



Snake Bytes

Viper 640 Class News | March 1, 2016



Fast Sailing on Miami's Biscayne Bay - Photo: Dan Tucker

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WORDS FROM THE PREZ

Who's The Best Viper Team in The World???

In recent years, the Viper Class has crowned North American Champions, European Champions, EFG Pan-American Champions, Australian Champions, and Pacific, Atlantic, Great Lakes, and Gulf Coast Champions. Now, for the first time in the twenty-year history of The Viper Class, we are finally going to crown The Best Viper Team in THE WORLD!!!

When we decided as a Class, to hold our first International Championship regatta in Bermuda this coming November, I knew right away that this would be an incredibly important milestone for Vipers. This would be an absolute bucket list regatta for Viper sailors. Not only are we going to make lifetime memories of sailing in the beautiful Great Sound, in the shadow of the America's Cup, this is going to be the biggest and best Viper Party ever seen! Many years from now, when your grandchildren ask you to tell the story of why they had to change the name of Bermuda to BEERMUDA, you will be able to say, "I know why...I was there..."

Sail fast,

Dr. Jim Sears
President,
Viper 640 Class Association

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FIRST VIPER 640 INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



If



**Viper 640 International Championship
& North American Championship**
November 16-19, 2016
Hamilton, Bermuda

If you missed the announcement last week, the Viper 640 Class Association has announced it will hold its first International Championship in November 2016, to coincide with the Viper North Americans being hosted in Hamilton, Bermuda, by the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club and the Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club and sailed on the same waters where the America's Cup will be run next year.

This is a BIG DEAL for the Class as it reflects the continued global growth of Viper racing. To read all about the International Championship, click [HERE](#).

A little backstory: Only certified World Sailing (ISAF) classes are entitled to hold "world championship" regattas. In conversations with World Sailing and reflecting the presence of Viper fleets in three continents and many countries, World Sailing has given the Class permission to title this an International Championship. Call it what you want...it's still a pretty big deal!

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EFG WINTER CUP - March 6-7

The 2016 EFG Winter Cup is about a week away and the troops are starting to set their courses towards the US Sailing Center Miami. There are 15 boats currently registered to race and there are a few more yet to sign up.

This is the final qualifying regatta for the Pan-Ams and a great warm-up for Bacardi. Entry fee is only \$50 if you register before Feb. 29, and you're guaranteed to have some great racing on beautiful Biscayne Bay.



You can get all the background information and register online [HERE](#).



Coral Gables skyline behind happy...and warm...Viper sailors.

BUT WAIT...THERE'S MORE!!!!

Yes...it's the Miami Scorch 2016 edition. On Tuesday, March 8, the Miami Viper fleet will race/sail/laugh from the mouth of the Coconut Grove seaplane channel to the bottom of Key Biscayne for a great/lavish/fun/and liquid-filled Cuban lunch at the Boater's Grille. If you're anywhere in the southeast...and even if you're not...you'll want to join the Viper Miami Scorch. Easy to do just that, and if you haven't registered yet, click [HERE](#).

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EFG VIPER PAN-AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP - Part of Bacardi Miami Sailing Week sponsored by EFG - March 11-13

EFG 
Viper Pan-Americans

28 Vipers are set to race on beautiful Biscayne Bay for the EFG Pan-Am champs. The Vipers again will be sailing out Coral Reef Yacht Club (with

arguably the best outside bar in all of yachting and their piña colodas are to die for) with a CRYC race committee managing the sailing. The Pan-Am Championship is the culmination of a year of qualifying events, and Bacardi Miami Race Week is definitely one of THE BEST destination regattas for the Viper Class. There are boats registered from the U.S., Canada, the UK, Australia, and Ireland, and with more and more boats finding their way to the Gulf Yachting Association, this number will climb.

Take a preview look at the BMSW program [HERE](#).
Regatta website [HERE](#)
Regatta documents and online registration [HERE](#)



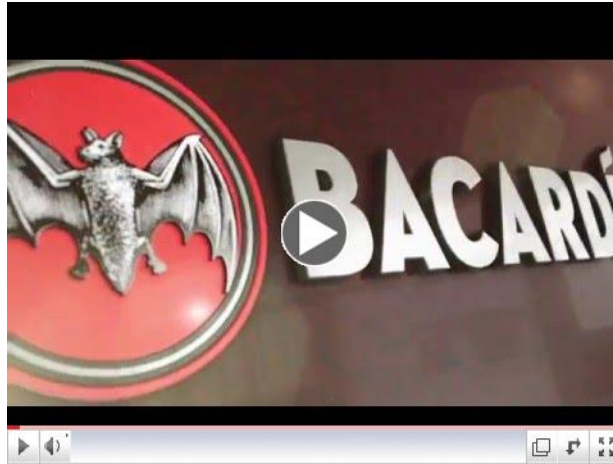


MARCH 6-12, 2016

MIAMI SAILING WEEK



Click here for a taste of the Cuban Storm coming to Bacardi Miami Sailing Week.



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SAILING WORLD'S HELLY HANSEN NOOD REGATTA IN SAN DIEGO - March 18-20

Class Secretary **Brad Milligan** is running this event on behalf of the Viper 640s. The NOOD regattas have a reputation of being well run, fun regattas in which to sail. More information, including registration and NoR. [HERE](#).



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2016 VIPER 640 ATLANTIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIP

Sperry Charleston Race Week - Time to register!
2016 Viper 640 Atlantic Coast Championship
April 14-17, 2016
Charleston Harbor Marina

OK Viperdom, it's time to get off our couches and plan to get together again for Charleston Race Week 2016. Entries have been coming in, but slowly. Yup, it's a destination regatta...as is Miami...but Charleston Race Week is quite a destination.

Great racing, great friends, great venue, plus it's the 2016 Viper 640 Atlantic Coast Championship.



Entries are building slowly...so if you're planning on sailing at CRW, please register NOW!

Come enjoy superb competition across 18 different classes with courses set by the best race officials in the business and shore side hospitality that is second to none.

NoR and online registration link [HERE](#)

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LOOKING DOWN THE ROAD TO THE GYA SPORTBOAT CHAMPIONSHIP - OPENING REGATTA MAY 21-22

Save the Dates

The first leg of the Gulf Yachting Association's Sportboat Champs will be sailed from Fairport (AL) Yacht Club, home of Don and Tracey Faircloth and GYA Commodore Cathy Cromartie.

GYA clubs will be entering their club-owned boats, and some will be looking for Viper veterans to help them learn the ropes. Interested in sailing in beautiful Fairhope in May, contact Buttons Padin know (epadin@padesta.com) as he's looking for some Viper veterans to join him crewing on a GYA boat.

Those events and dates are:

GYA Opening Regatta at Fairhope YC (AL), May 21 and 22

Meigs Regatta at Fort Walton YC (FL), July 9-10

Weatherly Regatta at Gulfport YC (MS), July 30-31

Sugar Bowl Race of Champions at Southern YC (New Orleans, LA), Dec. 3-4

Regatta documents aren't yet posted, but mark your calendars and look for updates in future editions of Snake Bytes.

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DO YOU HAVE A REGATTA COMING UP?

If so, send to Buttons Padin the following: Name of the event, location (host club), dates, a brief description of the event (promoting why someone should participate), and links to the NoR and online registration. Buttons will post on the website's Events listing and include in future newsletters. epadin@padesta.com

GOT GREAT VIPER PIX OR VIDEO?

If you do, we can use them on the Viper website or in future editions of Snake Bytes. Share your great images and video by sending the files to Buttons Padin at epadin@padesta.com.

DID YOU HAVE A REGATTA?

If so, send a recap of the event and a link to results to Buttons Padin and he'll post online and may include in a future newsletter. epadin@padesta.com

DATABASE CLEAN-UP

If you wish to be taken off the Viper 640 Class Association's database, please send an e-mail to Buttons Padin at epadin@padesta.com and simply put UNSUBSCRIBE on the subject line. If you're getting multiple copies of Snake Bytes, shoot Buttons a note and say **MULTIPLE COPIES**.

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