

Notice of Race
Key West Conch Quest
Key West Rendezvous Regatta 2009

May 11th – May 18th, 2009

**A Boat of the Year Event for Sarasota Bay, Sun Coast, Charlotte Harbor and
Southwest Florida**

**Hosted by Clearwater Yacht Club, Gulf Coast Sailing Club, Naples Yacht Club,
Naples Sailing and Yacht Club, Platinum Point Yacht Club, Punta Gorda Sailing Club
and Sarasota Yacht Club.**

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The organizing authority is the Clearwater Yacht Club (CYC).
- 1.3 WFPHRF Class Rules may be found at www.westfloridaphrf.org
- 1.4 WFPHRF Class Rules - Appendix F 3.0-f-i - Which currently reads "Jibs - maximum of 2" is changed to "**Jibs - maximum of 3**"

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 Open to any single-hulled, self-righting, enclosed cabin sailing boat that holds a current, valid WFPHRF rating with a maximum rating of 285, and to all offshore multi-hull yachts that have a current, valid WFPHRF rating. All boats must meet the WFPHRF Category One (1) Safety, Crew and Equipment Requirements.
- 2.2 All boats shall have a minimum overall length of 24 feet.
- 2.3 Owner and/or skipper shall be a member of a yacht club, sailing club or sailing association affiliated with the US Sailing Association. The term "skipper" means the person, whether or not the owner of the boat, who is designated on the entry form as "skipper", who is in charge of the boat and will be responsible for its handling and safety, the conduct of its crew while ashore as a guest of any host yacht club, sailing association, sailing club or any participating commercial facilities, and shall be responsible for compliance with the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.
- 2.4 All boats shall carry a workable VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting on channels 16 and 72, and receiving weather broadcasts.
- 2.5 The minimum crew, including the skipper, shall be four (4) persons for the Clearwater and the Sarasota starts, and three (3) for the Boca Grande, and Naples starts. Minimum crew for Key West to Naples is three (3) persons.
- 2.6 True Cruiser and Racer/Cruiser entrants intending to use a spinnaker or a "cruising spinnaker" under the provisions of the WFPHRF Class Rules shall notify the race committee in writing of their intention before the applicable Skippers Meeting. If notice is not given, the default for Racer/Cruisers will be spinnaker and for Cruising class will be non-spinnaker. Cruising boats electing to use a spinnaker will have their OWC rating adjusted by the non-spinnaker offset. Racer/Cruisers will have their OWC rating adjusted in accordance with their WFPHRF Class Rules.

3. ENTRIES AND FEES

3.1 Entries shall be made online (preferred), or by printing and completing the Official Entry Form, accompanied by an exact copy of the boat's current, valid WFPHRF Rating Certificate along with proof of current US Sailing membership if applicable.

3.2 The entry fee for Clearwater, Sarasota, Boca Grande or Naples to Key West is three hundred dollars (\$300.00) if postmarked by April fifteenth, three hundred and fifty dollars (\$350.00) if postmarked by April 30th, or four hundred dollars (\$400.00) if paid before the applicable Skippers meeting. Entries for the Key West to Naples Race may be made until the start of the Skippers meeting in Key West. No entries will be accepted after the Skippers meeting for the event to be entered. U.S. Sailing members may deduct ten dollars (\$10.00) if proof of current membership accompanies the application. The entry fee for the Key West to Naples Race is forty-five dollars (\$45). Please send entry form, check payable to "**Yachting Committee**", copies of US Sailing membership card and current WFPHRF rating certificate to Hoyt Nichols, Registrar, 14880 Shipwatch Trace, # 1913 Largo, FL 33774. **Entry fees are non-refundable.**

3.3 For rating information, contact West Florida PHRF, Phone (727) 462-0450 or

administrator@westfloridaphrf.org

4. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND NOTICE OF RACE

4.1 The applicable Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race will be available at the Skippers Meetings in Sarasota, Clearwater, Burnt Store, Naples, and Key West. Preliminary Sailing Instructions will be posted at www.clwyc.org as a courtesy; however, the official instructions are the printed copies available at the Skippers Meeting.

5. REGISTRATION, CREW LIST AND SKIPPERS MEETING

5.1 A representative of a boat WHOSE ENTRY HAS BEEN ACCEPTED for Boca Grande to Key West will register at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, 2001 Shreve St., Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950 between 1900 and 1930 on Monday, May 11th. The Clearwater to Key West registration will be between 1800 and 2000 on Tuesday, May 12th at Clearwater Yacht Club, 830 South Bayway Blvd., Clearwater, FL 33767, phone (727) 447-6000. Between 1800 and 2000, participants in the Sarasota to Key West competition will register at the Sarasota Yacht Club, 1100 John Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota, FL 34236, phone (941) 365-4191 on Tuesday, May 12th between 1800 and 2000. Entrants in the Naples to Key West Race will register between 1800 and 1900 at the Key West kickoff party on Tuesday, May 12th at the Naples Boat Club, 909 10th Street South, Naples, Florida, 34102, phone (239) 253-6288. **KEY WEST TO NAPLES ENTRANTS SHALL REGISTER AT THE MANDATORY SKIPPERS MEETING** to be held near the start/finish line at the Galleon Resort and Marina, 617 Front Street, Key West, FL, phone (305) 296-7711, at 1030 on Sunday, May 17th.

5.2 The Skippers Meeting for the Boca Grande to Key West Race will be at 1930 on Monday, May 11th at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association. The Clearwater to Key West Skippers Meeting will be held at Clearwater Yacht Club at 1900 on Tuesday, May 12th, and the Sarasota Bay Skippers Meeting will occur at the Sarasota Yacht Club at 1900 on Tuesday, May 12th. The Naples to Key West Skippers meeting takes place at 1830 on Tuesday, May 12th at the Naples Boat Club. The **MANDATORY SKIPPERS MEETING FOR THE KEY WEST TO NAPLES** race will be held near the start/finish line at the Galleon Resort and Marina at 1030 on Sunday, May 17th.

5.3 An accurate and complete crew list shall be provided prior to each Skippers meeting.

6. CLASSES AND DIVISIONS

6.1 Minimum of one boat to make a class.

6.2 Classes are: WFPHRF Spinnaker, WFPHRF Non-Spinnaker, WFPHRF True Cruising WFPHRF Racer/Cruiser and WFPHRF Multihull as defined in the WFPHRF Class Rules. Further division of classes may be dictated by the number of entries received.

6.3 Divisions will be assigned based on a combination of rating, displacement and sailing characteristics of each boat. An attempt will be made to follow boat of the year divisions.

7. START

7.1 The first Warning signal will be on Wednesday, May 13^h at 0955 in Clearwater, Wednesday, May 13th at 1655 in Boca Grande, 1255 on Wednesday, May 13th in Sarasota, and on Wednesday, May 13th at 1855 in Naples. The first warning for the Key West to Naples Race will be at 1125 on Sunday, May 17th.

8. COURSES

8.1 CLEARWATER TO KEY WEST From the vicinity of the Clearwater Pass Green Flasher "1" (Clearwater Pass Green Flasher "1" is not a mark of the course), leave John's Pass and Pass-a-Grille sea buoys to port. Leave Egmont Channel FL G 6 sec "11" and R"12" FL R 6 sec Bell to port. Leave all additional Florida West Coast sea buoys including Smith Shoal Light to port, thence to Key West Northwest Channel sea buoy G "1" FL G 2.5 sec Bell leaving it to port; then along the Northwest Channel to the finish line in the vicinity of the Key West Bight Channel as more fully described in the sailing instructions. Rated course distance is 216 nautical miles.

8.2 The Sarasota to Key West Race shall begin West of the mouth of Big Pass in the vicinity of 27 15.728N, 82 34.663W. Leave all coastal government marks including Smith Shoal Light to port, thence to Key West Northwest Channel sea buoy "1" FI G 2.5 sec bell, leaving it to port, then along the Northwest Channel to the finish line in the vicinity of the Key West Bight Channel as more fully described in the sailing instructions. Rated course distance is 169 nautical miles.

8.3 The Boca Grande to Key West Race will begin in the vicinity of Boca Grande R "2" FI R 6 sec Bell. Leave all coastal government marks to port (except Smith Shoal Light which is not a mark of the Boca Grande course) to Key West Northwest Channel sea buoy "1" FI G 2.5 sec bell, leaving it to port, then along the Northwest Channel to the finish line in the vicinity of the Key West Bight Channel as more fully described in the sailing instructions. Rated distance is 132 nautical miles.

8.4 The Naples to Key West Race will begin in the vicinity of “1” Fl G 2.5 sec bell at Gordon Pass. Leave all coastal government marks to port including Smith Shoal Light to Key West Northwest Channel sea buoy “1” Fl G 2.5 sec bell, leaving it to port, then along the Northwest Channel to the finish line in the vicinity of the Key West Bight Channel as more fully described in the sailing instructions. Rated course distance is 95 nautical miles.

8.5 The Key West to Naples Race will follow the reciprocal of the Naples to Key West race course except that Smith Shoal Light is not a mark of the course and the finish will be between the Naples Pier and a nearby orange mark. The Gordon Pass Bell will be left to starboard. Rated distance is 97 nautical miles.

9. ADVERTISING

9.1 This regatta is designated Category “C”.

10. SCORING

10.1 Corrected times will be calculated using time on distance based on the boat’s WFPHRF “OWC” rating.

11. TIME LIMITS

11.1 Boats still racing after the following times shall be scored Did Not Finish:

Naples to Key West - 0600 on Saturday, May 16th.

Boca Grande to Key West – 1800 on Saturday, May 16th.

Sarasota to Key West – 1800 on Saturday, May 16th

Clearwater to Key West - 1800 on Saturday, May 16th.

Key West to Naples - 1900 on Monday, May 18th.

12. PRIZES

12.1 Trophies will be awarded based on the number of entries in each division as follows: three entries, one trophy; four entries, two trophies; five or more entries, three trophies. Specialty prizes may also be given.

13. DOCKAGE

13.1 Clearwater: Free rafting will be available beginning on Sunday, May 10th. Please contact the CYC Dockmaster, Jim St. Pierre, at (727) 447-6000 or VHF channel 16. Additional dockage is available at Clearwater Municipal Marina, (727) 462-6954.

13.2 Naples: Dockage is available at Naples Yacht Club. Contact Jason Richards at (239) 253-6288.

13.3 Recommended dockage at Punta Gorda is at Burnt Store Marina. For information, contact Bob Anderson, 941 505-8933.

13.4 Sarasota Yacht Club and Bird Key Yacht Club have dockage for boats starting in Sarasota. Contact Cindy Clifton, (941) 365-5694.

13.5 Key West: Early reservations are recommended. The Galleon Marina (800) 662-7462 has reserved a large block of slips on a first come first served basis. You must mention the Clearwater to Key West Regatta to the Dockmaster in order to make a reservation. Other arrangements may be made with Conch Harbor Marina (305) 294-2933; A & B Marina (800) 223-8352; Key West Bight Marina (305) 296-3838; Key West Yacht Club (305) 296-3446; and Key West Hilton Resort and Marina (305) 294-4000.

14. OTHER INFORMATION

14.1 Competitors compete in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority, host clubs, sponsors, their associates and appointees 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.

14.2 Clearwater Yacht Club has limited parking facilities and unfortunately must restrict parking in its parking lot to Clearwater Yacht Club Members.

14.3 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM: Nat W. Lea / Kim L. Roberts, Regatta Chairpersons, nwlea@tampabay.rr.com / krober@tampabay.rr.com (727) 432-5125/(727)510-6078; Jason Richards, Gulf Coast Sailing Club, Naples absoluteaudioinc@comcast.net (239) 253-6288; Lodge McKee, Naples Yacht Club lodge@premiermail.net (239) 434-2424; Cindy Clifton, Sarasota Yacht Club (941) 365-5694 cindy.swan@verizon.net ; Bob Anderson, Punta Gorda Sailing Club, (941) 505-8933 jrnyonpg@comcast.net .