

2012 Hamlin 29er Series

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LONG BEACH, Calif. (September 23, 2011) –The Southern California Youth Yacht Racing Association announces the Hamlin 29er Series as a multi-regatta series for youth sailors focused on sailing the 29er skiff. The series and trophy is named for Howard Hamlin, a Southern California sailor who has excelled at world class levels in the 505, International 14 and Australian 18 skiff classes.

This year the Hamlin 29er Series will consist of four Southern California regattas including the Goblin Regatta in October, the Turkey Day Regatta in November, the 29er Midwinter's West Regatta in March, and the Skiff Festival in May.

The Hamlin 29er Series is sponsored by SCYYRA and is open to all youth teams under nineteen years of age, who are members of a SCYA or SCYYRA yacht club and have not attended a college or university. The Hamlin Perpetual trophy will be awarded to the top helmsman and the top crew with individual place trophies awarded based on the number of competitors.

Howard Hamlin is a graduate of Pepperdine University and currently a resident of Long Beach, CA where he owns a land brokerage company. He originally got involved in sailing when Don Ayres asked him to crew on his 505, and since then has competed in the 505, International 14, and Australian 18 Skiff classes, winning the 1999 505 World Championship with Mike Martin at Quiberon, France. In 2002 and 2003, Howard and Mike Martin along with Trevor Baylis in 2002 and Rod Howell in 2003, won the JJ Giltinan 18-Foot Skiff World Championships in Australia. In 2006 Howard and Euan McNicol won the International 14 World Championship in Long Beach. Howard is a World Champion in all (3) boats, and the only American (along with Mike Martin) to win the Aussie 18 World and European Championships.

Howard's interest in supporting the 29er Series is motivated by his desire to introduce young sailors to the opportunities of sailing high performance boats, including developing the equal skill-sets of boat-speed, tactics, boat handling, and teamwork. In addition, he values the attributes of crew recognition, respect, communication and information sharing among competitors as key factors in achieving success at all levels of competition.

The 29er is a 14 ft, two person, single trapeze skiff originally designed in 1997 by Julian Bethwaite as a youth trainer for the Olympic 49er skiff. The boat is a one design in the strictest of traditions. Currently the boats are built on five continents to strict one design standards and are under the control of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF). The boat is an ISAF recognized class and has been selected again to be the Open High Performance Dinghy for the 2012 ISAF Youth Worlds in Dublin, Ireland.

About the 29er Class

The US 29er Class is recognized by U.S. SAILING for competition in the 29er skiff and is a chartered member of the International 29er Class Association. It is chartered to carry out the Class objectives both in the United States and worldwide. The National Association was formed in 2001 and each year has had sailors competing in the US, European and 29er World Championships. Last year, a US team won the Silver medal at the ISAF Youth World Championship and shared the prestige of being the "top placing Americans" at this regatta. The 29er also has been selected as a top Youth Boat to compete in the US Youth Championships. The 29er is also part U.S. Sailing "Development Team" and the US SAILING "Youth Worlds" Team. For more information please visit www.29ernorthamerican.org .

About SCYYRA

The Southern California Youth Yacht Racing Association (SCYYRA) is an organization formed in October 1977 under the Southern California Yachting Association (SCYA) and is dedicated to the improvement of sailing skills among youth sailors throughout Southern California. Currently it sponsors six major Southern California series for youth sailors including the Ullman Frost Series for Lasers and Radials, the Shadden Series for Club Flying Juniors, the Perry Series for Club 420's, the North Series for Naples Sabots, the Dick Sweet Team Race Series for Naples Sabots, and the SoCal Series for Optimist dinghies. For additional information please visit : www.scyyra.org .

About US SAILING

The United States Sailing Association (US SAILING), the national governing body for sailing, provides leadership, integrity, and growth for the sport in the United States. Founded in 1897 and headquartered in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, US SAILING is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. US SAILING offers training and education programs for instructors and race officials, supports a wide range of sailing organizations and communities, issues offshore rating certificates, and provides administration and oversight of competitive sailing across the country, including National Championships and the US Sailing Team AlphaGraphics. For more information, please visit: www.ussailing.org .