

Conch Republic Cup

January 26nd – February 3rd, 2018

Conch Republic Cup, Organizing Authority
Supported by Key West Community Sailing Center and
Hemingway International Yacht Club
Key West FL, Varadero & Havana Cuba

NOTICE OF RACE

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 No national authority prescriptions will apply.
- 1.3 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2 ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.
- 2.2 Advertising is permitted, unless class rules do not permit, in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20. Boats that intend to display advertising shall so indicate on their entry form. Competitors are requested to respect the brand exclusivity of the official sponsors of this event. Their participation enhances the event for all competitors.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 The regatta is open to all ocean capable boats with a length overall of at least 26ft for monohulls and 24ft for multihulls. The organizing authorities recommend that all participating vessels comply with ISAF OFFSHORE SPECIAL REGULATIONS category 3.
- 3.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing registration and paying fees on www.yachtscoring.com Fees Due at time of registration.
- 3.3 Captain and crew are required to include Passport information, Date of Birth, Emergency Contact information and sign a liability release & waiver on www.yachtscoring.com when registering.
- 3.4 Each boat owner is also required to fill out form CG3300 and return to us by December 31, 2017. <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg531/CG3300.pdf>
Any late forms or changes to the form after that time may result in the inability to race due to permit not being received back from the Coast Guard in time.

Please list all crew members that MAY ATTEND the event. You may remove potential crew until race day, additions require an entirely new form to be processed by the USCG and will delay your ability to participate.

- 3.5 CG 3300 Form may be mailed or scanned and emailed to the following:
CRC C/O Karen Angle
1107 Key Plaza #327
Key West, FL 33040
karen@conchrepubliccup.org
- 3.6 Applicants who send CG3300 in on time shall be entitled to a full refund in the event we do not secure CG3300 Permit.
- 3.7 It is also required by US Customs that all vessels over 30ft apply and pay for a single crossing decal that allows vessels to cross into US territory by water at:
https://dtops.cbp.dhs.gov/main/login_internet.jsp;jsessionid=LjKyWW8KBXRwZpdvHmY0VHwKRzf2nmSLwWZd8qpnJv1ZWGbxxlrh!-498402288
- 3.8 All Vessels are required to fill out the US Customs Form I-418 before returning to the US. <http://www.ilw.com/forms/I-418.pdf>. It will be required upon return to the US during check in at US Customs. Participants listed on this form must match the CG3300 approved permit.
- 3.9 All vessels are required to fill out the Declaracion General De Embarcaciones/General Statement of Foreign Vessels prior to arrival in Cuba.
- 3.10 CRC participants will need current passport with at least 6 months remaining until expiration from the time they intend to leave Cuba. Passport should have at least 2 blank pages.
- 3.11 For detailed instructions on filling out the required forms and links to the forms, please go to www.conchrepubliccup.org/participants/
- 3.12 Due to the process being new not all variations of registration can be guaranteed for acceptance specifically Cuban born individuals. This is due to Cuban Government restrictions on travel by Cuban Americans by boat. We will continue to work on this issue and notify racers if the rules change.
- 3.13 Conch Republic Cup is not requiring vessel insurance to participate in the race week. Conch Republic Cup is also not accepting any liability for any participant or their equipment. All participants will be signing a release of liability waiver prior to racing.
- 3.14 The number of boats eligible to enter may be restricted so register early.

4 FEES

- 4.1 The Entry Fees are as follows and due at time of registration:
Regular Registration Fees– Received before December 31, 2017: \$1000 per boat plus \$200 per person.
- 4.2 Late Registration – After December 31, 2017 Add \$500. If registering late you risk not receiving Coast Guard permission in time to leave.

- 4.3 An Administrative Fee of \$250 will be applied to all cancelations regardless of when cancelation is made.
- 4.4 No refunds will be issued after December 31, 2017.
- 4.5 Registration fees include entry to all 4 parties for all persons registered and paid. It also includes **one** Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba Membership per boat.
- 4.6 Registration fees do not include dockage, lodging, or visas.
- 4.7 For dockage reservations see section 12 Berthing.

5 PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Jan. 26: 10am-4pm Registration and Race Village Open (location TBD)
4pm Skipper's Meeting (location TBD)
4:30-6:30 Welcome Party (location TBD)

Jan. 27: 5 pm – Start Race from Key West to Varadero

Jan. 28: Arrive in Marina Gaviota, Varadero
6pm Skippers' Meeting Marina Gaviota
7pm Cocktail Reception at Marina Gaviota

Jan. 29: 5pm Start Race from Varadero to Havana

Jan. 30: Arrive at Hemingway International Yacht Club (HIYC)
6pm Skippers' Meeting at HIYC
7pm Welcome Party at HIYC

Jan. 31 & Feb1: Lay Days

Feb 2: 12pm Castillo Del Morro Buoy Race
4pm Start Race from Havana to Key West

Feb 3: Arrive in Key West
7pm Awards Party and Dinner (location TBD)

6 MEASUREMENTS

Each boat shall produce a valid Southeast Florida PHRF certificate. SEF PHRF will not issue a certificate after 3 weeks prior to an event.
<http://phrfsef.com/>

7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available on or before Jan 1, 2018, at the CRC website and on Yacht Scoring.

8 VENUE

- 8.1 Key West to Varadero race will start to the West of the main ship channel and South of Tank Island, See Appendix B.
- 8.2 Start of the Varadero to Havana race will be North of the Canal de Buba, See Appendix C.
- 8.3 The Castillo del Morro Buoy Race will be held North of Malecon and Havana Harbor Entrance, See Appendix D.
- 8.4 Havana to Key West Race will start from a point North of the Malecon after the Buoy race is finished. See Appendix E.

9 THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be as follows:

Distance Race 1: Key West to Varadero, Cuba.

Distance Race 2: Varadero, Cuba, to Havana, Cuba.

Buoy race in Havana: Buoy Race of 2-4 miles around a combination of fixed marks and/or dropped marks.

Distance Race 3: Havana to Key West.

10 SCORING

- 10.1 The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply.
- 10.2 Each boat's series score shall be the total of her 4 race scores. This changes RRS A2.

11 REQUIRED EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY INSPECTION

- 11.1 All US Coast Guard safety equipment shall be required, and each boat shall be subject to inspection. Current pre-inspection certificates and stickers will be accepted and are encouraged. It is further recommended that each skipper review World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations for Category 3 races and prepare his boat with safety measures appropriate for offshore sailing. A link to these regulations is: <http://www.sailing.org/specialregs>
- 11.2 All boats are required to have either a SPOT or Delorme In Reach and provide the URL information to organizing authority so it can be tracked on Kattack. This shall be the responsibility of the skipper.

12 BERTHING

- 12.1 Key West – Skipper is responsible to make their own reservations with any of the marinas in the Key West or Stock Island. For more info go to: <http://conchrepubliccup.org/accommodations-dockage-keywest-cuba/>
- 12.2 CUBA – Organizing authority is responsible to make all reservations at both the marinas used: Marina Gaviota in Varadero and in Marina Hemmingway in Havana. Cost of Dockage is responsibility of skipper.

13 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keelboats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

14 RADIO COMMUNICATION

During the entire event, the race committee shall use International VHF channel 68 for communicating with the competitors. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

15 PRIZES

15.1 Trophies will be given to the top three finishers in each division for each race.

15.2 The Conch Republic Cup Trophy will be presented for the best score overall for all 4 races.

16 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

17 INSURANCE

Conch Republic Cup is not requiring vessel insurance to participate in the race week. Conch Republic Cup is also not accepting any liability for any participant or their equipment. All participants will be signing a release of liability waiver prior to racing.

18 CLEAN REGATTA

We are proud to announce that we have joined the race to restore ocean health with Sailors for the Sea's Clean Regattas program. Protecting our local waters is very important to this regatta and we ask for your help in this effort. The ocean, lakes and rivers of our planet are in crisis with plastic pollution, oil spills, and marine debris threatening marine wildlife and human health. To learn more about this initiative visit www.sailorsforthesea.org

We ask for your help on the following items:

- Ensuring recycling and trash is separated properly before disposing of waste
- Switch your team over to reusable water bottles

- Place an oil absorbent pad in your bilge
- Ensure that your head is secured and observe the no discharge rule

19 TELEVISION AND PHOTOGRAPHER'S RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission for any photographs or video footage taken of themselves or their competing boat to be published in any media whatsoever; for either editorial or advertising purposes, or to be used in press information.

20 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact karen@conchrepubliccup.org .