

39th ANNUAL
Hobie Midwinters West
HCA-NA Area Championship
Notice of Race

March 20 & 22, 2009 • San Felipe, Baja California, Mexico

NOTE: DATES HAVE CHANGED!

Host Hotel-El Cortez Hotel

Registration Check-in: El Cortez Hotel - Room 134

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday March 20
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Registration Room 134

Saturday March 21
7:00 - 9:30 AM Regatta Registration
10:00 AM Competitors' Meeting
10:15 AM Novice Meeting
11:00 AM First Signal (wind permitting)
6:00 PM **FIESTA - Pool side**

Sunday March 22
8:00 AM HCA Division 2 Meeting @ pool
10:00 AM Competitors' Meeting
11:00 AM First Signal (wind permitting)
After Races Trophy presentation ASAP

Other activities, changes of schedule, or general information will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

RULES

This Regatta will be governed by the 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing, this NOR (except as altered by the Sailing Instructions), and the class rules of the IHCA. SI's will be available on-site at regatta registration.

REGISTRATION

Registration forms will be available at:
www.members.cox.net/midwinterswest
Or email midwinterswest@cox.net to request one.
Registration fees are: \$45.00 for Hobie Waves, 14's & 17's and \$55.00 for Hobie 16's, 18's, Tigers, 20's.

No regatta registration fee for youth sailors (skippers) under the age of 18.

2009 HCA membership is required to compete in this event. Comp tips are mandatory to compete. For advertising purposes, this regatta is a category C event (ISAF Appendix G). Two free shirts will be provided for \$55.00 entries, one shirt for \$45.00 entries **received by January 31, 2009.** There will be a \$20.00 late fee for registrations postmarked after January 31, 2009. You may pre-order extra shirts for \$15.00 each. Make checks payable to Midwinters West. **Donations of clothing and canned goods will be collected at regatta registration area for local fisherman.**

TROPHIES

Trophies will be based on pre-registration. Five or more pre-registered boats constitute a fleet, one trophy per five boats. Maximum, five trophies per fleet.

INFORMATION: Hotels, RV Parks, Camping

Event website: www.members.cox.net/midwinterswest

or

Contact any of the following sailors:

Rick Buchanan, Regatta Chairman, Oceanside Calif.
Phone: (760) 722-0909
Email: midwinterswest@cox.net

Armando Noriega, Mexico City, Mexico
Tel: (011) 52 55 5631 5317 / Fax: (001) 52 55 5630 1988
Email: hobiemex@hotmail.com

TRAVELING IN BAJA MEXICO

Passports & Visas: Passports are required by the USA to re-enter the USA. If you have questions regarding passports please check the US State Depts. Website. The following websites may be helpful with obtaining new passports:

If you **NEVER** had one

http://www.travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_832.html

If you are **RENEWING** an old one:

http://www.travel.state.gov/passport/get/renew/renew_833.html

There is no Travel Visa required to enter or leave Baja Calif. when traveling to San Felipe.

For those sailors who have not been to San Felipe before, the following is some information that may be useful.

General Safety: The Mexican authorities make a great effort to make our visit to San Felipe safe and enjoyable, but you are reminded that traveling in Mexico is not travel in the United States. Additional precautions should be taken, use common sense. The customs and culture are different and behavior that is common in the USA may not be acceptable or may be misinterpreted by the Mexican people. Act responsibly, do not make yourself a target, do not drink to excess, and do not go out alone late at night. When driving, make a complete stop at all "ALTO"s (STOP signs).

Insurance & Documents: Vehicle liability insurance is required by Mexican Law. Our sponsor "Insurance4Mexico.net" offers very competitive prices & is available on-line 24/7. Or, it can be purchased from an agent on either side of the border. Mexican Customs Officers will likely verify ownership of vehicles, boats and trailers. **You will need current registrations and copies of titles for all vehicle(s), trailer(s), & boat(s).** If you are using or bringing a vehicle, trailer or boat that is not registered in your name, you need to have a notarized letter of permission from the owner. **NOTE:** Over the past year, Mexican Customs Officers have become more formal, checking vehicle, boat and trailer registrations. Don't make the long drive without these papers or you may be turned around at the border.