



September 1, 2009

We have made significant progress in the planning for the SYC Sarasota-Havana Regatta this past month. There are a number of licenses and permits that will be required in order for us to conduct the Regatta. Dr. Timothy Ashby of Sonnenschien Nath and Rosenthal, LLP is helping to guide us through this process, and we are on target with all necessary filings. Detailed information about current travel restrictions to Cuba may be found on the Helpful Links and News section of the website. The Regatta Committee will be assisting each Yacht Owner and Crew Member with the necessary applications required in due course.

Proceeds from the Sarasota-Havana Regatta will benefit the Hemingway International Yacht Club Youth Sailing Program and the Sarasota Youth Sailing Program. The funds will be used to purchase equipment and to fund educational programs that enable and encourage young Cuban and American sailors to experience the joy of sailing, as well as learn the essential elements of boat handling, seamanship, water safety skills, and racing, in a wholesome safe environment.

A Special Message from Commodore Jose' Miguel Diaz Escrich of the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba:

"It is a pleasure to greet all those interested people in participating in the Sarasota-Havana Regatta on behalf of the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba and express that we feel very proud and honoured to warmly welcome you in our country and assure you an unforgettable stay in Havana.

I avail myself of this opportunity, given by the SYC Sarasota-Havana Regatta Newsletter, to invite you to participate in the Castillo del Morro Regatta, an event that will allow the people from Havana to appreciate the fraternal friendship that unite the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba and the sailing community of the United States of America since it will take place hundreds of meters from the coast and malecón in Havana.

We will be the best host in the world."

Commodore Jose' Miguel Diaz Escrich

I am pleased to announce that Mr. Tom Duggan of Sandwich, MA has joined the Sarasota – Havana Regatta as Principal Race Officer. Tom is an International Race Officer, International Umpire, US National Race Officer and Senior Judge. He is a member of US Sailing's Race Management Committee. He has been an event chair, a race officer, an umpire and competitor in many national and world

championships, even winning one world championship. He has served as a race officer for the US and China Olympics. We welcome him aboard!

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 “Havana Nights” with guest speakers who will share important insights on our destination! Complete details will be available on our website in the near future.
- 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.

I am pleased to announce that we are beginning the official sign up for the Sarasota-Havana Regatta as outlined below!

The Preliminary [Schedule of Events](#) for the Regatta as been updated and expanded and may be reviewed on the website.

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:

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 then 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.

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

