

# The ScuttleButt



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS THE PRINT

EARLY EDITION

FEBRUARY 28, 2023

## Welcome Competitors

The Tampa Sailing Squadron is pleased to host the 2023 Midwinter Championship Invitational on March 10 – 12 in the beautiful Tampa Bay and welcomes all racers, guests and volunteers. The Mutineer15's, Buccaneer18's, Daysailers and Windmills are well represented with 30 boats registered for the regatta. Ten Daysailers are registered. The Windmills Mutineer15's each have 7 boats on the bay. Five skippers will compete in the Buccaneer18 class.

The organizers have put together a practice race on Friday afternoon, and two days of racing on Saturday and Sunday. As an added bonus, competitors can attend US Sailing's Racing Rules of Sailing Seminar on Wednesday and Thursday evenings before the event followed by US Sailing's Race Management for RC and Sailors Seminar on Friday evening. You can register for these free seminars on the TSS website.

We are excited to have Jerry Thompson as our US Sailing course instructor and our Race Officer for the Regatta. In addition to the racing schedule, skippers and crew will enjoy a hot breakfast on Saturday and barbecues on Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon before the Awards Ceremony.

## Help Us Help You

Tampa Sailing Squadron volunteers are working hard to make this event special for you. Our car parking and dry mooring space is limited so we've put together a plan to maximize its use.

We've assigned a dry mooring space for each boat and trailer. Upon your arrival, please look for a volunteer in a blaze orange vest and speak to him about where to park your boat trailer and your car. If you do not see that person, please visit the official notice board and you will

find a diagram of the numbered dry mooring spaces and a list showing the space assigned to you. Please back your trailer into that space, unload your vehicle, and then move your car to a parking spot. If a parking spot is not available in the TSS compound, please park on the grassy area outside the front gate. No cars should be parked in the lane between the dry moored boats as we need this space to move the boats to and from the hoists or ramp.

## Launching and Retrieving Your Boat at TSS

The Tampa Sailing Squadron has a launch ramp, large crane and small boat hoist where you can launch your boat. The launch ramp will require the use of your tow vehicle to get your boat and trailer in and out of the water. Salt water is hard on the boat and the trailer. Be sure to rinse your boat and trailer thoroughly after every use. Hoses are available near the launch ramp.

Launching from the hoist is encouraged to avoid immersing the trailer in the salt water. You will need a bridle or straps to lift your boat. Hand dollies are available to bring your boat and trailer to and from your slip. Hoistmasters will be at the dock before and after each day's races to help you launch and retrieve your boat. They will also guide you on where to tie up your boat so all boats can be moored during setup and teardown. Our goal is to get all the boats in and out of the water safely and efficiently.

Each skipper will be given a tag to be placed on the front of the boat trailer tongue that identifies the slip where the trailer is stored. When you bring your boat to the hoist, the Hoistmasters will help you hoist your boat and will return your trailer to its assigned dry mooring slip. When you return from your day of racing and are ready for your boat to be retrieved,

announce your dry mooring slip number to the Hoistmasters and they will bring your trailer to the hoist for you.

Your help in getting your boat in and out of the water in a safe and efficient manner is appreciated.

## Thanks Volunteers!!

Tampa Sailing Squadron is an organization of volunteers, and many volunteers are needed to make a regatta successful. If you see a volunteer, please take the opportunity to thank them for their service.

## Keeping hydrated on the water

To race at your best you need to be at your best. Dehydration affects your mind and your muscles, slowing down your reaction time and impeding your coordination.

Be sure to take some refreshments with you. TSS has an ice machine and a water fountain on the front porch where you can fill your reusable water bottles. Bottles of water and Gatorade, as well as granola bars can be found on the breakfast table.

TSS will have coolers of cold water and Gatorade on the signal boat and each mark boat so racers can sail by between races and pick up a bottle or two of hydration.

Keep it Green! Keep it Clean! Please leave no trace behind and properly dispose of all your waste once ashore.

## Door Prizes

Door prizes will be raffled at the Sunday BBQ. Each skipper will get two tickets at registration – one for the skipper and one for the crew. Please bring them to the BBQ.

## 2023 Midwinter Championship Invitational SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday - March 10, 2023

1:30 p.m. – Warning signal for Practice Race(s). No race starts after 3:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. - On-site check-in, late registration.

### Saturday - March 11, 2023

8 a.m. – 9 a.m. - On-site check-in, late registration.

8 a.m. – 9 a.m. – Hot breakfast by Chef Nick Lavelle.

(Remember – you are responsible for your lunches on the water as the fleet will not be returning to the dock for lunch.)

9:00 a.m. – Competitors' meeting.

11 a.m. – Warning signal for first race. Additional races follow. No race will start after 4 p.m.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. - Happy Hour (BYOB. Keg provided by OA.)

6 p.m. – Dinner - a Cullenary experience presented by Chef Bill Cullen

### Sunday – March 12, 2023

9 a.m. - Warning signal for first race. Additional races follow. No race will start after 1 pm.

3 p.m. - Happy Hour, Barbeque presented by the TSS Grill Team, Door Prizes and Awards

Thanks for sailing with us and travel safely.