 BST
- Race Day 2: 25th April, 18:00 BST

For more broadcast details visit: <https://sailgp.com/watch/>

*\*Please note that this is the first phase launch of the SailGP Media Hub so any feedback is welcome for further events to continue to develop the portal. The full portal will be online for the Taranto event.*



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Ben Ainslie, Hannah Mills and Iain Jensen onboard the team's F50 in training ahead of the first racing in SailGP Season 2

## ENDS

ABOUT SAILGP // SailGP races for a better future, championing a world powered by nature. The sport's pinnacle league, SailGP features national teams battling in short, intense races at iconic stadium-style venues across the globe, building to the grand final – and sailing's top prize of US\$1 million. The high-tech, high-speed action features sailing's best athletes racing in identical supercharged F50 catamarans, flying at electrifying speeds exceeding 60 mph/100 kph. Visit [SailGP.com](http://SailGP.com) for more information.

## CONTACT //

Dan Wilkinson, Communications Manager | Great Britain SailGP team | [dwilkinson@sailgp-gbr.com](mailto:dwilkinson@sailgp-gbr.com) | UK: +44 7786 223444

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