

Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week

Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs June 25-27, 2010

June 10, 2010

Catalina 37: the Ullman Long Beach Race Week alternative

LONG BEACH, Calif.

No time to trim and tune your boat for Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week June 25-27?

No problem. Seven Catalina 37s have been chartered and three remain available to race in the West Coast's largest keelboat regatta, co-produced by the Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs. All you ore your club needs to sail one of the same boats that America's Cup and Olympic champions have raced in the Congressional Cup for 20 years is a half-dozen friends and the overall \$1,080 entry/ charter fee.

That also qualifies for two of the championships at stake within the event. A Catalina 37 is one of the three classes of boats a club must enter to compete for the Yacht Club Challenge, and the C/37 winner collects the class national championship as well.

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No, you can't hire Gavin Brady or any other Con Cup winner to sail it for you, but hey, it's an amateur's dream. Chuck Clay and his crew from Alamitos Bay YC have proved that while winning the class the last two years.

Clay, whose personal boat is a relatively humble Cal 20, also has driven ocean racers with steering wheels instead of tillers, such as Locomotion and OEX, but a C/37 presents a different challenge.

"It's a great one-design boat," Clay said. "It's a little heavy and doesn't accelerate very well, and it doesn't steer very well at low speed."

But that's how Catalina Yachts created them---for one-onone close-quarters match racing---and within their characteristics they remain completely equal.

"It makes for a very level playing field," Clay said. "Crew work is very important. You pay for any mistakes."





Catalina 37s: a good fit for Ullman Sails Long Beach Race

2009 photo gallery

Online entry and more information

<u>Ullman Sails Inshore</u> <u>Championship standings</u>

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