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Sports-Yacht (Regatta)

BMW ROYAL LANGKAWI INTERNATIONAL REGATTA 2004 SET TO BE MORE
EXCITING

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 24 (Bernama) -- About 70 boats from Switzerland, England, Australia, Brazil and the United States will be taking part in the BMW Royal Langkawi International Regatta 2004 (BMW RLIR 2004) in Langkawi from March 1 to 6.

Race committee chairman Franz Robert Forrester said in a statement today that this year's regatta promised to be an exciting affair due to the overwhelming response, especially from the seasoned sailors and cruising yachtsmen compared to last year.

He said with the race only days away, preparations for the Regatta were in full swing and the race committee was going all out to ensure its success.

"This year the courses are designed to be a little different, more challenging, a bit more fun and, in particular, more suitable to the different types of yachts competing," he said.

He added the winds had also been good for all the regattas and this promised yet another spectacular event.

The event, set in four gruelling races over a period of four days, will test the experienced yachtsmen competing for the Prime Minister's Challenge Trophy, while the club-registered cruisers will compete for the Royal Langkawi Yacht Club Commodore's Cup.

There is also the Sports Racing Trophy for the light sport boats, measuring seven to nine metres in length, as well as the Langkawi Multihull Cup for the multi-hulls which range anywhere between nine and 18 metres in length.

Local teams like YO!, Gotcha Lagi and the all-women's team, Dewi Bayu crew, are all set to make their mark at the regatta again.

BMW as the title sponsor will mark its first foray into the Malaysian arena of sports sponsorship.

This year's prize presentation and closing ceremony on March 6 will be witnessed by former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is also the Patron of the Royal Langkawi Yacht Club.

-- BERNAMA

MRR AHH SRI