



Allen Brill
President and
Chief Executive Officer

ROLEX WATCH U.S.A., INC.

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Dear Competitors:

This year's Rolex Big Boat Series marks the 5th anniversary of the partnership between Rolex and the St. Francis Yacht Club. Since 2002, this important event on the Rolex regatta calendar has gone from strength to strength.

Every year more competitors join us from across North America as well as from abroad and this year will be no exception. Our hosts at the St. Francis Yacht Club are planning for four days of superlative racing on San Francisco Bay, with classes for one-design and IRC fleet racing.

I am confident that the 2007 edition of the Rolex Big Boat Series will be the best regatta yet. I look forward to greeting you – competitors, your families and crew – in September and celebrating the success of the Rolex Big Boat Regatta.

Until then, fair winds and great sailing!

Cordially,

Allen Brill
President & CEO
Rolex Watch U.S.A.

► **RULES**

1.1 This regatta will be governed by the Rules as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the Deeds of Gift for the following trophies: St. Francis Perpetual, the City of San Francisco Perpetual, the Atlantic Perpetual, the Keefe-Kilborn Perpetual, the Richard Rheem Perpetual, and the Commodore's Perpetual. For Handicap Divisions: The IRC Rules, Parts 1,2, and 3 shall apply. Yachts shall submit a copy of their IRC endorsed certificate not later than September 1st, 2007. No alteration in a yacht's TOC will be permitted after this date, with the following exceptions: as a rating protest, to correct Rating Office errors, or with written permission of the Organizing Authority (to be granted only in extreme circumstances.) For One-Design Divisions: the respective class rules will apply, except for J/105 Fleet One Class rules and J/120 Fleet Five Class rules, which will replace the National Association Class Rules. The St. Francis Yacht Club is the Organizing Authority.

1.2 RRS 40.1 will be changed as follows: All competitors are required to wear a Life Jacket or other adequate personal flotation device while racing.

1.3 IRC Crew Limitations: Either a boat's maximum total crew number shall not exceed the Crew Number printed on her certificate, OR the maximum total crew weight shall not exceed the product of the Crew Number printed on the boat's certificate multiplied by 180 pounds. Crew weigh-ins are not required for IRC entries, but IRC Crew Limitations may be subject to protest.

► **ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

Participation in this event is by invitation only. Competitors may apply for entry online at www.stfyc.com. Entries will be notified of their acceptance by the Race Office.

► **FEES**

Entry Fee: \$15 dollars per foot of overall boat length, rounded up to the nearest foot. All checks must be in US DOLLARS drawn on a US BANK and made payable to: St. Francis Yacht Club. Fees listed below expire on

Saturday, September 1 for all entries. After that date, an additional \$250 late fee will apply. There are no exceptions to the late fee. All guests must obtain a guest pass at registration in order to gain access to the Club throughout the week. Each crew member will receive a competitor badge, as well as one complimentary guest pass. Additional guest passes may be purchased during registration.

► **CLASS DIVISIONS**

Entrants will be divided into two groupings as follows: One Design Racing: Transpac 52, J/120, Sydney 38, Melges 32, Express 37, One Design 35, J/105. IRC Handicap Racing: Yachts 35' LOA and above will be divided into divisions at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

A minimum of 6 boats per class will be required for a class start. If 6 boats per class are not entered by the entry deadline of September 1, the entered boats may be assigned to another division or may not be eligible to race at the discretion of the Organizing Authority. Additional classes may be added at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

► **RACING AREA**

Windward/Leeward Race Courses will be set on central San Francisco Bay and its approaches.

► **SCORING**

Each boat's series score will be the sum of her scores for all races.

► **PRIZES**

Trophies will be awarded based on fleet participation.

► **BERTHING & TRAILER STORAGE**

All yachts competing in the event may be moored free of charge at pre-assigned locations beginning on Monday, Sept 10 until one night after racing concludes. If you plan on keeping a storage trailer in the City parking lot, please contact the Race Office in person or at 415-563-6363 for an overnight parking permit. All trailers without a permit will be towed.

REGATTA SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 12

- 1100 - 1730 Registration & Check-In
- 1800 - 1930 Rolex Commodore's Reception / Skipper's Meeting

Thursday, September 13

- 0900 - 0930 Late Registration
- 1100 Racing begins - Two Races Scheduled
- 1700 - 2000 Rolex Party

Friday, September 14

- 1100 Racing begins - Two Races Scheduled
- 1700 - 1830 Mt. Gay Cocktail Party

Saturday, September 15

- 1100 Racing begins - Two Races Scheduled
- 1630 - 1730 No-Host Cocktails
- 1930 Crew Dinner (Sign-up at Registration & Check-In)

Sunday, September 16

- 1100 Racing begins - Bay-Tour Race Scheduled
- 1600 Rolex Trophy Ceremony





March 1, 2007

Dear Big Boat Invitee:

On behalf of the officers, directors and members of the St. Francis Yacht Club it is my pleasure to invite you and your crew to participate in the 43rd annual St. Francis Perpetual Trophy Regatta, known as the Rolex Big Boat Series, to be held September 13-16, 2007.

Thanks to our presenting sponsor, Rolex Watch, U.S.A., social events with live entertainment are planned each night beginning with the Rolex Commodore's Reception on Wednesday evening, September 12. Racing for all classes will commence on Thursday, September 13 and continue through Sunday, September 16. Rolex has again generously donated watches for the winners of the St. Francis Perpetual Trophy, the City of San Francisco Trophy, the Atlantic Perpetual Trophy, the Keefe-Kilborn Memorial Trophy, the Richard Rheem Perpetual Trophy, and the Commodore's Perpetual Trophy. Classes that will be racing for these perpetual trophies and watches will be announced at the Rolex Commodore's Reception. We will hold the Awards Ceremony after the last race on Sunday.

The enclosed Notice of Race describes the particulars of the 2007 event. Please register online as soon as possible to receive more information about the event. If you are planning to race in the IRC handicap divisions and have any questions about obtaining a certificate and / or information regarding the IRC rating system, please reference www.us-irc.org. This web site is very informative, and if you have further inquiries, it has contact information for the Official US Rating Office. Please get your applications for a measurement certificate in early to ensure that you will have the process completed by the deadline.

Berthing at the St. Francis Yacht Club will be available at no charge at assigned locations starting on Monday, September 10. Please make alternate arrangements for berthing before this date. Thank you for your cooperation.

An invitation is also extended to all men to attend the annual Tinsley Island Stag Cruise, which will be held September 20-23, 2007. If you need further information for either the regatta or cruise, please contact the St. FYC Race Office at 415-563-6363 or raceoffice@stfyc.com. We hope to see you in September.

Sincerely,
Ray W. Lotto

Commodore
St. Francis Yacht Club



St. Francis Yacht Club

ABOUT ST. FRANCIS YACHT CLUB

Founded in 1927, the St. Francis Yacht Club is steeped in over 75 years of yachting and racing traditions. From the start, the St. Francis Yacht Club's membership roster has included many of the Bay Area's most prominent citizens and greatest sailors. Early racers for the St. Francis included such champions as L.A. Norris, Mark Fontana, Myron Spaulding, Arthur Rousseau, Painless Parker and Lester Stone. Today, it is names like Paul Cayard, John Kostecki, John Bertrand, Stan Honey, Morgan Larson, and Russ Silvestri who continue to keep the St. Francis name in the forefront of world-class sailing.

The annual regatta schedule at the St. Francis is one of the most aggressive regatta calendars in the world. Part of the attraction of racing at St. Francis Yacht Club is the excellent and challenging racing conditions unique to San Francisco Bay. Both physically beautiful and naturally demanding, the Bay provides a racer with the ultimate in wind, current and weather conditions for truly competitive, exciting sailing. With the skyline of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge as a backdrop, the St. Francis Yacht Club prides itself on being able to provide all visitors with every comfort and amenity while dazzling them with their surroundings.

ABOUT THE ROLEX BIG BOAT SERIES

The Big Boat Series has witnessed the "glory days" of SORC and IOR; over the years, it has accommodated the inclusion of Maxis, Sleds, and the notorious six-meter fleet. This event has marked the end of the S&S era and the explosion of one-design classes. It survived the 80's ups and downs, and it soared in numbers of entries in the nineties to reach 112 entries in 2000. In 1990 the series was shortened from its previous week-long format to its current schedule of seven races over four days. The St. Francis Perpetual Trophy Regatta – Rolex Big Boat Series – is known as the premier West Coast regatta. The Rolex Big Boat Series annually attracts many world-caliber sailors, all of whom are eager to win one of the six specially engraved Rolex timepieces awarded to the six Perpetual Trophy winners.

2006 PERPETUAL TROPHY WINNERS

Commodore's Cup

Created in 2004 to encourage competition in one-design racing on San Francisco Bay. Good Timin' owned by brothers Chris and Phil Perkins (San Francisco) won the 36-boat J/105 class.

Richard Rheem Perpetual Trophy

Established in 1972 in memory of Richard Rheem, whose famous yacht Morning Star was the elapsed time winner in the 1949 and 1955 Transpac races to Honolulu. Won by Michael Kennedy (Chicago, Ill.) on Copernicus.

Keefe-Kilborn Memorial Trophy

Established in 1976 to honor Harold Keefe and Ray Kilborn. Stephen Madeira (Menlo Park, Calif.) earned his third straight Perpetual Trophy for his victory in the 10-boat J/120 class on Mr. Magoo.

Atlantic Perpetual Trophy

Established in 1978 and features the ship's bell of the yacht Atlantic, the long-time Trans-Atlantic Ocean record holder (1905). The bell was donated by John C. "Jack" Morris, and the trophy by Jack H. Feller Jr. It was won by Gerard Sheridan (San Francisco) on his Elan 40 Tupelo Honey.

The St. Francis Perpetual Trophy

Established to stimulate and encourage competition among large ocean racing yachts. The trophy has been awarded annually since the inception of the Big Boat Series 41 years ago to yachts invited to a race or series of races that are measured and handicapped in accordance with the current measurement rule and rate 40 feet or more. This trophy was donated in 1964 by Commodore A. L. Sandy McCormick. Won by Jim Gregory (Danville, Calif.) on his Schumacher 50 Morpheus.

City of San Francisco Trophy

One of the two golden spades used to break ground for the Golden Gate Bridge in 1933. Won by John Siegel (San Francisco) on his Wylie 42 Scorpio.