



Montego Bay Yacht Club 'Sloop News'

September 2017

COMMODORE'S REPORT



Nigel Knowles

The summer seems to have flown by and the children are heading back to school after a summer of fun and activities at MBYC.

The participation and feedback from the youth sailing camps and one-to-one lessons was superb. Each course was oversubscribed and private lessons were given 2 or 3 days each week. To have so many new keen sailors taking to the water, and having such fun while doing so, is most encouraging for the long term future of the club. As you may have seen, some of these youngsters later helmed and crewed in the J22 races. Their skills were excellent and we all enjoyed the adventure. We're looking forward to their joining us on the water again when the autumn races start up in earnest.

J22 sailing quietened down during August when many people were away on holiday. That will soon change with the weekend racing restarting on 9th September. More crews and participants are most welcome to be onboard with the fleet. Please let the office or any J22 captains (most can be found at the bar regularly) know if you are interested. No past experience is needed, but a willingness to have fun is essential! Let's get more of our club sailing with us. You are likely to love it!

Speaking of excitement and fun times, we have the 56th running of the **Montego Bay Yacht Club International Marlin Tournament** happening over the last week of September. You will really want to be a regular at the club during this event to join the fun and watch the action. There are more and better words on this event from Bobby Stewart later in this newsletter. I highly recommend that you heed his advice and make sure you are there to enjoy the excitement of it all.



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Work continues on improving the club grounds and any donations of plants and the like will certainly be welcomed to speed up the process of making our front yard look more appealing. Please let the office know if you have any offerings. They will check suitability and organise manpower for planting etc.

A fond farewell to Karen Hookalo, former member of the club's executive management team. She will be missed. Her work and involvement was much appreciated. And a warm welcome to our newest club members: Paul & Michelle Barton and family, Kamau Preston and family, Junior members (who also participated in the Summer Youth Sail Camp) Romulus Deenah, John-Ryan Meany, Sophia Meany, Victoria Meany and Chloe Dear. Do not forget to renew your membership as these funds are vital to keep our club operating. The club is an important social, recreational and community hub for Montego Bay and Freeport and we encourage and look forward to seeing our members active and involved at our cherished MBYC.

Cheers, Nige

56th Montego Bay Yacht Club International Marlin Tournament



**55th MBYC International Marlin Tournament
September 2016**

Get ready for another fantastic week at the 56th Montego Bay Yacht Club International Marlin Tournament, presented by our fantastic Headline Sponsor, West Indies Petroleum, at the Montego Bay Yacht Club. With 37 teams registered for this year's event, it's sure to be an exciting week for both the anglers, and all the friends and family from near and far.

This year is setting up to be a very special running, as near perfect tides and moon phase combine to promise the allure of once-in-a-decade conditions, which may mean a record catch.



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The week kicks off with the traditional Canoe Fisherman fishing tournament - at 7:30am on Monday, September 25th – which, this year, is being organized for the club by David Charley and Game Fish Events. With a bump in prizes and trophies, we are aiming for solid attendance at this year's running!

The main Marlin tournament begins with the Captain's Briefing, at 3:30pm on the afternoon of Tuesday, 26th September. Last year saw the return of Dr. Guy Harvey to fish the tournament for the first time in 19 years, and this year we are happy to welcome him back again!

On Tuesday evening, at 6:30pm, there will also be the traditional Sponsor Cocktail, which we would be thrilled for all members to enjoy along with our ocean-going visitors. Visiting teams, sponsors and club members will have a chance to mingle and discuss the weather and strategies – or just have a sip or two.

On the morning of Wednesday, September 27th, at 7:00am the team boats start their parade towards the starting line, and at 7:15am the action begins with a bang – literally – as our Commodore fires the club flare to initiate the classic Bimini Start! Once again, the start will be a sight to see as the 37 boats accelerate to planing speed and head out towards the horizon in their quest for points – if you've never witnessed the start before, you should make it a point this year, as you never know if you'll have the chance again.

A variety of locations are well-suited to make the best of this spectacle – from Pier 1, and Margaritaville, to Doctors' Cave Beach and the balcony at Biggs. So make your plans early - and don't forget to grab your video camera! "Lines out" of the water is at 5:00pm, at which point the boats return to the dock, and the weigh station becomes a busy place well worth visiting. As the light fades, it is a certainty that anglers and friends alike will settle down for an evening of music, Appleton rum, and tall tales!

Don't forget that you can also follow the tournament on Social Media from the Game Fish Events Instagram, which will be running at **@MoBayMarlin56** - as well as our website for the event, at **MoBayMarlin.com**

On Thursday, the 28th, the fishing starts at 7:00am, with the boats headed out for another day on the hunt – and you can follow the action for all days, blow by blow, via "Instagram Stories", on the tournament Instagram at **@MoBayMarlin56**. "Lines out" is again at 5:00pm, at which point the docks are once again the place to be.

The final day, Friday the 29th, also kicks off at 7:00am as the teams desperately search for that last fish or two, to secure or improve their standing in the charts! "Lines out" is at 4:00pm on this final day, to allow for final weigh-in and scoring to be completed before the evening's Awards and Charity Comedy night. At 6:30pm, there will be an open bar, which sets the mood for the Awards presentations and entertainment! Members are always welcome at this event!

And, as has become Montego Bay's new tradition, the tournament is capped by Saturday's celebratory Beach Party and Marlin Boat Raft up event, hosted once again at the Biggs Barbecue location beside Doctors' Cave – beginning at 10:00am and ending at 6pm, at which point, the MBYC will again be the place to enjoy the last of the festivities before the boats head home on Sunday. This year, the Tight Lines beach party is operated by



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local organizers Andre “Pnut” Brown and DJ Crazy Neil, and once again, there will be a solid line-up of DJs doing the selections and mixing for this great day out.

As with the last three years, specially priced tickets will be available to all members of both the MBYC, as well as Doctors’ Cave Bathing Club, and your support will go a long way to ensuring that this beloved event will get better every year, and give us all something to enjoy with our friends and family for the future.

We are also very pleased and proud to recognize the solid support of our other sponsors and benefactors - including Headline Sponsor West Indies Petroleum, and other upstanding sponsors such as Dr Guy Harvey, Select Brands, Viking Yacht Company, FFK Insurance, ATL Autosports, Porsche, Rainforest Seafoods, Pure National Ice, Good Life Water, Yamaha Jamaica, JPS, NCB Capital Markets, Proven RET, Sandals Resorts, Secrets Montego Bay, Connley Fishing, Soundworks & JL Audio, Megamart, Orijin, The Best Dressed Chicken, The Meat Experts, Nirvana, John Swaby, Absolut Vodka, El Dorado Rum, Malibu Rum, Jameson Irish Whisky, The Glenlivet and Chivas Regal!

We look forward to you joining in at the 56th Montego Bay Yacht Club International Marlin Tournament!
My very best regards,

Bobby Stewart

Photos from the 55th International MBYC Marlin Tournament – September 2016





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