

## Regatta Entry by Internet

Even the most basic computer electronics and Internet services has given us the ability to easily move into a paperless regatta entry process. Class and club sailing schedules with all information is now posted on the Internet with most available to the general public. Promotion and communications follow suit, so why can't we return the entry forms and registrations to the organizers by the Internet? We can and it is easy.

Email the entry form rather than by postal mailing. Download the posted entry form, print it and fill it out. Then scan the entry with instructions to email it to the organizer with a statement that payment of the regatta fee is to follow.

Simpler yet is to create a generic entry form in MS Word format and file it in your documents. When you need it, fill it out and email it directly to the contact on the posted form or in the Notice of Race. Here is one that might be used or create something special for yourself:

Regatta: Sun City-Hilton Head  
Name: Rick West  
Address: 139 Dardenelle Ave., Pacifica CA 94044  
Home Phone: 650.359.1525  
Mobile Phone: 415.519.1525  
Email: rickwest94@gmail.com  
AMYA Member: 10176  
Delta MYC, California  
Radio: Futaba 2.4Ghz  
Boat YRN: 194    Main Number: 94    Jib Number: 94  
Guest Lunches:  
Attending Saturday Dinner: Yes  
Guest Dinners:  
Total fees to be sent via PayPal: \$32  
Dated: 23 July 10

Because this is your file document, changes can be made per special requests in an official entry form. An example would be the NCR which has several activities the organizers need to plan for with your information.

The waiver of liability or Hold Harmless clause that traditionally has been on the entry form can be included in the Notice of Race. A simple statement like, "By submitting an entry form and payment of entry fees, you agree to the following:" State the standard wording of the clause. The Entry section of the NOR should also state if the event will accept an electronic entry form and payment. State the email address to receive both.

Payment: If you know about PayPal, you know what to do.

[PayPal](#) has become an accepted agent for the transfer of funds for Internet businesses and between individuals. I have been with the company for well over a decade and never had an issue nor have heard of one. The EC12 Store uses PayPal exclusively with direct deposit and withdrawal. They are now part of the holdings at eBay. PayPal would like to be a full online bank and protects and services their accounts with great credibility and sensitivity. Top Internet retail companies provide payment through PayPal for their products.

There are levels of accounts depending on what business you will conduct. It can be just personal too. Someone in the group that organizes a regatta is likely to have an account with PayPal. Their email address is all that is needed to send money to them. Depending on the preferences of the account, they can withdraw funds accumulating in the account balance by direct deposit to their bank or by check through the postal mail. The former is free and the latter \$1.50 per check mailed.