



**Balboa Yacht Club 🇺🇸 Newport Beach, California 🇺🇸 U.S.A.**





# The 56th Governor's Cup

The Governor's Cup is the oldest and most prestigious youth match racing event in the world and is the first age-limited event to achieve Grade 1 status from World Sailing, granted in 2018 and qualified again in 2019. Its "alumni" include many of the greatest sailors in the world. "GovCup" alums have won the America's Cup, Congressional Cup, the World Match Racing Tour, multiple Olympic medals and—although perhaps the most different kind of racing possible—the Round the World Race (now the "Ocean Race") Alums are fixtures at the top of the World Match Racing Open Rankings and in the latest April 2022 rankings, comprise nine of the top twenty, including two of the top five. As a former competitor said about the Governor's Cup...

**"The 'GovCup' is not only the best match racing regatta I've ever sailed in, it is the best *regatta*, I've ever been to!" A GovCup competitor**

Balboa Yacht Club celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2022. It has produced many champion sailors including Olympic

## Balboa Yacht Club & Newport Beach

medalists, world champions, and America's Cup sailors. It has two members of the National Sailing Hall of Fame and two that have been named Rolex U.S. Yachtsman of the Year.

BYC, its members and staff look forward to carrying on a 56-year Governor's Cup tradition and welcoming the best young match racers in the world to the Club and to Newport Beach in July of this year.

While racing will be held in the Pacific Ocean off the city, the Club is located in Newport Harbor, the largest small boat harbor in the United States with over 9,000 boats. The competitors will have the opportunity to race in the harbor if they wish by joining one of the big boats sailing in the summer "BeerCan Regatta" after the racing on Thursday. Summer conditions for the competition generally feature onshore winds of 6-15 knots with a light chop.



## 2023 Schedule of Events

Balboa Yacht Club members put on quite a show for GovCup competitors, sponsors and fans. At right is a schedule of just a few of the week's events. From housing the competitors with Club families, to providing most meals with the cost covered by the entry fee, the GovCup "re-earns" its reputation each year as a "must do" event for youth match racers from around the world.

### Monday, July 24

- 1100-1200 Registration
- Lunch for Crews
- Practice sailing in Governor's Cup 22s
- Opening Dinner

### Tuesday, July 25

- 1st Race Day
- Selected Crew Interview Availability
- Crew Dinner

### Wednesday, July 26

- 2nd Race Day
- Crews invited to barbecue dinner

### Thursday, July 27

- 3rd Race Day
- Crews invited on big boat "BeerCan" race
- BeerCan Barbecue

### Friday, July 28

- 4th Race Day; Semi-Final Races;
- Reception & Press Conference

### Saturday, July 29

- Final Race Day; Semi-Finals continue; Petit Final and Final Matches
- Press Conference & Trophy Reception

## The Boats

The Governor's Cup 22s were launched and used for the first time in 2016, the 50th Anniversary of the "GovCup. They were designed by noted yacht designer, Alan Andrews, who is also a Staff Commodore of the Balboa YC. The "design brief" was to create a light boat to be sailed by three or four crew with plenty of sail area which would perform well in winds as light as 4 knots of breeze, and be a lot of fun in 18! Within a short period of time, GovCup crews confirmed that the goals were more than met!



Photo Tom Walker

The boats feature masthead spinnakers, a modern, flat top mainsail, and raked spreaders on the carbon fiber rigs, eliminating the need for a permanent backstay. With a weight of only about 1650 lbs/~750Kg, they will plane in a breeze. The high aspect ratio bulb keel allows the large sail plan providing sufficient power in virtually any breeze.

The open cockpit easily allows for 3-4 crew and to date, no advantage has been seen regularly for either crew size. In 2018, for example the two "four up" teams finished first and twelfth. 12 boats are provided to the competitors and we believe first-time invitees will enjoy them as much as the "veterans".



Photo Tom Walker

GovCupTV's 30 strong volunteer team of Club members have raised the bar for live TV coverage of modern match racing. In 2022, our ten live shows on Facebook and YouTube had over 8,000 views. All told, the TV coverage alone delivered tens of thousands of



## Wanna be famous? Or famouser?

impressions in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Western Europe and, of the course, the USA and Southern California. Coverage Includes Skipper Interviews in the weeks

before the Cup on Tom Ehman's *Sailing Illustrated* show which attracts a worldwide audience Tuesday & Fridays.

During "GovCup Week", live coverage includes: Monday Opening Dinner; Wed-Sat pre-race morning shows; All day Racing coverage Friday and Saturday; and press

conferences both of those days and the Saturday prize giving. Check out 2022 Final day coverage at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqzELssaMpU>

## Getting Invited

The Governor's Cup Selection Committee will select 12 skippers who submit a Request for Invitation ("RFI") by

April 7, 2023. Decisions of the Selection Committee will be announced no later than April 23, 2023. Accomplished match racers are encouraged to file an RFI as soon as possible. The Selection Committee at any time after receipt of an RFI, may choose to invite sailors whose records clearly indicate that they are among the world's top match racers so early RFI submittal is encouraged. Skippers and crews must not have reached their 23rd birthday by July 29, 2023, the last day of the regatta. Crews will be 3 or 4 sailors with a combined weight of no more than 579lbs/262.5kg. The NOR, event brochure and RFI forms are posted on the Governor's Cup website ([govcupracing.com](http://govcupracing.com)). **Note RFI Deadline is April 7, 2023 — For more information, see back page.**





- The Governor's Cup is an invitational event. Twelve or more teams will be selected and invited by the Governor's Cup Selection Committee.
- Crews may be composed of three or four persons with a maximum weight of 579 lbs/262.5kg.
- Skippers (but see next sentence) and crew must be under the age of 23 on July 29, 2023.
- The event will apply for Grade 3 status from World Sailing. However, the Cup may re-graded based in large part on the quality of the competition. All skippers must have a World Sailing number in order to earn ranking points for the regatta. To register go to [www.sailing.org/isafsailor](http://www.sailing.org/isafsailor)
- The Committee may invite skippers whose records clearly indicate that they are among the world's top match racers (including former GovCup winners) at any time at any time after such skipper files an RFI.

## Regatta Information & Requesting an Invitation

- The winner of the 2023 U.S. Youth Match Racing Championship for the Rose Cup will also receive an invitation if he or she has indicated a desire to sail in the Governor's Cup by filing a Request for Invitation ("RFI") by the deadline. For information on the U.S. Youth Match Racing Championship for the Rose Cup, please go to: <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/championships/2023-u-s-youth-match-racing-championship/>
- Other than as noted above, invitees will be selected from among skippers submitting a complete RFI by the deadline of **Friday, April 7, 2023**. The selection will be designed to produce a diverse fleet of the best youth match racing talent worldwide. Invited skippers will be notified no later than **Friday, April 21, 2023**. Criteria considered by the Selection Committee are available on [govcupracing.com](http://govcupracing.com)
- All information necessary to prepare a Governor's Cup RFI, including the NoR, and forms, is available for download at [www.govcupracing.com](http://www.govcupracing.com) under "Race Documents". Potential entrants may also obtain a Request for Invitation package by telephoning the Club at the number below or sending an email to the email address also listed below.
- The entry fee is \$1,000 but covers almost all meals during the event. Housing is provided by BYC families.

### For More Information:

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