

The Corsair 28R's will be holding their National Championship at the Acura Key West regatta in 2007. This will be the sixth year the Corsair 28R's have attended Key West, and the number of boats is expected to exceed previous years. In addition to stellar race management and a full week of competition, can you think of a better place to be in January than sailing in the azure waters of Key West?

Also, in addition to Overall trophies, boats skippered and crewed entirely by Group 1 competitors will also be competing for a set of Amateur awards. This will hopefully entice the owners who want to come out and learn from the professional sailors and Olympic medalists in the fleet (last year there were four Olympic medalists competing), but also be eligible for trophies based on amateur status.

First pass attempt at the competition rules is as follows (subject to change):

"To be eligible for the "Amateur Team" trophy, the skipper and crew must ALL be classified as, or fit within the guidelines and definitions of, Group 1 "Amateur" competitors (as defined by the ISAF Sailor Classification Code: <http://www.sailing.org/classification/classificationcode.asp>). All sailing industry related persons who have not received ISAF Sailor Classification determination, shall be deemed Group 3 competitors. Notwithstanding a US SAILING competitor eligibility determination, the Council of Class Officers shall be the final authority in determining a competitor's status within the spirit of the Amateur Team trophy."

More simply put, if you are a professional sailor, sailmaker, dealer, marine equipment manufacturer, rep or salesman, or work or derive any income from any of the above, you are not eligible for the Amateur awards. The objective is obviously to get average Joe and/or Jane to enter this world class event.

For those wondering our Class' fate in the historical Florida panhandle event (Pensacola or Fort Walton Beach), realize we will still be promoting and entering that event as well. Additionally, it will likely continue to be the "Nationals" for the other models of Corsair 28 (i.e., non 28R's). Personally, I have always viewed this event as more of a "rendezvous" format, and a big social gathering of all of the Corsairs. Another factor in the decision to sanction Key West as our National Championship was simply that we have more boats attending than at the Panhandle event, as well as a greater diversity of sailor (with top sailors from the other Classes racing 28R's). Also, the dates for the Key West regatta are known a year in advance, which facilitates planning vacation, securing crew, etc.

Look for more announcements regarding the Key West National Championship on the Class List Server: <http://www.corsairmarine.com/528ClassIndex.htm>. If you are a 28 Owner and have not subscribed, please do so, as this is the most efficient way for us to converse as a Class.

If you are an Owner with plans to attend Key West, or non-owner in need of a Charter boat, please send me an email. I will be compiling a list of potential entrants and keeping it updated/posted on the Class List. Here is a link to the announcement on the Acura Key West website, and regatta entry information: [http://www.premiere-racing.com/keywest07/pages/KW07\\_one\\_designs.htm#COR](http://www.premiere-racing.com/keywest07/pages/KW07_one_designs.htm#COR).

See you in Key West in January 2007!

Michael Zotzky  
North American Corsair 28 Class President