

Balboa Yacht Club Initiates Youth Match Race Clinic & Regatta

NEWPORT BEACH, CA (January 11, 2010) Balboa Yacht Club invites applications for invitations to the inaugural **Youth Match Race Clinic and Regatta**. The clinic and racing will take place in the ocean near the Newport Pier in the afternoons from Friday May 14 through Sunday, May 16. The event is organized to attract youth match racing talent from across the United States. "This event is intended to encourage sufficient ongoing nationwide participation in this and other events to eventually make an annual youth match race championship a permanent opportunity for the best of US youth sailors" said Terry Schilling, Event Chair.

The winner of this event will get an automatic berth in the 2010 Governor's Cup Internatioal Junior Match Race Championship this year and other top finishers will be considered by the Governor's Cup Selection Committee.

"World wide, match racing is regarded as one of the most exciting and challenging formats for sail boat racing", says Andy Rose, youth sailing patron and former America's Cup tactician. "This specific event for US youth sailors contributes to the recognition that match racing deserves". Andy goes onto say, "We've learned a lot from hosting BYC's Governor's Cup inter junior match racing event for over four decades now, and while US teams have done well, the inter teams generally provide more of the top finishers. There simply are not enough top level venues available for US youth sailors to develop their match-racing skills so they are better qualified to compete against inter teams. That's the reason we're so pleased to be launching this regatta."

The emphasis during this inaugural regatta will be on building match-racing skills as well as testing those skills in a formal regatta. In support of which, BYC will make coaching resources available to the racers as part of the venue. A nationally recognized sailing coach is being recruited for the first day of the event which will include both on and off the water coaching. Local coaching resources will be also available during the following two race days.

"We have been in planning for this event for over 3 years," says Tom Purcell, BYC Staff Commodore, "All of us that are committed to youth sailing are delighted that we finally have the resources in place to make it happen".

The Regatta will be sailed in the matched fleet of Governor's Cup 21 boats designed explicitly for match racing by Alan Andrews, Yacht Designer, and commissioned in 2003. For more information about the Gov Cup 21 boats go to www.govcupracing.com. Housing will be provided by BYC members for non-local teams and most meals will be covered by the entry fee.

The event is sponsored by the Newport Balboa Sailing & Seamanship Association (NBSSA), owner and manager of the Gov Cup 21 Fleet. More information about NBSSA can be found at <http://www.nbssa.org/>

For more information and application materials please go to balboayachtclub.com and click on the event logo or contact event Chairman Terry Schilling terry.schilling@tugwest.com or 949-794-8917.