



Newsletter

October 5, 2009

As a result of our September Newsletter we received a great number of comments and suggestions about our plans. One subject was that the Event Schedule was a bit too long for many interested in participating and because of these comments we have shortened the overall time. The current [Schedule of Events](#) for the Regatta may be reviewed on the website.

We have received confirmation that our revised OFAC application has been received by the US Department of the Treasury. A copy of the [Cover Letter](#) is available on the website. We have also had detailed discussions with the Department of Commerce relative to the Temporary Export Licenses which each vessel will need to acquire prior to departing for Cuba. The process is a bit cumbersome, and we are working to see if this can be streamlined to make things a bit easier for our race participants.

There are indications that [HR874 – Freedom to Travel to Cuba Act](#) is progressing through congress. The SYC Charitable Foundation does not engage in political activities of any kind and does not take a position whether the embargo with Cuba should be lifted. Timely passage of the bill might eliminate the need to acquire the many licenses required to conduct the Regatta.

A number of [News Articles](#) are being written about the Regatta and may be viewed via the website.

Save the Dates!

- The annual fundraising gala for the [Sarasota Youth Sailing Program “Celebration of Sailing”](#) will be held at the Sarasota Yacht Club on February 20, 2010. This year the theme is [“A Night in Cuba”](#) with guest speakers who will share important insights on our destination! Tickets are limited so sign up early!!
- In conjunction with the SYC Sarasota-Havana Regatta the Sarasota Yacht Club is planning to conduct a [“US SAILING Sanctioned Safety at Sea Seminar”](#) on March 27, 2010. Additional details will be available on our website in the next week.

Details of Entering the Regatta:

While we cannot, at this time, guarantee that we will receive all the necessary approvals to conduct the regatta, every effort is being made to do so and we appreciate your interest and support!

Following is detailed information about entering the Regatta. We have limited the number of boats that can participate to 100! As of today we have 57 Sailboats who have completed the Entry Form for the

regatta. The current list of the [Race Entrants](#) may be viewed on the website. This section is under development so check back regularly to see the enhancements!

Race Entry Fee:

The Race Entry Fee has been set at \$1,000 and includes the following:

- SYC Sarasota-Havana Regatta
- Regatta Castillo del Morro
- 4 tickets to the Skippers Meeting on May 14, 2010
- 4 Tickets to the Crew Dinner on May 15, 2010
- 4 Regatta Shirts, Hats and Crew Bag
- 4 Entry Tickets to all other Regatta Events

Additional Crew Tickets can be purchased for \$150 each

Sailboat Race Entry Form:

This form is to enter your Sailboat in the Regatta. A \$100 non-refundable tax deductible donation is required to reserve your space in the SYC Sarasota-Havana Regatta. The first 100 Sailboats to register will be guaranteed entry. We will accept applications above 100 and assign them to the waiting list. Sailboats must meet the requirements of the Final Notice of Race to be included in the Regatta. The balance of the entry fee will be payable upon receiving approval from the US Government to conduct the regatta.

- Note: Each Crew Member and the Owner/Captain must complete the Crew Signup Form – see details below.

Crew Entry Form:

Once the OFAC Application is approved we will need a complete and final list of all crew members. This form must be completed for EACH Crew Member that will be aboard either a race entrant or a support vessel. *Do not complete this form unless you have been invited to be part of the Crew by the Boat Owner!* All fields are mandatory so be sure you have all required information before submitting the form. You may need to acquire some information from the Owner/Captain. This will become the Roster of Regatta participants to be submitted for approval to the US Government regulatory authorities.

Power Boat Support Vessel Application:

Use this form to APPLY to be one of the Support Vessels for the Regatta. A \$100 non refundable donation is required with your application. The final selection of Support Vessels will be made by the Race Committee based on the requirements of the race. Please consider the following before you apply!

- Race Safety, Communication and Committee Boats
 - Such vessels must be capable of sailing with the race boats 250+ miles non-stop to Cuba in rough weather
 - Able and willing to take a boat in tow if needed
 - Able to stand offshore for the race finish line – perhaps up to 18 hours.
- Provision and Contribution Delivery Vessels – these boats could depart from Key West
 - Able to securely transport two or more Optimist sailboats and related equipment
 - Serve as “Hotel Boats” – many of the sailboats may have more crew than accommodations
 - Carry Provisions

- If we are to be there for 5 days with 500 people and not spend any money we will need to carry about \$44,000 worth of Food, Water and other beverages! This is going to take significant freezer capacity and storage room!
- Note: Each Crew Member and the Owner/Captain must complete the Crew Signup Form – see details below.

[I want to crew on a Sailboat or Support Vessel.](#)

The race committee has provided a Discussion Board on the website for all those who would like to post their credentials and contact information in hopes of being selected to crew aboard one of the Regatta Vessels. The selection is the sole responsibility of the boat captain. A tax deductible donation of \$25 is suggested.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you feel may wish to [Join our Mailing List!](#)

On behalf of the SYC Sarasota-Havana Race Committee and the Sarasota Yacht Club we appreciate your interest and support!

Fair Winds and Following Seas!

Don Payzant
Fleet Captain
Sarasota Yacht Club

