



# Snake Bytes

Viper 640 Class News | February 4, 2016



Fast Sailing on Miami's Biscayne Bay

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## **WORDS FROM THE PREZ**

It's Planning Time Again...

The Viper 640 Class is known for its enthusiasm in traveling to what I'd call "destination regattas." Throughout the summer, most of us can get our fill of racing at our local or regional events; however, in the winter many of you can't wait to brush the snow off your Viper, hose her down, and get the mast up again. But where are the best places to do that in the near-term?

Simple: Miami, San Diego, and Charleston. With two back-to-back regattas in Miami, another multi-class extravaganza in SoCal, and the grand Low Country hospitality (and great sailing) enjoyed every year at Charleston Race Week, there's no excuse NOT to plow out your Viper and head the south...on either cost.

I encourage you to take advantage of the traveling culture of the

Class and, if you've not yet sampled one of these destination regattas, there's still time to register, make hotel reservations, and have the time of your life. Don't be shy...just do it and join the fun!

Sail fast,

Dr. Jim Sears  
President,  
Viper 640 Class Association

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## GET YOUR MOTOR RUNNING....

For many in the Viper world, it's cold outside...and that may even apply to folks in the south this year, too. It's time to start focusing on warm weather sailing and finalizing your plans to sail in the three upcoming southeastern regattas: The EFG Winter Cup, the EFG Viper Pan-American Championship (being sailed during Bacardi Miami Sailing Week), and the Viper Atlantic Coast Championship (being sailed as part of Sperry Charleston Race Week) or the San Diego NOOD.



Note: To sail in any of these regattas you'll need to be a 2016 Class Member [HERE](#) and if you have new sails, you'll need new sail buttons [HERE](#).

Yup, it's time to GET YOUR MOTORS RUNNING...and get registered. Here's all you'll need to know and do:

## EFG WINTER CUP - March 6-7

Sailed out of the US Sailing Center Miami, 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. Registration is lagging - only 9 boats as of today - but that should change quickly if you act now!



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





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

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

The Vipers again will be sailing out Coral Reef Yacht Club (with arguably the best outside bar in all of yachting and their piña coladas 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 already 25 boats registered from the

**EFG**   
Viper Pan-Americans



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. We're also looking for some Bermudians to sign up, too.

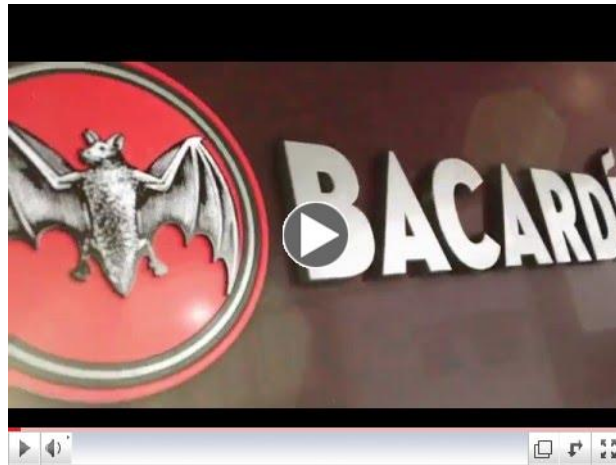
Make your plans to be there **NOW!**



Regatta website [HERE](#)

Regatta documents and online registration [HERE](#)

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



All Miami photos courtesy of Dan Tucker, Rondar Raceboats

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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

It's time to register for CRW! Great sailing, great parties, great town to visit. The country's No. 1 regatta for keelboats will be

turning 21 in 2016, and you know what that means. It's all legal now. Well, actually, only the legal things are legal, but that won't keep us from planning our best regatta yet for 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](#)

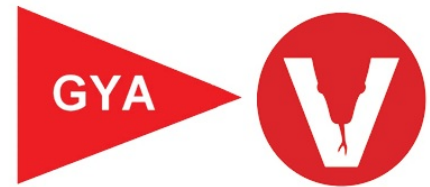
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## **LOOKING DOWN THE ROAD TO THE GYA SPORTBOAT CHAMPIONSHIP - Save the Dates**

The GYA will be hosting its first GYA Sport Boat Championship series in parallel with some of its intercub Capdevielle events. In 2016, there will be four events and next year eight.

While the GYA clubs will be entering their club-owned boats, these are open Viper events so all Vipers, regardless of their hailing ports, are welcome. Can't get your boat south but would like to participate? Let Buttons Padin know ([epadin@padesta.com](mailto:epadin@padesta.com)) as he's looking for some Viper veterans to join him crewing on GYA boats to share knowledge about racing the boats and accelerating the GYA's Viper learning curve.



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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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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