



## Things to know for the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Mug Race!

This year, Mug Race returns to its traditional starting venue in central Palatka. The Friday May 1 packet pickup will be in the Quality Inn, and the skippers' meeting will be in the Riverfront Park amphitheater. Saturday's start will be just north of the US 17 (Memorial) Bridge, providing great spectator viewing!

### TWO STARTS, ONE START LINE!

There will be a single start line just north of the US 17 (Memorial Bridge). Multihulls will start at 8:00 AM (7:55 warning) on Saturday morning. Monohulls will start at 8:10 AM (8:05 warning). Spectators can park on the Memorial Bridge northbound side during the start for a great view.

### OTHER NEW STUFF!



A new addition – two food trucks will augment the dining options in Palatka on Friday evening (Rollin Smoke BBQ and Manny's Cuban Food)!



And this year tee-shirts can be ordered in advance on the registration website storefront <https://regattanetwork/events/26403>. Order when you register and we will put them in your packet. Order early to be sure you get the size you want! In addition to the cotton short-sleeve tees, we will have limited numbers of hi-tech long-sleeve shirts and ladies tank-tops.

### MUG RACE LOGISTICS

***Mug Race is a one-way distance race with special logistical challenges. If you are new to Mug Race, please read this section carefully!*** The start will be in Palatka, but the finish is just south of the Buckman Bridge in Jacksonville – near the Rudder Club.

Boats on trailers will want to launch at the Palatka City Ramp, just south of the US 17 bridge at the southern end of Riverfront Park.

- If you wish to have your trailer waiting for you at the Rudder Club, you can drive it to the Rudder Club on Friday and take the 5:30 pm shuttle bus back to the Quality Inn in Palatka. See the full shuttle schedule below.
- Alternatively, you can leave your trailer and tow vehicle in Palatka at the City Dock parking area and return for it on the Saturday 9:00 pm shuttle bus.
- When you bring your trailer to the Rudder Club, come to the gate (8533 Malaga Ave). You will find a parking place for your trailer INSIDE the gate, then detach your tow vehicle and move it OUTSIDE the gate.
- If you want to leave your catamaran on cat tracks in Palatka (or your dinghy on its dolly), there will be a trailer at the City Dock on which you can load your cat tracks after launching on Saturday. We will drive this trailer to the Rudder Club Saturday morning and have the tracks waiting at the club. Please put your name on your tracks or dolly!

Larger boats that arrive in Palatka via water can dock overnight for two nights for free at the City Docks just south of the US 17 bridge. There are two docks – one just south of the bridge and one at the southern end of Riverfront Park near the ramp. There is no electricity at these docks. You can stay overnight on your boat. There are restrooms in the small building near the ramp (but these are closed from dusk till dawn). There will be portapotties near the ramp. Alternatively, if you have paid for a room at the Quality Inn, they have new docks with electricity where you can dock for free (please inform them when you reserve your room).

**Shuttle bus schedule** from the Rudder Club to the Quality Inn in Palatka (\$12, purchase online at the Storefront <https://regattanetwork/events/26403>).

Friday May 1 – 5:30 pm departure (arrives in Palatka in time for Skippers' meeting)

Saturday May 2 – 5:15 am departure

Saturday May 2 – 9:00 pm departure

### **Lodging in Palatka**

The closest hotels to the activities are:

- The Quality Inn, about \$99 per night plus taxes, where we have managed to reserve a small number of rooms. For reservations, call 386-328-3481 and say “Mug Race”
- The Hampton Inn, which is actually closer to City Docks and the restaurants on St. Johns, but is about \$169 per night plus taxes.

Other hotels will require a car, with the Best Western on US 17 the closest.

There is no camping in Riverfront Park.

### **Food in Palatka Friday night**

We are excited to announce two food trucks to be in Riverfront Park on Friday evening:

Rollin Smoke BBQ

Manny's Cuban Food

In addition, there are several restaurants in walking distance:

- Beef O-Brady's, in the Quality Inn;

- Mariachiles Mexican Restaurant on St. John's Ave, easy walk from park.

And several bars:

- Uncorked and Unwind (craft beer and excellent wine) on Second Ave. across from the Hampton Inn;
- Beef O'Brady's in the Quality Inn;
- Steamboat Willie's on St. Johns Ave.

### **Lodging in Jacksonville**

There are numerous hotels at the intersection of I-295 and US 17, at the boundary of Jacksonville and Orange Park. The Best Western, Days Inn, and Hampton Inn are particularly close to the Rudder Club. None are within walking distance.

### **Parking at the Rudder Club**

There is vehicle parking along the street and on the vacant lot at the corner of Malaga and Collins. DO NOT PARK directly across the street from the club gate in front of the house and be respectful of areas the neighbors have taped off. The gate attendant may direct you to other parking once the corner lot is full.

### **Saturday night at the Rudder Club**

Supper will be served at the Rudder Club starting about 6pm and running till about 10pm. We try to be slightly flexible depending on the race conditions. *Music starts at 6pm, and the beer kegs open once racers start to arrive.* Come relax after a long day out on the water.

When you arrive at the Rudder Club dock, please leave free any taped off areas that are reserved for finish boat and other race operations. Larger boats should be prepared with fenders so they can raft off other boats. You are welcome to stay on your boat overnight.

If you want to bring your boat out of the water on to its trailer Saturday night, we will try to tow your boat out with one of our tractors. Follow the directions of the ramp director. You will go with a tractor driver to identify your trailer, then pull out your boat. You will not be allowed to bring in your tow vehicle unless you are packed up and are ready to leave the grounds. We do not have space on the grounds for everyone to bring in their tow vehicle. If you can leave your boat in the water until Sunday, you can bring your tow vehicle in then (and have daylight).

**AND WHATEVER YOU DO – Don't miss breakfast at the Rudder Club on Sunday morning before trophies. Best regatta breakfast anywhere, ever.**

## Schedule of Events

Day	Time	Location	Description
Saturday April 18	3:00 – 6:00 pm	Rudder Club	First packet pickup and help with online registration
Sunday April 19	11:59 pm		Early Registration Discount ends
Thursday April 30	11:59 pm		Registrations after this day have \$30 late registration penalty
Friday May 1	4:00-5:00 pm	Quality Inn Palatka	Late Packet pickup
Friday May 1	5:00 pm		REGISTRATION CLOSES
Friday May 1	7:15 pm	Riverfront Park amphitheater, Palatka	Skippers' meeting
Saturday May 2	7:55 am	St. Johns River, Palatka	Warning signal for multihulls
Saturday May 2	8:05 am	St. Johns River, Palatka	Warning signal for monohulls
Saturday May 2	6:30 pm	St Johns River, Shands Bridge	Deadline for passing the mid-course gate
Saturday May 2	8:06 pm	St. Johns River, S of Buckman	DEADLINE FOR FINISHING
Sunday May 3	8:00 am -10:00 am	Rudder Club	Best Regatta Breakfast ever!
Sunday May 3	10:30 am	Rudder Club	TROPHIES