

Bermuda Int'l Invitational Regatta– IOD Class 2017

Bermuda International Invitational Regatta starts on April 29th 2017 with registration and will continue until the evening of May 5th with prize giving. For the IOD's racing will consist of 10 races in the Great Sound over the week. This year we have 13 participants, 12 from overseas and 1 from Bermuda. Geographically, they are from the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Norway, Sweden and Bermuda. This means there will be approximately 70 competitors and supporters coming from overseas.

The Regatta will be hotly contested as usual, as 2 former Bermuda Race Week Champions will be competing this year. The most recent race week winner from Chester, Nova Scotia, Peter Wickwire will not be skippering this year. However, he will be participating as tactician for the young gun from the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Henry Arnald who is a European team-racing champion. Henry will be participating for the third time in Race Week. It would not be Race Week without the Norwegian fox, Jan Petter Roed who is returning after an absence of a year. Jan Petter is a prior Bermuda Race Week winner. Giles Peckham from Cowes in England will be back. Giles won Bermuda Race Week his last time competing here.

There will be 6 other experienced and quality veterans in the event. From the North East Harbour, Maine there are 2 competitors, Scott Redman and David Schoeder returning this year. Both are experienced veterans and should be in the upper half of the fleet. Patrick Cooper, current Bermuda fleet champion will be representing the Bermuda IOD fleet. His knowledge of the Great Sound makes him a top contender for the Vrengen Cup. Richard Werdinger from the Nantucket fleet is returning to Bermuda and we expect him to be in contention again. From St. Mawes in Cornwall, England are Mike Conlin and John Bingham. They have been absent for a couple of years and we are looking forward to their return to the Island. Our other returning veteran is Bjorn Whalstrom who has competed for the past 3 years in Race Week. Bjorn is looking for a top half finish in the fleet.

There will be four new competitors this year sailing in Bermuda. Wes Maxwell will be representing the Fisher's Island fleet and will have a seasoned crew on board. From Marblehead Mass. we have our first female skipper for sometime. Hanna Vincent will be helming for the week but she will have 7 time world champion Bill Widnall on board as her tactician. From Chester Nova Scotia will be Ted Murphy. He is the new generation of young guns who have embraced racing in our classic IOD's. He finished 3rd in the IOD North Americans last year in Maine. Our final new competitor will be Rob Vellinger from San Francisco. Rob original sailed IOD's on Long Island Sound but now lives in San Francisco and is representing them in Bermuda Race Week.

All competitors will find a warm welcome from Bermuda and the host Royal Bermuda Yacht Club and our sponsors Bacardi International.

