

Hi All

Not long nowthe countdown begins!

A few points:

1. *Shipping of Cradles:*

Please take note that the cradles will be shipped on the "Grey Fox" etd Cape Town 26th February and eta Walvis Bay 28th/29th February.

*For the clearing agents to do the documentation we will need the dimensions and mass of each cradle – please forward to me. Don't forget that each cradle must have the name of the boat painted on it and must also indicate which is the front – this will make the loading of the boats **so** much easier. (Please note that if documentation is not done properly we land up with problems – lets get all our ducks in a row and things will go so much smoother.)*

If all the cradles are prepared and left at the slip gate (liaise with David Dickinson) we will arrange a truck to drop them off a G Shed to be loaded on the ship.

2. *Shipping back to Cape Town of the Yachts.*

There will be 2 ships bringing the boats back.

For shipping documentation we will need the LOA; Width; Height of the boat on the cradle (height with mast up as well as height with mast down) – please forward to me.

For those who have a "quick" race – we have the "Amber Lagoon" etd Walve 14th March and eta Cape Town 17th March

The rest will have to come back on "Diamond Land" etd Walvis 25th March and eta Cape Town 27th March

*To assist with shipping it would be appreciated if you could mark the sling position on the toerail or hull in **BLUE***

*And mark on the toerail where the two supporting chocks are to be positioned in **RED***

3. *Skippers Briefing*

The sponsors, MACS, have requested that we change the date of the Skippers Briefing/Welcome & Media Function (Item 11 of the Notice of Race). Please note that te Skippers Briefing will now be held on Tuesday 4th March at 17h30 in the Upstairs Lounge area. The Welcome & Media Function will follow and all crew, wives and partners are invited to attend.

4. *Bus Back for Crew to Cape Town*

We are looking at hiring a luxury bus to bring the crews back to Cape Town. Obviously we need to know numbers as the more people we have the bigger the bus and the cheaper the tickets. The Race will be sponsoring the tickets but we may have to call on those using this for a contribution (possibly R500). By the 4th March we will need your commitment and deposit to secure a place on this bus.

We have been told that the cost of the flight back is R2,260.

5. *Arrival in Walvis Bay*

We have been assured that there will be drinks/food available for all boats on arrival and if last year's race is anything to go by you can be assured of great hospitality.

6. *Sailing Instructions*

These will be available shortly and distributed to all.

It would be appreciated if you could give me a copy of each crew members passport – this can be handed in with the Crew Lists.

7. *Needing Crew?*

Graham Hood – an experienced sailor is looking for a berth – if interested please contact me at e-mail graham@poolco.co.bw or office @poolco.co.bw

I will send out another Newsletter closer to the time giving details of clearing out from Cape Town – this can only be done 24 hours before departure.

Dee Siebert

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