

**The Rudder Club of Jacksonville**  
**Mug Race**  
**Safety and Support Boat Operational Plan**  
**7 May 2016**

**PURPOSE:** To provide detailed guidance for the assignment, crewing, positioning and tasking of race support boats operating in support of the 2016 63rd Mug Race. Sector assignment of Palatka boats is tentative and subject to reassignment of the Palatka Area Coordinator

**1. BOATS AND CREW ASSIGNED:**

**1.1. Starting Line Boat – Palatka**

- 1.1.1** Boat: Pocahontas
- 1.1.2** Skipper: Gene O’Conner
- 1.1.3** Principal Starting Officer-Jon Hamilton
- 1.1.4** Crew: Rosemary Allsopp
- 1.1.5** Crew: Dick Allsopp

**1.2 Pin Boat**

- 1.2.1** Boat: Gator Bait
- 1.2.2** Skipper: David Girardin
- 1.2.3** Crew: Linda Girardin

**1.3 Mid Line Boat**

- 1.3.1** Boat: RL-4
- 1.3.2** Skipper DC Meyers
- 1.3.3** Crew Roberta Crisson

**1.4 Mid-Course Gate Line Boat**

- 1.4.1** Boat: Bruiser
- 1.4.2** Skipper : Tom Ray
- 1.4.3** Crew:
- 1.4.4** Jon Hamilton
- 1.4.5** Ian Stern
- 1.4.6** Blake Mullennix

**1.5 Mid Course Support Boat**

- 1.5.1** Boat : Blue Skandia
- 1.5.2** Skipper: Rob Smith
- 1.5.3** Crew : Oscar de la Torres

**1.6 Finish Line**

- 1.6.1** Boat- Spare Me
- 1.6.2** Skipper: Dave Backus
- 1.6.3** Principal Finish Officer – Dave Backus
- 1.6.4** Crew –
  - 1.6.4.1** Laura Backus

- 1.6.4.2 Backus
- 1.6.4.3 Kelly Smith

**1.7 Palatka Sector One/Flank Boat - Palatka to Forrester Pt**

- 1.7.1 Boat Name: Gator Bait
- 1.7.2 Skipper: David Girardin
- 1.7.3 Crew: Linda Girardin

**1.8 Palatka Sector Two – Forrester Pt to Federal Pt**

- 1.8.1 Boat: Fantasea
- 1.8.2 Skipper: Bruce Drackett

**1.9 Palatka Sector Three – Federal Point to Racy Pt**

- 1.9.1 Boat – Reed Boat
- 1.9.2 Skipper Ed Reed

**1.10 Palatka Sector Four Racy Pt to Ferriara Pt**

- 1.10.1 Boat: RL4
- 1.10.2 Skipper Dave Meyer

**1.11 Palatka Sector Five Ferriara Pt to Bayard Pt**

- 1.11.1 Boat TBD
- 1.11.2 Skipper – Chip Laibl

**1.12 Palatka Van Boat**

- 1.12.1 Boat: Uras’s Dragon
- 1.12.2 Skipper: Ernie Driscoll

**1.13 Sector Seven – If manned.**

~~**1.14 RC Patrol Sector Eight**~~

- ~~1.14.1 Boat:~~
- ~~1.14.1.1 Skipper:~~
- ~~1.14.1.2 Crew:~~

**1.15 RC Sector Nine**

- 1.15.1 Boat: Tow Boat US
- 1.15.2 Skipper: Karl Hoffman

**1.16 RC Patrol Sector Ten /Finish Line Support**

- 1.16.1 Boat: Magic Carpet
- 1.16.2 Skipper: George Catalano
- 1.16.3 Crew: Who knows

**1.17 RC Van Boat**

- 1.17.1 Contender
- 1.17.2 Skipper - Greg McGilloway

**1.17.3 Crew Kyle Pipkin**

**2 Support Boat Duties**

**2.1 Line Boats**

**2.1.1 Start Line Boat Palatka**

- 2.1.1.1 On station 0800
- 2.1.1.2 Station- Positioned vicinity Fl R "48" to form starting line in accordance with Sailing Instructions.
- 2.1.1.3 Maintain an accurate list of all boats starting and provide to mid-course boat and Race Coordination Center.
- 2.1.1.4 Off station – After all boats have started or 30 minutes after the final start time.
- 2.1.1.5 Pin boat – Coordinate with Starting Officer. Spot on-course-side boats. On-station and off station as coordinated with PSO.
- 2.1.1.6 Mid Line Boat – Anchor under direction of the PSO to mark the center of the starting line. Report all boats on course side of line at the starting signal.

**2.1.2 Mid-Course Gate Line Boat and Mid-Course Support Boat**

- 2.1.2.1 On station 1000
- 2.1.2.2 Station –South of Shands Bridge approximately N29° 58.9' W81° 37.4' just clear of the cable area perpendicular to the course leg leading to the center span of the Shands. Distance should be such that numbers of passing boats can be easily read yet not so as to block River traffic.
- 2.1.2.3 Set orange inflatable mark to the west of the course leg leading to the center span.
- 2.1.2.4 Maintain record of all boats passing through the gate and record their times.
- 2.1.2.5 Report Mug Race Numbers of boats passing to Race Coordination Center.
- 2.1.2.6 Notify boats passing the gate after 1930 that they will be scored DNF. Continue to record passing times until off-station in the event of redress.
- 2.1.2.7 Record all boats observed flying protest flags.
- 2.1.2.8 Be equipped with code flag "November" to signal abandonment should that be ordered by the RO.
- 2.1.2.9 Provide fuel staging for patrol boats.
- 2.1.2.10 Bring additional fuel in jerry jugs.
- 2.1.2.11 Off station 2030

**2.1.3 Finish Line Boat**

- 2.1.3.1 On station – 1300 or as dictated by wind conditions.
- 2.1.3.2 Station – N30° 11.1' W81° 39.7'
- 2.1.3.3 Set finish line perpendicular to final course leg.
- 2.1.3.4 Maintain time of all boats passing through the finish line from the direction of the Shands Bridge
- 2.1.3.5 Report Mug Number and times of all boats passing through the finish line from the direction of the final leg to the Race Coordination Center to allow for scoring and prepositioning of trailers.
- 2.1.3.6 Record and report all boats observed flying protest flags.
- 2.1.3.7 Off station approximately 2030.

## **2.2 Patrol Boats**

### **2.2.1 General Duties**

- 2.2.1.1 Patrol assigned sector as necessary to maintain visual contact with competitors and respond to emergencies when required. Anchor if desired until first boats enter sector.
- 2.2.1.2 Assume first responder status for all rescues.
- 2.2.1.3 Be prepared to be on station earlier if wind conditions indicate a faster than normal race.
- 2.2.1.4 Remain underway in duty status until cleared to proceed to dock by Race Coordination Center for all boats except Palatka boats who take direction from the Palatka Area Coordinator
- 2.2.1.5 Unless specified otherwise, after Flank Boat indicates all boats are clear of sector proceed to next to assist if necessary.
- 2.2.1.6 Report boats withdrawing from race to the Race Coordination Center
- 2.2.1.7 Report leading boats as they pass through your sector to the Race Coordination Center.
- 2.2.1.8 Be alert to and report presence of marine mammals. Alert nearby competitors as to their presence.
- 2.2.1.9 If towing assistance is required offer to contact Sea Tow or Tow Boat US.
- 2.2.1.10 For short tows, assist as necessary but tows should not require more than 30 minutes.
- 2.2.1.11 SI 15.12 requires all competitors to have a tow line on-board.
- 2.2.1.12 Maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 78 or other frequencies as directed.
- 2.2.1.13 Maintain a record including time of important communications heard on the VHF such as emergency messages, requests for assistance, boats retiring, and communication with boats directing they terminate their racing status.
- 2.2.1.14 Sailing Instructions provide that a boat accepting assistance under Fundamental Rule 1.1 is exempt from the provisions of RRS 41 Outside Help.
- 2.2.1.15 RC Patrol Sector Boats be prepared to provide towing assistance for boats unable to get under the Buckman Bridge.

### **2.2.2 Sector Assignments**

#### **2.2.2.1 Palatka Sector One -**

- 2.2.2.1.1 Station - From starting line along river to Forrester Pt.
- 2.2.2.1.2 Support Boat: Gator Bait
- 2.2.2.1.3 On station 0800
- 2.2.2.1.4 Off station when last boats clear of sector.

#### **2.2.2.2 Palatka Patrol Sector Two**

- 2.2.2.2.1 Station - From Forrester Pt to Federal Pt
- 2.2.2.2.2 Support Boat: Fantasea
- 2.2.2.2.3 On station 0900
- 2.2.2.2.4 Off station when last boats clear of sector.

### **2.2.2.3 Palatka Patrol Sector Three**

- 2.2.2.3.1 Station – From Federal Point to Racy Pt.
- 2.2.2.3.2 Support Boat: Uras’s Dragon
- 2.2.2.3.3 On Station – Approx 1000 depending on progress of race.
- 2.2.2.3.4 Off station when last boats clear of sector.

### **2.2.2.4 Palatka Patrol Sector Four**

- 2.2.2.4.1 Station – Racy Point to Ferriara Pt
- 2.2.2.4.2 Support Boat – RL4
- 1.1.1.1.1 On Station – Approx 1100 depending on progress of race.
- 1.1.1.1.2 Off station when last boats clear of sector.

### **1.1.1.2 Palatka Patrol Sector Five**

- 1.1.1.2.1 Station – Ferriara Pt to Bayard Pt
- 1.1.1.2.2 Support Boat – RL4
- 1.1.1.2.3 On and Off Stations as directed by Palatka Coordinator Dave Girardin

### **1.1.1.3 Palatka Van Boat**

- 1.1.1.3.1 Station – Stay with leader and report position until reaching Bayard Pt.
- 1.1.1.3.2 Support Boat – As assigned
- 1.1.1.3.3 On and Off Stations as directed by Palatka Coordinator Dave Girardin

### **1.1.1.4 Palatka Patrol Sector Seven**

- 1.1.1.4.1 Station – Flank Boat - Follow last boat from start to Bayard Pt.
- 1.1.1.4.2 Support Boat – Gator Bait

### **1.1.1.5 RC Patrol Sector Eight**

- 1.1.1.5.1 From Bayard Pt north to marker 17.
- 1.1.1.5.2 On station 1030.
- 1.1.1.5.3 Be prepared to relieve Palatka Flank Boat and remain with last boats until all boats are accounted for

### **1.1.1.6 RC Patrol Sector Nine**

- 1.1.1.6.1 From a line extending east and west through marker 17 to marker 11 and north as required. Be prepared to extend sector further south as necessary in the event of a rescue requirement.
- 1.1.1.6.2 On station 1200 or earlier depending on progress of boats.

### **1.1.1.7 RC Patrol Sector Ten**

- 1.1.1.7.1 Assist Finish Signal Boat as requested in identifying boats crossing the finish line.
- 1.1.1.7.2 Sector from marker 11 to finish.
- 1.1.1.7.3 Transport personnel to and from Finish Boat
- 1.1.1.7.4 On station at 1200 or prior to first competitor approaching finish line
- 1.1.1.7.5 If finish boat is not in position record finish time of boats.

**1.1.2 RC Van Boat**

- 1.1.2.1 Boat:
- 1.1.2.2 Sector – From Bayard Pt vicinity 29°56.3N 081°36.3W to finish
- 1.1.2.3 Stay with lead boat and report position every half hour.
- 1.1.2.4 If mid course boat is not in position record times of boats passing the mid course gate position.

**1.1.2.5 Green Cove Springs Mid-Course Support**

- 1.1.2.5.1 On station 1000
- 1.1.2.5.2 Report to Mid-Course Gate Boat for duties.
- 1.1.2.5.3 Assist Mid-Course Gate Boat with competitor identification support, fuel delivery and mark set and recovery.

**1.1.2.6 Junior Chase Boat**

- 1.1.2.6.1 On station for Start
- 1.1.2.6.2 Monitor progress of as many juniors as geographically possible during race.

**2 Jacksonville Sail and Power Squadron Boats**

**2.1 Assignments**

Boat	Captain	Cell Phone	e-mail	MMSI	Station
Hardtimes	John La Forge	(386) 843-0790	<a href="mailto:jl4161@att.com">jl4161@att.com</a>		From starting line along river to Forrester Pt
Z Man	Don Zeiser	904-403-0619	<a href="mailto:zeiser@bellsouth.net">zeiser@bellsouth.net</a>	338117289	Vicinity Federal Point 29° 44.9'N 081°33.1'W
Aquaholics	John Vanatta	904 859-1724	<a href="mailto:vanatta1881@comcast.net">vanatta1881@comcast.net</a>		Vicinity Ferreira Pt 29°52.9'N 081°35.2'W
Arrow	Cal Ray	904-894-1901	<a href="mailto:crayps@hotmail.com">crayps@hotmail.com</a>		Vicinity Pacetti Pt 29°56.9'N 081°35.3'W
Respite Granted	Blount Armstrong	904-868-6902	<a href="mailto:lbafl@bellsouth.net">lbafl@bellsouth.net</a>		Vicinity Popo Pt 30°01.5'N 081°40.5'W
Squid Squeezer	David Poole	904-866-8561	<a href="mailto:susieq_schultz@comcast.net">susieq_schultz@comcast.net</a>		Vicinity Ragged Pt. 30°07.2'N 081°40.6'W

- 2.2** Under direction of the Jacksonville Sail and Power Squadron Coordinator, maintain surveillance and communications relay along the Mug Race route.
- 2.3** Provide rescue coordination with in their assigned sector.
- 2.4** Provide the Race Coordination center with information regarding the position of competitors, weather conditions and other significant factors along the course.

**3 Shore Stations**

**3.1 Race Coordination Center**

- 3.1.1** Will be located in the outer office of the Rudder Club.
- 3.1.2** Be manned by 0700
- 3.1.3** Act as Race Net Control Station of VHF Channel 78 and coordinate all communications on that circuit.

- 3.1.4 Order a change of VHF channels in the event Channel 78 becomes unusable due to interference.
- 3.1.5 Maintain a radio log of all emergency messages monitored, requests for assistance or other messages of importance.
- 3.1.6 Maintain a plot of all support boats, the lead competitor and other competitors of interest.
- 3.1.7 Maintain a list of all boats reported as having retired from the Race.
- 3.1.8 Compare Mid-Course Gate passages with record of boats starting and attempt to determine status of boats still south of the Gate.
- 3.1.9 Compare all boats shown as not finishing with reports of boats retiring.
- 3.1.10 Initiate a search for unaccounted boats as required.
- 3.1.11 Record receipt of all protests and redress forms. Advise the PRO of these filings.
- 3.1.12 Coordinate and direct the activities of the Patrol and Van/Flank boats.
- 3.1.13 Contact Sea Tow or Towboat US in the event needed to assist a competitor.
- 3.1.14 Relay to the Race Coordination Center recommendations from Support Boats regarding the termination of race status of those boats not capable of completing the race.
- 3.1.15 Receive and record gate and finish time from the line boats.
- 3.1.16 Coordinate the early deployment of support boats in the event of a faster than anticipated race.
- 3.1.17 Monitor weather conditions along race course and advise the PRO and support boats of any development of significance to the race.
- 3.1.18 Be prepared to recommend "Abandonment" should dangerous weather develop.

#### 4 Predicted Currents 7 May 2016

##### 4.1 Palatka to Green Cove - Weak and Variable

##### 4.2 Green Cove (Red Bay Point)

Slack before Fld	Max Fld	Dir	Kts.	Slack before ebb	Max ebb	Dir	Kts
0839	1216	115	1.16	0427	0547	300	.83
2037		115		1645	1802	300	.77

##### 5.3 Mandarin Point

Slack before Fld	Max Fld	Dir	Kts.	Slack before ebb	Max ebb	Dir	Kts
0858	1158	179	.69	0227	0523	013	1.10
2056				1445	1738	013	1.03

#### Enclosures:

Communications Annex  
Equipment Annex

## Communications Annex

### Race Office

Race Office "Rudder Club Base" Race Coordination	Dick Allsopp Race Officer	Cell 904-314- 5237 Skype – therudderclub 904-302-7192	raceoffice@rudderclub.com	Handheld VHF MMSI 338097993
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### Jax Sail and Power Squadron

Boat	Skipper	Cell	E-mail	MMSI
Aquaholics	Jon Vanetta	904-859-1724	<a href="mailto:vanatta1881@comcast.net">vanatta1881@comcast.net</a>	
Arrow	Cal Ray	904-894-1901	<a href="mailto:crayps@hotmail.com">crayps@hotmail.com</a>	
Hardtimes	John LaForge	(386) 843-0790	<a href="mailto:jl4161@att.com">jl4161@att.com</a>	
Respite Granted	Blount Armstrong	904-868-6902	<a href="mailto:lbafl@bellsouth.net">lbafl@bellsouth.net</a>	
Squid Squeezer	David Poole	904-866-8561	<a href="mailto:susieg_schultz@comcast.net">susieg_schultz@comcast.net</a>	
Z Man	Don Zeiser	904-403-0619	<a href="mailto:zeiser@bellsouth.net">zeiser@bellsouth.net</a>	338117289

### Rudder Club and Palatka Yacht Club Boats

Station	Call Sign	Boat	Skipper	Cell/MMSI
Start	Pocohontas	Pocohontas	Gene O'Conner Principal Starting Officer – Jon Hamilton (CSBO)	Gene - 386-329- 6752 Jon -904-635- 9270
Pin Boat and Sector 1 and Flank	Gator Bait	Gator Bait	Dave Girardin Linda Giardin	386-937-1566
Finish Boat	Spare Me	Spare Me	Dave Backus	904.705.4829
Mid Course Boat	Bruiser	Bruiser	Tom Ray Jon Hamilton	608-865-1563 904-635-9270
Palatka Sector 2	Fantasea	Fantasea	Bruce Drackett	941-730-0600

Palatka Sector 3	Reed Boat	Reed Boat	Ed Reed	386-937-1112
Palatka Sector 4	Sector 4	RL4	Dave Meyers Roberta Crisson	610-207-0971
Palatka Sector Five	Sector 5	TBD	Chip Laibl	386-972-1324
Palatka Van Boat	Urasí's Dragon	Urasí's Dragon	Ernie Driscoll Suzanne Driscoll	904-501-9531
RC Patrol Sector 8	Unmanned			
RC Patrol Sector 9	Towboat US	Tow Boat US	Karl Hoffman	
RC Patrol Sector 10	Magic Carpet	Magic Carpet	George Catalano Warren Keene	386-569-9254
RC Van Boat	Van Boat		Greg McGilloway	904-882-7792
Mid course Support	Blue Skandia	Blue Skandia	Rob Smith Oscar de la Torres	(904) 566-8726 (904) 487-0573

**Other contact information of interest:**

**Deputy Chris Castelli**  
**Marine Enforcement Officer**  
**Clay County Sheriff's Office**  
**904-591-4621**  
[ccastelli@claysheriff.com](mailto:ccastelli@claysheriff.com)

**St Johns County On Water Officer**  
**Sid Mickler (smickler@SJSO.org)**  
**904 669 3153**

**Putnam County Water Patrol**  
**John Wells (jwells@putnamsherrif.org)**  
**386-937-3334**

## Race Committee Support Boat Equipment Annex

\*air horns  
air canisters, extra  
\*anchor, chain & line  
batteries, spare  
\*cellular telephone  
cell phone charger (12V)  
\*chart  
dividers  
\*clipboards  
rubber bands (for clipboards)  
\*Sailing Instructions and changes  
\*swim ladder  
compass  
\*flashlights (multiple)  
\*Type IV throwable Device  
\*three day/night distress signals  
foul weather clothing  
bath towel  
first aid kit  
hand bearing compass  
large plastic leaf bags  
small stuff  
duct tape  
electrical ties ("zip" ties)  
\*emergency contacts, phone and VHF  
\*entry lists, by sail/mug number  
\*VHF handheld radio  
\*first aid kit  
\*watches or clocks  
flag decoder  
food, water & soft drinks  
\*spare fuel & engine oil  
heaving line  
\*knife  
loud hailer  
Navigation Lights  
\*= Mug Race Requirement

\*paper  
\*pencils  
\*lifejackets  
\*binoculars  
lens cleaners  
tide and current tables (see attached)  
\*navigation equipment, including GPS  
\*tools, or a Leatherman  
VHF radio batteries, spare  
whistle, on a lanyard  
Zip-lock bags  
\*Spotlight  
\*First Aid Kit  
Band-aids  
rubber gloves (first aid)  
\*cable cutters (shearing type)  
fire extinguisher  
\*towing bridle  
thermal blanket  
\*bailers and or buckets  
work gloves for handling lines  
\*large fueling funnel

### **Dos for Race Support Boats**

**Do** be aware of the authority under which the race is conducted. Know the Race Committee Chairman/Principal Race Officer and the person to whom you are responsible.

**Do** wear a lifejacket at all times.

**Do** make sure your boat is equal to the task. Is it fast enough, maneuverable enough, does it have sufficient capacity, have all required equipment, adequate ground tackle and necessary race related equipment?

**Do** remember that while operationally responsible to the race committee member in charge, you are ultimately responsible for the safe operation of your boat and the safety of the persons embarked therein.

**Do** have a clear understanding of who is responsible for covering your expenses as well as whose responsibility it is to obtain and load all the required equipment and supplies.

**Do** understand that Race Support Boats need to be prepared to render assistance to a boat in distress. If for any reason you or your boat are not prepared to rescue tow or perform other rescue operations, ensure the responsible committee person is aware of these limitation.

**Do** have some form of communication with other Race Support Boats and a shore station. Ensure that more than one person on board is familiar with the operation of this equipment.

**Do** be aware that seasickness and seasickness medication can render persons ineffective in performing their tasks.

**Do** have a protected copy of the Sailing Instructions on board.

**Do** have some form of private head accommodation. If your boat is too small make arrangements for use of facilities elsewhere on the water or ashore.

**Do** be aware of your boat's wake. Its effect on sailboats particularly in light air can be quite dramatic. In light conditions, wake travels quite far upwind.

**Do** be prepared to stay out on the water if races run late. Your primary concern is everyone's safety.

### **Don'ts for Race Support Boats**

**DON'T** invite guests aboard your boat beyond the minimum needed to perform your duties. Remember unless so designated your boat is a working vessel and not a spectator boat.

**DON'T** drink alcoholic beverages on duty.

**DON'T** position your boat in an area where you will interfere with the race course. Remember even a wind shadow can carry a longer distance than you might expect. Ask if you have any questions.

**DON'T** lift anchors or pull on heavily weighted ground tackle or loaded lines unless you are physically capable of doing so.

**DON'T** communicate with any competitor, either verbally or by signal, unless you are specifically authorized to do so. You risk infringing a rule that could jeopardize a competitor's finishing position.