



NOTICE OF RACE



San Felipe Hobie Flota 469

Proudly Hosts the 33rd Annual

2003 Hobie Mid Winters West NAHCA Area Championship



Premier One-Design Hobie Cat Racing

San Felipe, Baja California, MEXICO • March 7, 8 & 9 2003

33rd ANNUAL 2003 Hobie Mid Winters West NAHCA Area Championship Premier One-Design Hobie Cat Racing

March 7, 8 & 9 2003 • San Felipe, Baja California, MEXICO

Regatta Headquarters: El Cortez Hotel - Room 126

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday March 7th

12:00 Noon	Women's, F-Fleet & Youth Races
1:00 PM	Time Trials -Radar speed measure
12:00 Noon -7:00 PM	Registration
7:00 PM	No Host dinner "Fish Tacos"

Saturday March 8th

7:00 - 9:30 AM	Regatta Registration
10:00 AM	Competitors' Meeting
10:15 AM	Novice Meeting
11:00 AM	First Signal
7:00 PM	Margarita Party

Sunday March 9th

8:00 AM	NAHCA Division Meetings
10:00 AM	Competitors' Meeting
11:00 AM	First Signal
After Races	Trophy presentation as soon as possible after last race

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

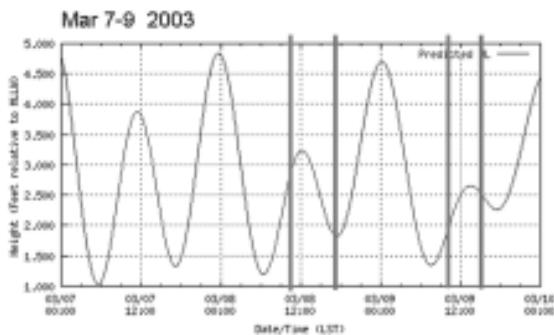
REGISTRATION

The registration fee for this Regatta is \$35.00 for Hobie Waves, 14's and 17's and \$40.00 for Hobie 16's, 18's, 20's, and 21's. **No regatta registration fee will be required for youth sailors under the age of 19.**

2003 NAHCA membership is required to compete in this event. For advertising purposes, this regatta is a category C event (ISAF Appendix G). Two free shirts and 2 free Margarita tickets will be provided for \$40.00 entries, one free shirt and one free Margarita ticket for \$35.00 entries received by February 10, 2003. There will be a \$20.00 late fee for registrations postmarked after 2/10/03. You may pre-order extra shirts for \$12.00 each. Make checks payable to Hobie MidWinters West. **Articles of clothing and canned goods will be collected at regatta registration as gifts for local fisherman.** Please do not mail donations; bring donations to the regatta site.

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FRIDAY ACTIVITIES

Youth, Women's and F-fleet races are planned for Friday. Youth races are for sailors 19 years of age and under. Additionally a reach will be set up off the El Cortez beach and with a radar gun we will attempt to measure boat speeds and record them. These activities will be informal events. Trophies will be awarded based on a minimum participation of ten (10) boats in any Friday racing event.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Based on pre-registration, the following fleets are planned for Saturday and Sunday races. The number of courses to be run will be based on the number of pre-registered boats. Hobie 14 and 14 T; Hobie 16 A, B, C; Hobie 17; Hobie 18 A, B, C; Hobie 20 A & 20 B; Hobie Open Class: Hobie Wave, Dragoon, H-18 SX / Magnum, Hobie Tiger and Fox. Fleet ribbons will be required for "A", "B", and "C" racers.

This Regatta will be governed by this NOR (except as altered by the Sailing Instructions), 2001-2004 Racing Rules of Sailing and 2001-2004 IHCA Class Rules.

Sailing Instructions will be available at on-site regatta registration.

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

Event website: <http://NAHCA.org>

or

Contact any of the following sailors:

Ron or Shirley Palmer Tucson Arizona
Tel/Fax: 1 520 299 0609
Email: shirlronpal@msn.com

Armando Noriega Mexico City Mexico
Tel: (011) 52 55 5631 5317 / Fax: (011) 52 55 5645 7418
Email: hobiemex@hotmail.com

Dan DeLave Long Beach California
Tel: 1 562 433 3984 Fax: 1 562 438 3765
Email: ddelave@aol.com

2003 NAHCA Membership and CompTips are mandatory.

Bring Cat Wheels Every effort will be made to run as many races as possible regardless of tides

TRAVELING IN BAJA MEXICO

For those sailors who have not been to San Felipe before, 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 some common sense. The customs and culture are different and behavior that is common in the US 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, do not go out alone late at night.

Insurance & Documents: Liability insurance is recommended (and required by Mexican Law). It can be purchased from an agent on either side of the border. Mexico Customs 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 are required to have a notarized letter of permission from the owner(s). NOTE: Over the past year, Mexican Customs has become much more formal checking vehicle, boat and trailer registrations. Don't make the long drive without these papers or you may have to turn around at the border

Mexico Visa: There is no Visa required to enter or leave Baja California when traveling to San Felipe.

Driving: Obey the posted speed limits and avoid receiving a ticket. Don't drink and drive - it is against the law to do so in Mexico. A stop is required at railroad crossings in Mexico. Mexico security check points are normally in place between Mexicali and San Felipe, the military personnel are courteous. Their primary purpose is to prevent the illegal transport of drugs and weapons.

El Cortez Hotel: Follow the highway to the stop light (normally not working.) Turn right and continue, the El Cortez will be on the left. Following are some of the many accommodations available in San Felipe:

The (011) preceding the Tel or Fax number is the international access number for the USA. International access numbers are different for various countries.

El Cortez Hotel P O Box 1227
Tel/Fax: (011) 52 686 577 10 56 Calexico, CA 92232-1227
Email: elcortezho@telnor.net
(Special discounted rates available for Hobie participants)

Club de Pesca P O Box 3090
Tel: (011) 52 686 577 11 80 Calexico CA 92232-3090
Fax: (011) 52 686 577 18 88
Email: clbdpsca@telnor.net

Baja Mar RV Park Ave Mar de Cortez s/n
Tel: (011) 52 686 552 23 63 San Felipe BC

Ruben's Ave Golfo de Calif 703
Tel: (011) 52 686 577 14 42 San Felipe BC

Riviera Hotel Ave Mar Baltico s/n
Tel: (011) 52 686 577 11 85 San Felipe BC

Additional Information San Felipe Turismo
Tel: (011) 52 686 577 11 55 Ave Mar de Cortez s/n
Fax: (011) 52 686 577 18 65 San Felipe BC
Email: turismosf@yahoo.com.mx

(Credit cards are accepted by many businesses in Mexico)

WHY BRING DONATIONS OF FOOD AND CLOTHING TO SAN FELIPE

John O Hauser

Each year the MidWinters pre-registration says: "*Articles of clothing and canned goods will be collected at regatta registration as gifts for local fishermen.*" Most of us racing now do not know why, but we give a meager donation of food or an old Hobie T-shirt or two.

Have you ever wondered why we have this drive for food and clothing? In the early 1980's (I think it was '82) about 400 Hobies were racing on San Felipe Bay on a clear, sunny Sunday. The wind was light and continued to get lighter until at 1:00 PM.. It died. A few minutes later, a Chubasco struck us with winds of 50+ mph flipping hundreds of boats. With the heavy wind, high seas, poor visibility due to sand in the air and turtled Hobies being pushed out to sea in a north and east direction, the Race Committee and its few, too few at that point, chase boats were totally overwhelmed. Almost immediately, the local fishermen came out and began saving lives and property. The rescue operation lasted until after 10:00 PM. that evening.

There was a lot of damaged equipment including torn sails, bent masts and broken hulls. There were numerous injuries, but no fatalities. The results would have been much worse, tragic to say the least, if it had not been for the fishermen and their trawlers. The regatta was abandoned. Coast Catamaran (the former owners of the Hobie Cat Company) offered to replace any damaged or lost equipment at cost.

So that is why the drive for food and clothing. My family saves all our donation-type clothing and cleans out closets each year for the MidWinters West Regatta and the San Felipe Fishermen. It would be wonderful if the entire Hobie Family who attend the MidWinters could save all year and bring a substantial bag or three of clothing or food with them each year. That way, each year we could have a "drive" instead of a "putt."

REGATTA PRE-REGISTRATION & ENTRY FORM
2003 Hobie Mid Winters West Area Championship
March 7-9, 2003 • San Felipe, Baja California, MEXICO

The registration for this regatta is \$35.00 for Hobie Waves, 14's, and 17's and includes one free shirt and one Margarita ticket if mailed prior to February 10, 2003. The registration is \$40.00 for Hobie Dragoons 16's, 18's, Hobie Tigers, 20's and Fox. Two free shirts and two Margarita tickets will be provided for entries postmarked prior to February 10, 2003.

Late Registration will be an additional \$20.00 after 2/10/03 [Shirt(s) are not guaranteed with late registration]

Skipper: _____ NAHCA Member No: _____
 Address: _____ Sail No: _____
 City / St / Postal Code: _____ Division/Fleet _____
 Home Tel: _____ Work Tel: _____ Email: _____
 Crew: _____ Total Weight: _____

HOBIE CLASS (Circle one): Wave Dragoon 14 14T 16A 16B 16C 17 18A 18B 18C 18M/ SX Tiger 20 Fox

Registration Fee: _____ CIRCLE Shirt Size(s): Medium Large X Large

Extra shirts @ \$12.00 ea. _____ CIRCLE Shirt Size(s): Medium Large X Large

Late fee (After 2/10/03 \$20.00) _____ **Checks to: Hobie MidWinters West**

TOTAL (in USD) \$ _____ **Mail to: Hobie MidWinters West**

**4935 N Calle Esquina
 Tucson AZ 85718-6311 USA**

(Check or money orders only - credit cards *not* accepted)

