



Montego Bay Yacht Club
Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter
February 2015



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



WELCOME TO THE 2015 PINEAPPLE CUP – MONTEGO BAY RACE

Nigel Knowles, MBYC Commodore

The wait is almost over! MBYC is gearing up and the festivities are about to begin again for our very own Biennial Pineapple Cup race from Ft Lauderdale to Montego Bay.

A hard core of dedicated members have put a huge amount of effort into making this year's event as big of a success as previous years with many land based events happening alongside the main attraction of the race itself. This year we have the return of a MBYC team taking part in the race and hoping to take the glory by winning this prestigious event for the home crowd.

I hope you will join in and support the event with any help you can offer, as well as closely following the boats on our live TV feed at the club and via the Pineapple Cup website.

With boats and crews from around the world taking part, it is promising to be a lot of fun, socialising and excitement. Please join us. I look forward to seeing you at the parties and on the finish line.



Montego Bay Yacht Club

Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter

February 2015

NOTE: Please respect any instructions given by our security people regarding parking and positioning of vehicles, especially during Pineapple Cup. The car park is likely to get very busy at times and our security will not wish to disturb members to have to ask them to move their vehicle once the member in at the club, so following their initial instructions will avoid this situation arising.

JAMAICA'S ENTRY IN THE 2015 PINEAPPLE CUP

TEAM
EASY
SKANKING

Jamaica's team in the 2015 Pineapple Cup race will be known as Team "EASY SKANKING". Check out Bob Marley:
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QYHGelxply&spfreload=1>)

Five sailors from Mobay, Richard Hamilton, Peter Harper, Jim Wilson, Nigel Knowles (MBYC Commodore) and Zoe Knowles (MBYC Sailing Instructor) make up the Jamaica contingent, rounded out by Tony Riley (UK), Dave Lemke (US) and Marcus Cholerton-Brown (US). Marcus is the Owner's representative and an experienced offshore racer. Altogether, team members have completed 8 Pineapple Cup races, including a first place finish in 1991. All are great dancers as well as racers.



We will be sailing a J120, 40 foot sloop (built 1991 by Johnstone boats). Although the boat is officially "Sunset Child", she will be campaigned as "MISS JAMAICA". She has just completed the 2015 Miami to Key West race, finishing 2nd of four J120s in the race.

MISS JAMAICA
PINEAPPLE CUP
2015



PINEAPPLE CUP RACE HISTORY

The Pineapple Cup has long been an ocean racing classic. The race started in 1961 and has run either annually or biennially ever since. Past winners are a who's-who of ocean skippers and yacht names. Ted Turner won three times in *Vamoose* ('67), *Lightnin* ('73) and *Tenacious* ('79). The Johnson family won in *Ticonderoga* ('65). John Kilroy won twice in *Kialoa* ('75 & '77) and Jack King won in *Merrythought* ('91)

Line Honors went to Sir Peter Blake in *Condor* ('79), Larry Ellison in *Sayonara* ('97) and Roy Disney's *Pyewacket* ('99). Other notable entrants include: the venerable yacht *Windward Passage* which maintained the overall elapsed time record from 1969 to 2003. Steve Fossett also made a run in the 90's at the overall race record in



Montego Bay Yacht Club Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter February 2015

the catamaran *Lakota*. The current record is held by *Titan 12* in 2005 with an impressive elapsed time of 2 days, 10 hours, 24 minutes and 42 seconds.

The 811 mile race offers navigators, tacticians, and crews a challenging all-points-of-sail blast to a fabled destination. Immediately after the start, the racers cross the Gulf Stream for the Northwest Providence Channel. The middle of the race usually offers a fetch down the eastern side of the Bahamas Island Chain towards the tip of Cuba. The final stretch is a sailor's dream: a 240 mile downwind sleigh ride, from Cuba's eastern tip, known as the Windward Passage, to the finish at Montego Bay. Typical twenty-plus knot aft trade winds and rolling, following seas push the racers downhill into the sunset toward the finish, where they're greeted right after the finish line with the traditional case of Jamaica's finest ice cold Red Stripe beer.

The race is sponsored by the Lauderdale Yacht Club (Fort Lauderdale, FL), the Montego Bay Yacht Club (Montego Bay, Jamaica), and the Jamaican Yachting Association (Kingston, Jamaica), and managed by SORC with the collective group. Classes invited include IRC, PHRF and Multihull and ocean racing one designs.

MAJOR AWARDS & TROPHIES:

ROBERT McNEIL MOBAY COURSE CHALLENGE TROPHY - For the 1st monohull boat to break the Montego Bay Race 811 nm course record of 2days, 10hrs, 24min, and 42sec set in 2005 by "Titan 12".

SILVER ROSE BOWL PERPETUAL TROPHY - For 1st monohull boat to finish.

SILVER PINEAPPLE CUP PERPETUAL TROPHY - For 1st overall corrected time IRC rated boat.

SILVER SEAHORSE PERPETUAL – For 1st overall corrected time PHRF rated boat.

ARAWAK PERPETUAL TROPHY – For 1st overall corrected time Multihull MASF rated boat.

E.J. GARMHAUSEN PERPETUAL TROPHY - For 1st overall corrected time IRC & PHRF navigators.

(Shared)

CLASS TROPHIES - For 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each class.

17.2 THE JAMAICA TOURIST BOARD LOG AWARD: Will be awarded for the most interesting log, to be determined at the discretion of the Montego Bay Yacht Club Race Committee.



Montego Bay Yacht Club Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter February 2015

32ND BIENNIAL PINEAPPLE CUP – MONTEGO BAY RACE *Class 40s and Others “In for a Blast”*

Press Release – Barby McGowan, Media Pro International

MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA (January 27, 2015) – Set to begin Friday, February 6, the 32nd edition of the venerable [Pineapple Cup – Montego Bay Race](#) will start in Port Everglades, Florida, and send its 12-boat fleet on a challenging 811 nautical mile course to Montego Bay, Jamaica. George Sakellaris’s (Framingham, Mass.) 72-foot *Shockwave* will be the largest boat competing, so it should be interesting to compare her results with those turned in by the balance of a fleet comprised primarily of 40 footers.



*(Left) Shockwave’s Reggie Cole accepts the top prize for the Pineapple Cup – Montego Bay Race in 2013. (Photo Credit sukimacphoto.com); (Right) At the 2015 event, Shockwave will be the largest boat competing. (Photo Credit Boatpix.com) **Click photo to download in high resolution***

Quite convincingly at the 2013 “MoBay,” *Shockwave* won both overall honors and her IRC division after finishing just 58 minutes short of the elapsed time record (two days, 10 hours and 24 minutes, set in 2005 by *Titan 12*). It is anyone’s guess, however, as to what this year’s conditions will bring and whether they will favor new talents or veteran teams.

“You can expect every point of sail during the race,” said Principal Race Officer Chris Woolsey, “and I always advise teams to save their spinnakers for the last legs, since in some conditions this race can be a war of attrition.”

That was the case in 2013, when Michael Hennessey’s Class 40 *Dragon* had the misfortune of losing both of its “kites” off the coast of Cuba, forcing it to limp the last 300 miles to the downwind finish. Hennessey has



Montego Bay Yacht Club Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter February 2015

entered again with the same boat, which he said “loves the typical reaching and running conditions of the MoBay race.” Using boxing terms, he embellished: “We tend to be able to punch above our weight in those conditions.”

Hennessey, like three others of the five Class 40s competing, will sail double-handed this year rather than with a full five-person crew like he had last time. His team will be scored against the other Class 40s as one-design and additionally under a PHRF handicap to determine the overall outcome in that division, which will be racing for the Silver Seahorse Perpetual Trophy. There is also a division for IRC, which will be racing for the Pineapple Cup Trophy. (The Silver Rose Bowl Perpetual Trophy is presented to the first monohull boat to finish.)



Chart of the “MoBay” Course [Click photo to download](#)

“If I think about all the great distance races out there, whether it’s Newport to Bermuda, Rolex Fastnet or Middle Sea, they all have something that makes them unique and interesting,” said Hennessey. “In this case, it’s special to be racing in warm conditions in the middle of February, with beautiful long stretches of reaching and running where you can let the boat cut loose. Then you arrive, and the Montego Bay Yacht Club provides the best hospitality – with great warmth and friendliness – of any race I’ve ever participated in.”

In 2013, Elizabeth Shaw (Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada) was participating in a development program at Oakcliff Sailing in Oyster Bay, N.Y. Now, two years later, she is worthy of competing in the MoBay race with



Montego Bay Yacht Club Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter February 2015

accomplished shorthanded New Jersey sailor Jeffrey MacFarland (also an Oakcliff graduate) aboard the Class 40 *Oakcliff Racing Bodacious Dream*.

“I am acutely aware of what an opportunity this is for me; You don’t get to just jump into a role like this,” said the 30-year-old Shaw, adding that Oakcliff only recently acquired the Class 40 as part of its fleet and made it possible for the duo to enter. As for sailing with only one other over such a long period of time (an estimated three to four days), she added: One of the most interesting things about shorthanded sailing is learning when to take your rest, how to take care of each other, getting into a groove that’s working, and making sure there’s enough energy in the tank for emergencies and good decision making. It’s always a physical and mental challenge.”

Jamaican Entry

With entries hailing from as far away as Michigan and California, none will be more supported by well-wishers than the one representing Jamaica itself. Sailing in IRC division, the *J/120 Miss Jamaica* will have aboard it Montego Bay Yacht Club’s Commodore Nigel Knowles and his 16-year-old daughter Zoe Knowles, who is Youth Commodore for the club. “It felt only right to have our own team compete in a race that we run (in partnership with Storm Trysail Club and Lauderdale Yacht Club),” said the elder Knowles, “and the breaking news now is that we have the youngest-ever participant aboard as well.”

Knowles said his team will arrive in Fort Lauderdale February third for two days of training before the start. “It will be a fairly steep learning curve; we’ve mostly never sailed together as a group but one of us (Jim Wilson) has sailed on an identical boat, and we are all very active in a smaller version of the boat, the *J/22*, which we sail every two weeks at Montego Bay and Kingston.”

Knowles looks forward to going head-to-head with one other *J/120* signed up (*Tampa Girl*); however, that boat is signed up to be scored under PHRF while *Miss Jamaica* is sailing IRC. The *J/120s* are 40 feet long.

“The Pineapple Cup-Montego Bay Race has a special place in the hearts of sailors,” said Race Coordinator Evelyn Harrington, “both for the unique challenges of its course and for the warm Jamaican hospitality waiting at the finish.” Harrington explained that every boat has a local host – “somebody to be a familiar face in a strange place” – and sailors are treated to a week of fun that includes parties and events with a local flare and a final dinner, dance and prize giving ceremony on Friday, February 13. “And now that we are



Montego Bay Yacht Club Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter February 2015

part of something bigger – the Atlantic Ocean Racing Series – we have a great chance to showcase our race on the world stage.”



JetBlue is the Official Airline of the “MoBay” race, offering 1.5 hour flights from Ft. Lauderdale to Montego Bay, Jamaica. **Click photo to download**

The Pineapple Cup – Montego Bay Race is endorsed by the [Jamaican Tourist Board](#) and managed by the [SORC](#). [JetBlue](#) is the Official Airline of the race and sponsors include the [Montego Bay Yacht Club](#), [Storm Trysail Club](#), and [Lauderdale Yacht Club](#) along with **Doctor’s Cave Bathing Club**, **Appleton Estate Rum**, **Select Brands** and **Juici Patties**. Immediately after the start, racers cross the Gulf Stream for the Northwest Providence Channel. The middle of the race offers a fetch down the eastern side of the Bahamas Island Chain toward the tip of Cuba. The final stretch is typically a sailor’s dream: a 240-mile downwind sleigh ride from Cuba’s eastern tip, known as the Windward Passage, to the finish at Montego Bay.

For more information, visit <http://www.montegobayrace.com/> or contact Pineapple Cup Race Coordinator [Evelyn Harrington](#) at 876-979-8469. Visit the race blog at <http://www.sorcsailing.org/#> and Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/sorcsailing>

IRC (4 Boats)

1. Shockwave, Mini Maxi 72, George Sakellaris , Framingham, MA, USA
2. Miss Jamaica, J120, Marcus Cholerton-Brown, New York, NY, USA
3. Miss Maris, J122, Marc Jordan, Mount Pleasant, SC, USA



Montego Bay Yacht Club Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter February 2015

4. Hot Ticket, King 40, Jim Hightower, Temple, TX, USA

PHRF (4 Boats)

1. Senara, Farr 395, Eamonn deLisser / Jim Bill, Miami, FLA, USA
2. Tampa Girl, J120, William Terry, Tampa, FLA, USA
3. Vortices, J145, Chris Saxton, Plymouth, MI, USA
4. Renegade, Santa Cruz 52, Tom Slade, Ponte Vedra, FLA, USA

Class 40 (4 Boats)

1. AMHAS, Class 40 40, MacKenzie Davis, Mill Valley, CA, USA
2. Dragon, Class 40-40, Michael Hennessy, New York, NY, USA
3. First Light, Class 40-40, FK Day, Chicago, IL, USA
4. Bodacious Dream, Class 40-40, Oakcliff Sailing, Oyster Bay, NY, USA

PINEAPPLE CUP - NERVE CENTRE

Julie Knowles and Julia Magnuson-Ford, Organizers

During the race, the Nerve Centre will be located in the MBYC Office and will be open from 8 am to 8 pm. The responsibility of the Nerve Centre is to give out general event information and to provide and assist visitors with travel, accommodation and tourist information. We also have special edition 2015 Pineapple Cup shirts and hats in stock, so head over and buy one before they're all sold out!

Many thanks to our hard working volunteers who will donate their time and energy to helping us run the Nerve Centre during race week. We'll be open for business on February 7th and 8th from noon until 4 pm. And then from February 9th to 13th from 8:30 am to 8 pm. On February 14th we'll be open from noon to 4 pm.

PINEAPPLE CUP - DUTY OFFICERS

Jo Meany, Organizer

Our team of volunteer Duty Officers will be working 4 hour shifts, 24 hours a day starting on Monday, February 9th. Their duties are to:

- Monitor the boats' locations and radio contact at all times
- Notify the finish line boats, marine police and customs and immigration of boat arrivals
- Make the Initial contact with arriving boats and crews on the dock
- Collect and secure travel and immigration documents from crews for inspection by Immigration
- DELIVER THE COLD RED STRIPE TO THE BOAT!!!



Montego Bay Yacht Club
Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter
February 2015

Many thanks to our volunteers, without whom we would be absolutely lost!

PINEAPPLE CUP - BOAT HOSTING

Jo Meany, Organizer

Our boat hosts are one of the first people that the visiting crews meet on their arrival. They're the sailors' important point of social contact in Jamaica, providing them with their own contact information and with assistance, if needed, in making local arrangements.

PINEAPPLE CUP - SOCIAL SCHEDULE

Lyn Langford, Volunteer Organizer

Entertaining the racers during Pineapple Cup race week at our Club is a tradition much enjoyed by the racers, visitors and our own members. It's a great opportunity for volunteers and members to meet the racers and show off our warm Jamaican hospitality. This year we have **JetBlue, Jamaica Tourist Board, Doctor's Cave Bathing Club, Appleton Estate Rums, Select Brands, and Juici Patties** as our sponsors. Their support and participation is greatly appreciated.

2015 PINEAPPLE CUP SOCIAL SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Feb. 10	Early Bird Cocktail Party	Appleton Juici Patties	6:00 – 7:00
Wednesday, Feb. 11	Cocktail Party White and Blue Shots Night	Appleton JetBlue Juici Patties	6:00 – 7:00
Thursday, Feb. 12	Crew Dinners/Host Family Night		
Friday, Feb. 13	Prize Giving Dinner Dance		6:30 – 12:00
	Welcome Cocktails	Appleton	6:30 – 7:00
	Buffet Dinner	Select Brands	7:00 – 8:30
	Awards		8:30 – 9:30
	Dancing		9:30 – 12:00



Montego Bay Yacht Club
Special Edition PINEAPPLE CUP Newsletter
February 2015

Note: The date of the Early Bird Cocktail Party will be determined by the location of the vessels as of Tuesday morning and may be rescheduled to Wednesday if necessary.

PLEASE WELCOME MBYC'S NEW CLUB MANAGER

Please join Commodore Knowles and the Management Committee in welcoming our new Club Manager, Mr. Neil "Taddy" Tavares.

As many of you are aware, Judith resigned as Manager, her last day being January 23rd. We all wish her well in her new endeavors. We were very surprised to receive over 35 applications for the position in response to our advertisement, and after long hours and much deliberation, we felt Taddy had the qualities that will help the club continue to grow and move in the right direction.

With over 33 years in the tourism and hospitality industry, Taddy has a vast array of experience in several aspects of running successful operations. A native of Montego Bay, he has spent the past nearly four years at *Country, Country Beach Cottages* as Assistant Manager. Prior to that, his career has been in sales and tourism bringing experience that will help us, not only to maintain our reputation as being the 'friendliest club in the Caribbean', but also to drive revenue and create new opportunities for us in growing our membership.

Taddy has the key attributes that we, as the selection committee, were looking for and we are confident that he will be successful. Of course, all transitions take time, and he will have the full support of the committee in helping him to 'hit the ground running'!

Taddy's first day will be Monday, February 16th, however he will be making a conscious effort to come to the club over the next couple of weeks to catch the MBYC 'vibe' and get to know us better.

Again, please join us in welcoming Taddy. We look forward to working together to make the Montego Bay Yacht Club the best club on the island!

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE REGULAR NEWSLETTER WILL RESUME IN MARCH 2015