



Chesapeake Report

Offshore and around the buoys sailboat races will keep the Bay buzzing in May.

The Annapolis Yacht Club will host the first Coast Guard Foundation Cup sailing race on Saturday, May 14. The foundation is a non-profit organization that raises funds for programs for enlisted Coast Guard members, provides college scholarships for families of Coast Guard members lost in the line of duty, and relief for Coast Guard families who have lost possessions in natural disasters.

The overnight Foundation Cup race will start and finish outside of Annapolis Harbor, with additional events scheduled for Friday, May 13 and Sunday, May 15. The race is open to sailboats with valid PHRF/Chesapeake 4P ratings, J/30, J/35 and J/105 one-design classes, and boats with valid CBYRA (Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association) Multihull ratings. Boats with IRC ratings will sail in their PHRF class and will be scored for both PHRF and IRC. Entries for the race must be submitted by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10. An online entry form and race details are available at race.annapolisyc.com.

Cutwater Boats on the Bay

Washington-state built Cutwater Boats has opened a new Mid-Atlantic dealer location, Cutwater Marine Sales, on Chesapeake Bay. The company's 26- and 28-foot boats (see page 40) debuted during the winter boat shows and

are selling well. "Given that Cutwater Boats are trailerable, diesel-powered and have semi-planing hulls, locations that have access to coastal and inland cruising ports are ideal for owners of these boats," says Mark Mansfield, national sales manager for Cutwater.

Both boats have an 8-foot, 6-inch beam and are easily trailered without special highway requirements. Their innovative hull designs deliver a smooth ride. Cutwater Marine Sales is located at 106 Wells Cove Road on the Kent Narrows in Grasonville, Maryland. cutwaterboats.com

Spinnakers down the Bay

Two other upcoming Annapolis sailing races should present picturesque sights for onlookers this spring. The biennial Annapolis-to-Newport Race will be held on the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean from June 3-8. The 473-mile race will feature up to 70 vessels, from 33 to 70 feet in length. It starts on the Severn River at noon on Friday, June 3, heading south down the Chesapeake Bay to the ocean. The finish is at Castle Hill Light in Newport, Rhode Island. You can learn more at race.annapolisyc.org.

Launching at the Eastport Yacht Club on Saturday, May 21, the inaugural *Elf* Classic Yacht Race will benefit the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels. Organized by the Classic Yacht Restoration Guild, the race's flagship will be the restored 1888 racing yacht *Elf*. More than 10 classic yachts are expected to participate in an 1880s-style race from Annapolis to St. Michaels. Featuring the nautical version of a Le Mans start, captains will row to their boats, raise their anchors and sails, and get underway. Captains will finish the race by anchoring and rowing to shore to sign the race log at Tolchester Beach Bandstand. cbmm.org. 



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