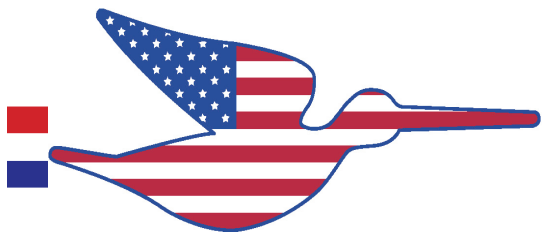


# US SNIPE SAILOR



For some of you every year is the year of the Snipe. For me 2013 has been the year of the Snipe. Since the early 70's I have been reading in the Bulletin about the "Winter Circuit" and the Zimmerman Trophy. A few times I have come close to going, but this year I finally made it. This was the beginning of a 12 regatta odyssey that included US Nationals, US Masters, 2013 Worlds, 4 local regattas in D2 and the Florida State Championship. Also, I bought my 4<sup>th</sup> Snipe, a new Jibe Tech. My other 3 were pre-owned.



*Martin Bebb, US National Secretary*

Several exciting developments have taken place within SCIRA USA this year.

Since engaging with One Design Management we are back on track with US records and membership activities. We have begun the serious task of updating our website. The online payment system was instigated last December by our former EA, Betsy Altman, along with software designer David Tillson (madebydigitalstyle.com). Now David along with Vivian Heatherington-Young, Danielle Richards, and others, is ready to roll out a new SCIRA USA website. It is easier to navigate and also easier to update. And we own the domain.

We were sad to see the liquidation of the Traveling Snipe Fleet. Kudos to Don Hackbarth, Art Rousmaniere, Gene Soltero, Pete Fenner, and a host of others for the success that program saw. Special thanks also to Bruno Mello who volunteered substantially beyond the outline of his job to keep the boats rolling. One positive result has been the realization that "loaner boats" bring in new Snipe sailors. As a result, several fleets have been working to develop pools of boats suitable for use by prospective new members.

My Serious Fun was capped off this year with the opportunity to serve as SCIRA REP for the US Women's Nationals at Lauderdale Yacht Club. What a marvelous even that was. Connie Commette and Sharon Johnson outdid themselves with the planning and organization. Peter Commette conducted an excellent seminar on Friday. And with Peter as principal race officer, what's a SCIRA REP to do but sit in the sun on the bow of the signal boat, take pictures, and watch all those great lady sailors.

Let 2014 be the year of the Snipe for you. Help make sure those of us who are sailing snipes are members of SCIRA USA. Help make sure the fleets we belong to are registered as well. Sail! With the new website it will be easier to post and find regattas. This class was built on trailer ability. Make it a goal to attend all the regattas in your area as well as Nationals, Masters (if you're under 45, go as crew), North Americans, as well as Don Q, Halloween, Surf City, GFU, ... you get the idea. The Snipe! What sailing! What Fun!

## District 4 Report

The D4 "season" is actually September to May - and our down time is the summer (no wind except hurricanes). This fall, we're off to a great start. There are new fleet captains in St. Petersburg, FL (Kevin Reali) and Charleston, SC (Chris Stang). Birmingham, AL (Mike Papp) and St. Petersburg both have some new boat owners and activity.

The Florida State juniors were hosted by Miami and was well-attended. The Southern Snipes in Birmingham had 8 boats and some new sailors. The Halloween Regatta in Atlanta saw 33 entries and some cool weather, but was lots of fun with an awesome costume contest at their new clubhouse and a party with a band. The Halloween was won this year by Hal Gilreath/Merrill Varn in a close contest with Tarasa Davis/Alan Capellin.

As the fall continued, we saw lots of new activity from college students and new boat owners at the Florida State championships, won by Peter Commette/Julia Melton with 22 boats attending. The US Women's Nationals (21 entries) was exciting with 6 races on the open ocean at Ft. Lauderdale. The winner was Kathleen Tocke/Charlie Bess, but it was a hard fought and exciting regatta with lots of new young ladies participating.

The last race of the fall will be the Gator Bowl on Dec. 7th in Jacksonville. Starting the New Year will be the 3rd Annual Snipe Invite in Miami (contact: Kathleen Tocke) followed by a changed format for the Gaspar Pirate Regatta. This year, the Gaspar will be 3-days and sailed in conjunction with the NOOD in St. Petersburg on Feb. 14-16.

**William Steve Lang, D4 Governor**

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# 2013 US Women's Snipe National Championships

November 22-24, in Fort Lauderdale Florida

Eighteen teams competed in the 2013 Snipe US Women's National Championship, hosted by Lauderdale Yacht Club in Ft Lauderdale, Florida. Six races were completed, with Kathleen Tocke/Charlie Bess taking the title by three points over Lynne Shore/Julia Marsh.

Day 1 - Peter Commette ran a clinic for all ages and levels of sailing ability. The onshore portion covered rigging and boat handling. In the afternoon, he put the sailors through their paces with a number of starting, timing, and boat handling drills. The Snipe Class spirit was in full force, as competitors helped each other in the parking lot, aided by our wonderful Boat Boys Ken Voss, George Szabo, Kevin Reali, Ernesto Rodriguez, Augie Diaz, Martin Bebb, Jensen McTighe, and Andre Guaragna.

Day 2 - Four races were held in the Atlantic Ocean in an ENE wind of 7-12 kts of breeze, with wave conditions at 2-4 feet. A strong current ran through the starting line forcing skippers to push hard to be on the line on time with speed, a difficult balance. Olympic 470 gold medalist, Lynne Shore and her crew Julia Marsh won the first race with a horizon job, with Aine McLean and Paris Henken in second. Kathleen Tocke and Charlie Bess came in third. The second race mixed it up when Lynne Shore and Julia Marsh had to take an OCS on an otherwise first place finish, bringing Kathleen and Charlie into first with Dominique Wright and Hilary Noble coming on strong in second. Decreasing wind strength during a race means making numerous powering-up adjustments and technique; this is when Kathleen Tocke really began to pull away from the pack. Her knowledge and experience in the Snipe made the difference as everyone struggled in the lessening breeze and over-size, left over chop and waves. Kathleen and Charlie went on to win the next 2 races, with past Olympic teammates Carol Cronin and Margaret Podlich, along with Wright/Noble and Shore/Marsh, nipping at her heels.

Everyone came in tired and hungry, and all were rewarded with a delicious Caribbean dinner and slide show of the day's racing by photographer, John Payne. Check out the excellent photos at [www.johnpaynephoto.com](http://www.johnpaynephoto.com) or on his Facebook page under John Payne Photography.

Day 3 - Going into the last day, the top five were incredibly close in points especially with a throwout. With a forecast of winds building to gale force by late afternoon, the Race Committee moved the start time forward one hour to ensure all competitors were safely back at the dock by the time the 30 knot wind hit. Winds started out medium, and two races were held in fair winds of 10-15 knots from the NNW veering to NNE. Lynne Shore and Julia Marsh came out swinging, taking two first place finishes. However, it was not enough to overcome their OCS. While Kathleen Tocke and Charlie Bess had a bad first race (12), second place in the last race gave them the consistency needed to come out on top. Dominique Wright and Hillary Noble secured third overall with a second and fourth. Expect to see more of these two talented young women! Only 2 points behind in fourth overall were Carol Cronin and Margaret Podlich. Coming in thirteenth was the top Junior team of Grace Howie and Katie Lounsbury. This fleet of Snipe Class women, including three Olympians, as well as numerous past national and international winners, left the locals quite impressed with the depth of the sailors' talent and skill.

We could not have hosted this regatta without the help of countless volunteers and the support of Lauderdale Yacht Club and our sponsors. We would especially like to thank:

The Suddath Companies, worldwide moving and storage W.A. Bentz, builder of custom luxury homes; Team One Newport, sailing gear and clothing; Best Boat Club, rentals of sail and power boats;



Starlight Express, Sailing instruction and maritime crew placements; Peter M. Commette, P.A., Law Office

Also notable was the number of boats loaned to competitors with no charter fee. Special thanks go to Augie Diaz, Martin Bebb, Steve Lang, Kevin Reali, Doug Broeker, Andre Guaragna, Peter Commette, and Jaime Boyden, without whom this regatta would not have been possible.

-Connie Commette

## 2014 Classic Snipe Rally in Boston area

The Winchester Boat Club Snipe fleet (a commuter's distance from downtown Boston) will be hosting the 2014 edition of the Classic Snipe Rally on July 11-13 as part



of our annual weekend Invitational regatta. We plan to kick-off the weekend by celebrating the vast history of Snipes with a stationary parade of all the snipes of all ages on Friday evening along with a cook-out. And "classic" will mean more than just wooden snipes - recognition will be given to a host of "classes" of classic, including (tentatively) "Woodies", "Pre-20K", "Pre-bulkhead" and "Combined hull-plus-team age of over 125 years". Specific recognition will be awarded to the oldest and newest Snipes, best original and best modified restorations as well as the best Woody and modern Snipes. Classic Woodies are welcome to race the Invitational either on the same or separate starting lines based upon feedback we heard from those classic Snipers. We are also working to have in attendance an experienced wooden boat builder who can lend advice on how to bring the best out of your classic wooden Snipe. We already have three classic Snipe teams pledged to attend so please spread the word.

Please e-mail regatta chair Art Rousmaniere ([art.rousmaniere@gmail.com](mailto:art.rousmaniere@gmail.com)) if you are interested in attending and/or with any ideas on how to help make this an epic event. I would very much like to have an accurate estimate of potential classic Snipes, even if you may currently be tentative.

Cheers,

- Art Rousmaniere



# The 2013 (LVI Annual) Florida State Junior Championship

Coconut Grove Sailing Club  
September 7-8, 2013

15 snipes competed in the LVI Annual Florida State Snipe Junior Championship with 13 year old Ivan Shestopalov from Miami winning the Regatta with 4-1-3 by one point over Clyde Wright III from Ft. Lauderdale with 5-2-2. Third Place Jensen McTighe with Junior crew Kyle Pond also from Ft. Lauderdale, one point behind second place with 2-7-1. The Championship was highly enhanced by the participation of 3 boats from Tampa/St. Petersburg under the guidance of Kevin Reali (two of them in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> places and using junior crews). See the Results for details.



We had no wind and no races on Saturday but on Sunday, with a bad forecast including storms, we were able to hold 3 very nice Windward/Leeward races before the limit time of 2 PM. Winds



were from the East and Northeast 10 to 15 mph. The Race Committee did a beautiful job taking care of wind shifts, moving the pin mark and the weather mark when needed!

Big thanks to Coconut Grove Sailing Club for sponsoring this Snipe Regatta and special thanks to the Race Committee with PRO Dottie Rostorfer and Assistant PRO Susan Walcutt. With the help of: Timer:

Elizabeth Balbin. Recorders: Esther DiLeo, Sandrene Queenee

and Marlene Erven. Flags: Jim Waldron and Maria Caldwell. Line Spotters: Dottie Rostorfer and Susan Walcutt. Signal boat Captain Asaad Masoud. Pin boat: Carl Updyke, Dennis Jansma and John Pardillo. Mark boat: Carl Updyke, Dorian Goldberg and Lorrie Sein-Messer



We continue to have excellent results with our program to allow adults and owners to crew for the juniors. With that we can level very young Juniors with older Juniors and be able to end up with a sizable fleet. 7 out of the 15 teams had an adult as a crew.

**Gonzalo Diaz, Sr. Regatta Chairman**

**Renew your SCIRA dues online - easy and quick!**



## SCIRA US Racing Calendar

Month	Date	Sanctioned	Regatta	Venue
January	2-5	S	Miami Snipe Invitational	Coconut Grove, FL
	25-26	S	Las Vegas Regatta	Mission Bay, CA
February	1-2		XLV Comodoro Rasco	Coconut Grove, FL
	7-9	S	D6/Women's & WH&O qlfr	San Diego YC, CA
	22-23	S	Georgia State Champs	Valdosta YC, GA
March	16-18		Midwinter Champs -Circuit	Clearwater YC, FL
	21-23		Don Q Rum Keg	Coconut Grove, FL
	25-29		Bacardi/Gamblin/Kelly	Royal Nassau YC, Bahamas
June	6-8	S	Atlantic Coast Champs	Surf City YC, NJ
	14-15		Colonial Cup	Severn SA, MD
July	12-13	S	Norm Tanner Memorial	Bow Mar YC, CO
	12-13	S	Pacific Coast Champs	Alamitos Bay YC, CA
	26-27	S	Jr & Sr US Nationals	Okoboji YC, IA
August	8-10	S	US Women's Nationals	Cottage Park, MA
	15-17	S	North Americans	Jubilee YC, Beverly, MA





It may not be heaven, but it is Iowa! Plans are underway for the 2014 Snipe Nationals to be held on beautiful Lake Okoboji, Iowa from July 25-Aug. 1, 2014. Lake Okoboji is a fantastic venue located in northwest Iowa about 12 miles south of the Minnesota border. The lake itself is 8 miles long and 3 miles wide, and the water is so clear and clean that you can drink it. Okoboji Yacht Club is a state of the art sailing facility, with a both a crane and a ramp available on site and plenty of room across the road for dry boat storage. The Okoboji Yacht Club has hosted numerous scow national championships, and even hosted the Snipe District 2 Championships in 2009. For a camera view of Lake Okoboji, go to <http://www.watersafetycouncil.org/livecam/index.html>.

For travelers, Lake Okoboji is located about 20 miles south of Interstate 90. If you plan to fly to the regatta, the airports in Minneapolis/St. Paul and Omaha are equal distance away, and you may want to also check into flights into Sioux Falls, South

Dakota (about 100 miles west of Lake Okoboji).

During the summer, Lake Okoboji is a very popular vacation spot, so please make your reservations early. The home base for the regatta is **Boulders Inn & Suites** ([www.bouldersinnokoboji.com](http://www.bouldersinnokoboji.com)). Twenty (20) double queen rooms have been reserved for this event at the rate of \$129.00 (Friday and Saturday) and \$109.00 (Sunday-Thursday). Call 1-712-338-4424 to make reservations and mention the 2014 Snipe Nationals Regatta in order to get the special rate. Other hotels include:

**The Inn**

[www.bojifun.com](http://www.bojifun.com)

1-877-265-4386

Rates \$170-\$350/night

**Village West**

[www.villagewestresort.com](http://www.villagewestresort.com)

1-712-337-3223

Rates from \$156/night

**West Oaks**

[www.westoaksresort.com](http://www.westoaksresort.com)

1-712-332-7711

Rates \$249-\$319/night

**Fillenwarths**

[www.fillenwarthbeach.com](http://www.fillenwarthbeach.com)

1-712-332-5646

Rates \$120-\$1,000/night

There are many other resorts and motels available in the Iowa Great Lakes. Check out [www.vacationokoboji.com/directory/lodging/default.aspx](http://www.vacationokoboji.com/directory/lodging/default.aspx)

1-800-270-2574. Cottage / Home Rentals [www.okobojirentals.com](http://www.okobojirentals.com)

Limited camping will be available at the Yacht Club. The closest improved campground with amenities such as tent sites, electric hookups, restroom, shower, RV dump site, sandy beach, dock, boat ramp and playground services is Gull Point Campground—approximately 2 miles from the Yacht Club. A reservation is required to reserve one of the 112 spaces, but Gull Point Campground does not take reservations more than ninety (90) days in advance. <http://iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com>. 1-877-427-2757. Another close campground is Emerson Bay Campground, with 82 sites. Advance reservations are required, but are not taken more than ninety (90) days in advance. 1-712-337-3211.

The tentative schedule of events is:

Friday July 25	Registration / Measuring	12:00pm – 6:00pm	Yacht Club Social	6:00pm
Saturday July 26	Registration / Measuring	8:00am – 6:00pm		
	Junior Regatta Races 1-3	12:00pm	Dinner on your own	
Sunday July 27	Registration / Measuring	8:00am – 6:00pm		
	Junior Regatta Races 4-5	10:00am		
	Junior Awards	4:00pm	Dinner on your own	
Monday July 28	Crosby Series Races 1-3	10:00am		
	Keg sponsored by Colorado Snipe Fleet		Dinner at Yacht Club	7:00pm
Tuesday July 29	Crosby Series Races 4-5	10:00am		
	Keg sponsored by Texas Snipe Fleet		Dinner on your own	
Wednesday July 30	Heinzerling / Wells Races 1-3	10:00am		
	Keg sponsored by Oklahoma/Kansas Snipe Fleet		Dinner at Harding cottage	7:00pm
Thursday July 31	Heinzerling / Wells Races 4-6	10:00am		
	Keg sponsored by Iowa/Nebraska Snipe Fleet		Dinner on your own	
Friday August 1	Heinzerling / Wells Race 7	10:00am		
	Keg sponsored by Lincoln Snipe Fleet		Awards Dinner	6:00pm

We hope that you will plan to join us for this great event, and we promise Serious Sailing and Serious Fun. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to email me at [pat.flood@cox.net](mailto:pat.flood@cox.net) or call me at (402) 598-4896.

**Pat Flood, Regatta Chairman**  
Iowa-Nebraska Sailing Association Fleet #309

