



Acura presents Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week

**Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs
June 26-28, 2009**

Race



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It's the climactic event of the Ullman Sails Inshore Championship Series, following Ahmanson Cup at Newport Beach, Yachting Cup at San Diego and Cal Race Week at Marina del Rey. Hemans leads the Inshore Championship in the Fast 40 group after finishing second last year.

Last year, sailing his Tripp 40, Entropy, from Balboa Yacht Club, he won handily at Long Beach, but three other of the 19 classes were resolved by tiebreakers and three more by one point. That's the way it usually is in the event co-hosted by the neighboring Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs as the largest inshore keelboat regatta in the West.

There were 138 boats, and with 118 entries for 2009 at this report that number seemed attainable again despite a downturn in sailboat racing participation attributed to the recession. The regatta offers One Design, PHRF handicap, a Random Leg class for distance racers and Catalina 37s for charter.

Hemans wouldn't miss it.

"You can dial up the breeze for us," he said.

He admits that since his boat thrives in big breeze "we were blessed to come out of Cal Race Week with a good result when it blew 14-16 knots. It seldom blows hard there."

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Hemans' two favorite rivals, although they race different types



Windy racing is a good bet at Long Beach Race Week

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of boats, are Geoff Longenecker with a Melges 30, Nemesis, from Southwestern YC in San Diego, and Mark Surber, with a J/125, Derivative, from Coronado YC. Derivative is second in the Fast 40s in the Inshore Championship series; Longenecker leads the Sport/Sprit group, although he and the others often meet in the same races.

"My kudos go to Geoff," Hemans said. "He came over to us after our win at Cal Race Week to congratulate us ... a class guy."

Hemans has been sailing with his core crew for 15 years, but not as skipper until he acquired Entropy a couple of years ago. The name has several exotic scientific definitions, plus another one more down to earth: "a doctrine of inevitable social decline and degeneration."

Whatever, Hemans used to work bow for his tactician, Brad Wheeler.

"He's the reason I'm doing as well as I am," Hemans said. "The only way I could drive it myself was to buy my own boat."

Now they sail with a mostly Balboa YC crew of 11.

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2008 class winners

FARR 40 (9 boats)---Piranha, David Voss, California YC, 2-1-4-1-1-1-2, 12 points.

CATALINA 37 (10)---Team ABYC, Chuck Clay, Alamitos Bay YC, 4-2-3-1-3-1-3, 17.

J/80 (6)---Tiamo, Glenn Darden, Fort Worth Boat Club, 1-3-1-1-1-1-1, 9.

J/105 (14)---Free Enterprise, Alex Rasmussen, Santa Barbara YC, 5-4-2-2-3-4-3, 23.

MELGES 24 (4)---Where's Bob, Robert Tennant, Treasure Island SC, 1-1-1-1-1-1, 7.

SCHOCK 35 (5)---JoAnn, Steve Murphy, Seal Beach YC, 1-4-2-1-2-1-1, 12.

FAST 70 (5)--- Peligroso, Mike Campbell, Long Beach YC, and Dale Williams, St. Francis YC, 1-2-2-1-1-1-1, 9.

FAST 50 (7)---Pendragon IV (Davidson 52), John MacLaurin, California YC, 2-6-1-1-1-1-1, 13.

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SPORTBOAT (9)---Perfect (J/100), Laura Schlessinger, Santa Barbara YC, 7-3-1-2-1-4-4, 22 (won tiebreaker).

J/120 (8)---Caper, John Laun, San Diego YC, DNC-DNC-1-1-1-1-2, 24.

FLYING TIGER 10 (8)---Mile High Klub, Philip and Payson Infelise, Alamitos Bay YC, 7-1-2-2-1-1-1, 15 (won tiebreaker).

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PHRF-4 (11)---Rival (J/35), Dick Velthoen/Paul Defrietas, Ventura YC, 4-3-1-3-1-6-2, 20 (won tiebreaker).

PHRF-5 (9)---Medusa (Viper 640), John Riddell, Arizona YC, 1-1-1-1-1-1-1, 7.

RANDOM LEG (4)---T-N-T, Wes Selby, American Legion YC, 1-1-2, 4.

MEDIA CONTACT

Rich Roberts
Press officer
310.835.2526
cell 310.766.6547
richsail@earthlink.net

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