



Thai Fiji Adventure

The rigged boats, the screaming Gulf of Thailand and the adrenaline on the starting line. This wasn't just a sailing competition; it was an all-out assault on the water. No one was here to play it safe, but to **go hard or go down!**

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Italian Cup - *La Dolce Vita* Edition

A day of elegance, competition, and exquisite flavours! The Italian Cup at the Royal Varuna Yacht Club wasn't just a race; it celebrated once again the magic Italian "sweet life" on and off the water.

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Vāyu on the move

On May 4th, the 2026 52 SUPER SERIES opener in Puerto Portals was a high-stakes debut for the record-breaking 14-boat fleet. For the Thai-flagged VĀYU, the event was defined by a stunning "giant-killer" start followed by the harsh lessons of grand prix racing.



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From the Bridge: Strengthening Global Ties in Punta del Este, Uruguay.

Dear Members,

From March 27 to 31, 2026, the Commodore and I had the privilege of representing the Royal Varuna Yacht Club at the 11th ICOYC European & South American Regional Conference. Hosted by the Yacht Club Punta del Este (YCPE) in Uruguay, the event brought together 22 of the world's most prestigious clubs in what can only be described as a "G20 of the Nautical World." The conference, held alongside leaders from institutions such as the Chicago Yacht Club, the Yacht Club de Monaco, and our neighbour at the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, was a rare and powerful convergence of maritime tradition and modern institutional strategy.



A Global Agenda for the Future

The discussions moved beyond the clubhouse, focusing on the strategic evolution of sailing. Several key pillars stood out:

- **Sustainability and "Blue" Practices:** A collective commitment to leading ocean conservation and reducing the environmental footprint of major regattas.
- **The Global "Passport" System:** We focused on strengthening the reciprocity networks that allow RVYC members to access world-class facilities and services across these 22 elite clubs, ensuring a seamless experience for our sailors worldwide.
- **Junior Development & Inclusivity:** We explored "best practice" models for sailing schools. Our hosts at YCPE were particularly inspiring, showcasing their success in integrating public school scholarship students into high-performance training—a model of community impact we closely observed.
- **Technological Exchange:** Sharing the latest advancements in maritime security and race management to ensure our events remain at the cutting edge.

Bridging Thailand and the World

While the conference was a "Regional" meeting for Europe and South America, the presence of Royal Varuna underscored the ICOYC network's truly borderless nature. As Inter-Regional Delegates, our participation was focused on building a stronger bridge between the Southeast Asian and South American sailing circuits. There is a unique kinship between RVYC and YCPE; both are premier, year-round facilities. We found great value in exchanging insights on managing high-traffic sailing schools and hosting international fleets, such as Optimists and Lasers, in demanding tropical conditions. Our inclusion in a strong Asian contingent did not go unnoticed. Organizers, including YCPE's Álvaro Robaina, noted that seeing Asian leaders navigate and collaborate in South American waters was one of the most "fascinating" aspects of the week. It served as a reminder that while the oceans are vast, the elite nautical community is remarkably small and interconnected.

As we bring these global perspectives back to the Gulf of Thailand, we remain committed to ensuring that Royal Varuna continues to lead, not just in our region, but as a respected voice on the world stage.

The International Council of Yacht Clubs: <https://www.icoyc.org/>

Fair winds,

Tom Whitcraft

Vice Commodore, Royal Varuna Yacht Club

Chatting with **Angelo Gualtieri**, a Varuna member since 1966, who is 101 years old and still counting!

A keen sailor, Angelo eventually became the Commodore of the Royal Varuna Yacht Club. Over the years, he built numerous yachts, including a 14-meter ketch that was sailed from Thailand to Europe and later to the US, where it remains today. In 1978, Angelo founded a company that builds ships for the Royal Thai Navy. He is also a published novelist.

Q: Thank you for sharing your time and memories. How did you first get into sailing, and what was your first boat?

A: It was when I came to Varuna that I seriously got into sailing, I may have sailed a little bit before that, I don't exactly remember. I think the first boat I owned was a Fireball. I remember the Enterprise, it was hard work to sail, and you didn't get anywhere. When the Fireball came out it was fast, you know it. It felt very different. Later I became the official Fireball builder in Thailand at that time.

Q: When did you first join the club, and what was it like back then?

A: In 1966 I joined the club, it was then called Varuna Marine Club. It was at the south end of Pattaya Beach where the walking street is now. Pattaya was still mostly grass then. There were only a few places where you can get something to eat. There was only one hotel in Pattaya Beach called Nipa Lodge. After a few years we moved to the present site at Khao Pratamnak, and we became the Royal Varuna Yacht Club.

Q: What is the most challenging or memorable race you've ever completed?

A: The Fireball Cross Gulf. You would leave early in morning from Pattaya and arrive in Hua Hin late into the afternoon or evening depending on the wind.



Royal Varuna Yacht Club in its early days



It went on for only a few years before it was cancelled. One year I won the race, and the next year everyone followed me and I took the whole fleet way off course. We eventually made it back to the finish in Hua Hin quite late which was a bit dangerous

Q: What is the most critical lesson the sea has taught you?

A: To respect it. If the waves reach a certain height don't go out sailing.



1990 Angelo and Pieri on the first F27 in Thailand



Q: If you could give one piece of advice to a new club member or beginner sailor, what would it be?

A: Learn the rules. One time we were racing with His Majesty the King in the waters in front of Klai Kangwon Palace in Hua Hin. I made a mistake and hit His Majesty’s boat, and he shouted out, "I can get you out of the race!" His Majesty didn’t officially protest, but I retired from the race anyway because I knew I was in the wrong. There were no 360-degree penalties at that time. Sportsmanship is very important. After the race, His Majesty hosted a dinner at his palace for all the sailors and their families. Everyone had a great time.

Interviewer: *Thank you so much to Mr. Angelo Gualtieri for sharing those incredibly vivid memories. Hearing what it was truly like on the beach of Royal Varuna Yacht Club in the past brings that piece of history to life in a way a textbook never could. It is so wonderful, and vital, that we keep the heritage of His Majesty’s sailing skills and his profound wisdom alive. Passing down these stories ensures that his spirit of humility, integrity, and resilience continues to guide the next generation of sailors, both on and off the water. Thank you for keeping that legacy burning so brightly!*



Angelo’s memories at RVYC

American Cup 2026 - The Battle of Koh Sak

May 30th – From the Royal Varuna Commander

Despite a grim forecast, the Allies' fleets braved the water, staring down ominous thunderclaps, torrential skies, and swift winds that would make any seasoned sailor question their life choices. But did they retreat? Absolutely not. With eyes locked on the horizon, the fleets charged forward, determined to conquer Koh Sak. Watching intensely from the shoreline was none other than General Lawnin "Eisenhower". Unfortunately, Mother Nature proved to be a formidable Axis power. Before the fleet could officially plant their flags on Koh Sak, the weather turned from "challenging" to "let's not get struck by lightning." Thanks to some excellent seamanship, the entire fleet made it safely back onshore. You can't keep a good sailor down, especially when there are trophies on the line. Once everyone dried off, the official awards ceremony commenced, honouring the brave captains and crews who mastered the chaotic swells. But the *real* victory happened at the veranda bunker. The sailors traded their life jackets for forks as Chefs Tom and Nicky took command of the evening. The duo treated the ravenous troops to a spectacular Texas-style feast. The day's casualties were quickly forgotten over mouthfuls of incredibly tender Texas beef brisket and legendary deep-fried turkey.

The Verdict: The weather may have won the battle for Koh Sak, but between the trophies, the camaraderie, and the barbecue, the Royal Varuna Yacht Club absolutely won the war.

Until next year, sailors—keep your powder dry and your smokers hot!



Italian Cup - *La Dolce Vita* Edition

A day of elegance, competition, and exquisite flavours! The Italian Cup at the Royal Varuna Yacht Club wasn't just a race; it celebrated once again the magic Italian "sweet life" on and off the water.



Despite the weather's best efforts, the Italian Cup crossed the finish line! After a two-week delay due to strong gales, the fleet faced the opposite challenge over the June 20–21 weekend: low winds. However, our sailors persevered, successfully completing a scenic long-distance course on Saturday and two thrilling buoy-round regattas on Sunday. Off the water, Saturday night was a spectacular celebration of the Italian Dolce Vita filled with delicious appetizers, fine Italian wine, and fantastic company. A massive thank you to all the participants who made this weekend such a memorable success!



Shaping the Future: Key Highlights from the RVYC General Committee

The General Committee has been working diligently in our recent sessions to ensure the Royal Varuna Yacht Club remains the premier sailing destination in Thailand. We are excited to share our strategic roadmap, focusing on reinvestment, modernization, and long-term sustainability.

1. Robust Fiscal Management & Long-Term Stability

To protect and secure the club's financial future following a busy racing season, we are implementing a proactive capital management plan. By adjusting entry fees for select events and optimizing our operational budgets, we are ensuring the club remains on a highly stable and resilient financial footing. These responsible adjustments will allow us to continue delivering the world-class experiences you expect.

2. Enhancing Our World-Class Facilities

We are launching a comprehensive facility rejuvenation program to upgrade and modernize our beautiful grounds. Over the coming months, members will see vital improvements and structural enhancements to the main roof, the pool area, and the Sea View building. Additionally, we are upgrading our support fleet and enhancing beach safety (including the "storm step") to ensure our sailing operations remain premier, safe, and efficient.

3. Dynamic Growth & Exclusive Member Offers

We are entering an exciting phase of growth with targeted marketing campaigns designed to welcome new faces to our community. To celebrate the season, we are launching exclusive summer accommodation discounts—perfect for inviting friends and family. We are also introducing corporate membership packages and clearing out legacy boat parts to streamline our boatyard, reinvesting all proceeds directly back into club amenities.

4. Investing in Our Team & Governance

To better serve our membership, we are modernizing our internal administration and expanding our team. We are currently recruiting for several key roles to bring fresh energy to the club, while simultaneously developing succession plans for our cherished, long-serving staff who are approaching retirement. This restructuring will ensure seamless, top-tier service across all club departments.

April 25th, 2026 – Summary of the Extraordinary General Committee Meeting

The meeting was convened with 43 members present, satisfying the constitutional requirement of 30 members quorum.

Financial Status & Reports

Our recent financial data shows that our structural deficits have increased from 1.4 million baht in 2023 to 3.2 million baht in 2025. Recognizing this trend early allows us to take decisive, positive actions through our new marketing and restructuring initiatives to turn this trajectory around.

- **Commodore's Report:** While our core membership and rack fees have stayed beautifully consistent since 2013, rising operational costs require us to adapt. To ensure long-term financial health and protect our annual budget, the Committee is introducing exciting new revenue initiatives from expanded school programs, opening summer residencies, and offering a voluntary contribution pathway for our dedicated members.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Thanks to disciplined fiscal management, we have successfully streamlined our operating expenditures, including salary structures and food and beverage costs. While major events, coaching, and accommodation experienced a quieter period in line with broader market trends, our financial outlook remains strong.

Resolutions & Voting Results

The Committee proposed fee increases and constitutional changes to prevent the depletion of Club funds. A total of 76 votes were cast (46 in-person and 30 proxies).

Conclusion: All four resolutions were passed with strong member support.

Sail Hard, Drift Easy: The Drifters Dash Race – Only for the Brave!



While the rest of the fleet stayed safely tethered to the beach, a pack of "sailing heroes" decided that 20 knots of South Easterly wind was exactly what the weekend called for. On Saturday, March 21st, the sprint from **Royal Varuna Yacht Club** to **Drifters Beach Cafe** wasn't just a race; it was a high-octane survival test that separated the adventurous from the cautious.

A steady **20-knot breeze** whipped across the Gulf, with gusts punching through at **23 to 25 knots**. With the wind coming from the Southeast, it was a fast, bumpy, and spray-drenched ride. While other classes chose the comfort of the clubhouse, eighteen entries—comprising eleven **Hobie 16s** and seven **Dart 18s**—rose to the occasion, proving why these catamarans remain the kings of heavy-air thrills. While every sailor who reached the sand at Bang Saray earned the title of "Hero," a few managed to tame the gusts better than the rest: **Lachlan Macfarlane and Sharon** took the top spot on their Hobie 16, setting a blistering record of 22:56 minutes. **Mike Montague and Kathy** followed closely in 2nd, with the Dart 18 of **David Lloyd and Suzy** rounding out the podium in 3rd. The Drifters' mission ended exactly how it should: with hulls parked in the sand and a simple, delicious buffet awaiting the salt-crusted crews at the Drifters Beach Cafe. A special thanks to the hosts, Tony and his staff, for their continued support of Varuna sailors. As the adrenaline began to fade, the stories of near-capsizes and record-breaking reaches took over. In a race like this, the clock only tells half the story. However, the adventure was far from over. The return journey was not a simple, relaxing cruise; it was a gruelling battle against the waves and wind. On a screaming broad reach, crews found themselves surfing the edge of the swell, balancing speed and stability in a high-stakes ride back to the club. The real victory went to every single sailor brave enough to launch. You showed the rest of the club how it's done!





*The Yorkshire Cup
Wars of the Roses*



The Original British Cup

The Wildest Yorkshire Cup One Big Blast & A Proper Nosh-Up!

The Royal Varuna Yacht Club hosted the Yorkshire Cup on April 25, 2026. Sailors faced a challenging long-distance course around the cardinal marks and Kho Khrok, battling spirited conditions with winds exceeding 12 knots under a hot, sunny sky. The event featured a diverse turnout across three main fleets: the Hobie & Dart 18, Open Monohull, and Open Multihull.



In a very competitive field of 13 entries for the Hobie & Dart 18 fleet, David and Suzy took the top spot on their Dart 18. They finished the race with a corrected time of 1:04:32, edging out the Hobie 16 team of Fish and Kelly and Pieri and Gino. In the Monohull fleet, Mori-san secured a victory with a corrected time of 0:52:03. Mori maintained a narrow lead over Hiro and Greg; all finished within 42 seconds of each other. In the high-performance Multihull division, Fabrice and Mathieu secured first place on their Nacra F18, followed by Stefaan and Apple.

After the prize-giving ceremony, the focus shifted from the water to the beach bar. Sailors were joined by members who had attended the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) for a celebratory evening. The Committee members sponsored a festive buffet featuring roasted pork and traditional Yorkshire pudding, providing a perfect end to a day of rigorous racing at Royal Varuna.



The New Land Race

The Fourteenth of March, Anno Domini 2026

Beyond the known horizon, where the sky meets the churning foam of the Gulf, a vast and untouched frontier has revealed itself once more. Under the watchful eye of the heavens, ten pioneer galleons weighed anchor at the Citadel of Varuna, their timbers groaning with the promise of glory. The mission: a grueling pilgrimage through the deep to the mystical shores of **Ban Saray**—a world of legend and ancient tides.

The Trial by Water - For three-and-a-half gruelling hours, the mariners battled the salt-spray and the whims of the wind. This was no mere contest of speed; it was a test of the soul. The fleet carved a path through the sapphire expanse, their sails billowing like the wings of great birds of prey, pushing ever southward toward the edge of the world.

The Lords of the Horizon - Though many dared the crossing, the laurels of victory could be claimed by only one vessel. Through superior mastery of the currents and the favour of the gods, the triumph was seized by the esteemed **Lawnin** and **Wikki**. Having touched the sands of the New World, they turned their prow against the current, outstripping the chasing pack to return first to the safety of the Varuna harbour. They return not just as sailors, but as **conquerors of the distance**, their names now etched forever into the annals of the great Southern Race.



Lawnin and Wikki, Victorious Commanders of the Ban Saray Expedition.



2026 Kids Day Out At RVYC by Rotary Bangkok South

Each year, the Rotary Club of Bangkok South, the Pakkred Home for Handicapped Children, and several other institutions organize a day at the beach for over 250 handicapped and underprivileged children. The venue is provided by the Royal Varuna Yacht Club in Pattaya. The event is called Kids' Day Out, and Shrewsbury International School has been the Event Sponsor for over 2 decades. Kids' Day Out is one of the most rewarding and genuinely heart-warming events of the year for everyone involved.





Puerto Portals 52 SUPER SERIES Sailing Week

May 4th – May 9th, Puerto Portals - SPAIN

The 2026 52 SUPER SERIES opener in Puerto Portals was a high-stakes debut for the record-breaking 14-boat fleet. For the Thai-flagged VĀYU, the event was defined by a stunning "giant-killer" start followed by the harsh lessons of grand prix racing. Steered by Don Whitcraft with tactics by Manu Weiler, VĀYU shocked the circuit on Day 1. In light, shifty 7–10 knot breezes, the team displayed clinical precision to win the season's opening race and secure a 1-4 scoreline, ending the first day at the top of the leaderboard. However, as the breeze strengthened to 16 knots mid-week, the density of the 14-boat fleet proved unforgiving. VĀYU struggled with "crowded starts" and tactical lane-holding, leading to a string of double-digit finishes that saw them slide down the rankings. While VĀYU finished 12th overall, their early-week dominance proved they have the raw speed to outpace the world's best. The Puerto Portals event solidified their reputation: when the Whitcraft-led crew finds clean air, they are a legitimate threat to the podium.

"We had the judgment and the luck to make the most of the opening. It shows we belong at the front." — Manu Weiler, VĀYU Tactician.



Rolex TP52 World Championship Porto Cervo 2026

June 15th – June 20th, Porto Cervo - ITALY



The 2026 Rolex TP52 World Championship in Porto Cervo delivered five days of gruelling racing for the record 15-strong fleet. The Thai-flagged Vāyu proved they can go toe-to-toe with the world's elite, even if consistency remains their ultimate challenge. Vāyu turned heads on opening day, mastering a 10-knot breeze to lock in back-to-back third-place finishes, tying them for the early lead with eventual world champions Sled. While unstable mid-regatta air later triggered a string of double-digit finishes, they bounced back spectacularly on Day 4. In a tight 7 to 8-knot breeze, Spanish tactician Manu Weiler orchestrated a masterclass, breaking Vāyu clean from the pack to claim a brilliant victory in Race 7.

Vāyu concluded the championship in 10th place overall with 73 points—finishing just a single point behind Great Britain's Alegre. While the high scores kept them out of the top five, their ability to win races proves their championship-calibre potential. Vāyu now sits 11th in the overall 52 SUPER SERIES standings ahead of the double-header in Lanzarote this July and August.



From Royal Varuna to the America's Cup: The Meteoric Rise of Marco Gradoni

For the members of the Royal Varuna Yacht Club, watching the opening races of the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup Preliminary Regatta in Sardinia brought a profound sense of déjà vu. Steering the Luna Rossa Women & Youth AC40 foiling yacht at breathtaking speeds over 40 knots, 22-year-old helmsman Marco Gradoni spent the opening days of the regatta routinely out-maneuvring the world's most seasoned senior Cup veterans. To the global sailing community, it was a stunning display of next-generation talent.



OPTIMIST ALERT

18TH EASTERN SEABOARD REGATTA

WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER TO SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2026
 OPTIMIST - ILCA 4 - ILCA 6 YOUTH U19
 INTERNATIONAL 420 CLASS YOUTH U19

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To those of us in Pattaya, it was simply the continuation of a story that began on our very own waters nearly a decade ago. It feels like just yesterday that a focused 13-year-old Italian sailor arrived at Varuna to compete in the 2017 Optimist World Championship. Navigating the tricky shifts and tides of the Gulf of Thailand, Marco put on a masterclass in tactical brilliance, ultimately lifting the World Championship trophy right on our shores. That spectacular week at Royal Varuna wasn't just a victory; it was the launchpad for one of the most dominant youth sailing careers in history. Marco's transition from the humble Optimist dinghy to high-performance foiling giants has been seamless. After dominating the Olympic 470 class, he was quickly snatched up by Italy's America's Cup powerhouse, Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli.

Royal Varuna Yacht Club extend our warmest congratulations to Marco and the Luna Rossa team.

Steering the ILCA Fleet Forward: A warm welcome to the new fleet captain, **GREG FLORKOW**

Class of 1983, he mastered monohull sailing with great devotion and a competitive spirit. From OK Dinghy to ILCA 7, Greg is a genuine sailor who surely will bring so many benefits to the ILCA fleet and the Royal Varuna Yacht Club.



Q: Greg, congratulations on the new role. You've been a dedicated monohull sailor. How does that long-term "competitive spirit" translate into your vision for the Royal Varuna fleet?

Thank you, and it's an honour to take over from Cees, who really started to give shape and organization to what was happening around the ILCA fleet here. My job is to build on that foundation. Competing has always pushed me to grow as a sailor, and that's the magic of fleet racing - when you line up regularly against others, you sharpen your own game without even realizing it. My vision for Royal Varuna is simple: more racing, more often. It is not about always having big events with lots of organizational effort, but a start line and enthusiastic group. A consistent calendar is what builds a strong fleet, because every start line is a chance to learn something from the boat next to you.

I also want to keep things varied. When the fleet is big, we'll run proper triangle courses; when numbers are smaller, a tight windward-leeward keeps the racing close. And every now and then, when the breeze cooperates, I'd like to sneak in something a bit more cheeky - a downwind run to a nearby beach with a beer stop at the end. Racing should be serious enough to make you better, and fun enough that you can't wait for the next weekend.

Q: What is the biggest "benefit" you hope to bring to the members this season?

Consistency, and a wider door into racing. The first part means actively promoting our club races and communicating clearly and regularly about the schedule, so every member knows when and where to show up. The second part is just as important to me: I want to get newcomers into racing. I know how intimidating that first start line can feel - the boats look fast, the rules look complicated, and nobody wants to be the one in the way. The truth is, the fleet has all been there, and the only way past it is to just turn up. We'll make sure there's someone to walk new sailors through the basics, so the first race feels like a welcome, not a test. Alongside that, I'd like to explore performance clinics for sailors who want to keep getting faster - ILCA is one of the most competitive classes in the world, and there's always something to learn from the top of the fleet. And running through all of it, safety as a habit rather than a rule: every time you go out, remember the basics - phone, knife, water, a spare bit of rope, and even a bit of electrical tape can save the day in the weirdest moments.

Q: Any final words for the fleet as you take the helm?

I've met ILCA sailors well into their 80s who are still genuinely competitive in their age groups, and that tells you everything you need to know about this class. Time on the water keeps you sharp, keeps you fit, and frankly keeps you young. So my message to the fleet is this: come and sail. Whether you're chasing the podium, getting back into the boat after a few seasons away, or stepping onto a start line for the very first time - every hour out there is an investment in yourself. Royal Varuna has a wonderful fleet and an even better community. I'm honoured and I can't wait to see all of you on the start line.

Golden Outing: RVYC Youth Sailors Claim Divisional Medals at ILCA Asian Cup 2026

QINHUANGDAO, CHINA — The final standings of the ILCA Asian Cup 2026 cement a historic international campaign for youth sailors representing Thailand’s Royal Varuna Yacht Club (RVYC). Competing against a highly competitive fleet, RVYC athletes captured two gold medals and a hard-fought bronze across the age divisions.

Championship Performances

Ton Rattana — ILCA 6 Men (U19 Gold 🏆): Putting on a masterclass in fleet consistency, Rattana discarded a 5th-place finish to string together six 2nd-place finishes and one 4th-place finish. His 16 net points earned him 2nd place overall and the U19 Gold Medal.

Adison Ein — ILCA 4 Boys (U16 Gold 🏆): Excelling in a massive 29-boat fleet, Ein recorded steady top-tier performances, highlighted by a stellar 1st-place finish in Race 6. Finishing with 34 net points, he captured 2nd place overall and the U16 Gold Medal.

Thanvisit Kitchanasiri — ILCA 4 Boys (U16 Bronze 🏆): Breaking straight into the top flight, Kitchanasiri claimed 9th place overall with 56 net points. His regatta peaked with a brilliant 2nd-place finish in Race 7, securing him the U16 Bronze Medal.

Strong Supporting Results

Lucas Collin (ILCA 6 Men): Fought through adversity after a retirement (RET) in Race 3, rallying back with a 2nd-place finish in Race 5 to finish 6th place overall (43 net points).

Karit Phrammanee (ILCA 4 Boys): Tied Kitchanasiri on 56 net points to secure 10th place overall, starting strong with 4th and 6th-place finishes early on.

Capucine Lala Collin (ILCA 4 Girls): Pushed hard through a demanding 24-boat girls fleet, finishing her regatta with an 11th-place finish in Race 8 to take 16th place overall.





Flying the Flag Solo: Matt Norton takes on the 2026 OK Dinghy World at the prestigious Kongelig Dansk Yachtklub in Denmark.

Skovshoved Harbour, Denmark: When the fleet at the 2026 OK Dinghy World Championship lined up in Denmark this week, a single, familiar emblem stood out against the Baltic horizon. Representing the Royal Varuna Yacht Club, Matt Norton undertook a massive solo campaign, travelling over 8,000 kilometres across the globe to pit his skills against the absolute best in the class. Competing in a massive, world-class fleet of nearly 200 boats is one of the toughest challenges in dinghy sailing. The conditions were demanding, the racing was fierce, and while Matt ultimately placed 175th overall, his final score tells only a fraction of the story. This regatta wasn't just about the immediate leaderboard; it was a masterclass in long-term strategy and pure dedication. Matt's solo journey to Scandinavia was fueled by a bigger mission: laying the groundwork for the 2027 OK Dinghy World Championship, which will be proudly hosted right here on our home waters at Varuna. By embedding himself in the deep, highly competitive European fleet, Matt has gained invaluable, firsthand insights into the latest tuning techniques, big-fleet tactics, and the current pace of the global fleet. His determination to test himself under pressure embodies the true spirit of Varuna. Thank you, Matt, for flying the RVYC flag so proudly on the world stage. The experience gained in Denmark is an invaluable asset to our entire racing community as we look ahead to welcoming the world to Thailand in 2027!



ALERT



Carnaval de Vela Brasileiro

- September 12/13, 2026
- Eligible Classes: Monohulls, Multihulls, Hobie/Darts

Get ready for the Carnival de Vela Brasileiro! 🇧🇷 🚤 We're celebrating Brazil's National Day with an explosion of energy on the water. Expect a vibrant Brazilian atmosphere featuring authentic food, ice-cold tropical drinks, and non-stop music with live Samba Dancers!

“GO HARD OR GO DOWN” SAILING LEGENDS BATTLE IN THE 2026 THAI FIJI ADVENTURE

The rigged boats, the screaming Gulf of Thailand and the adrenaline on the starting line. This wasn't just a sailing competition; it was an all-out assault on the water. No one was here to play it safe, but to *go hard or go down!*

20-29 March, 2026

THAI FIJI  
ADVENTURE



2026

GO HARD OR GO DOWN!

PATTAYA, THAILAND – The Gulf of Thailand was set ablaze from March 20 to 29, 2026, as the Royal Varuna Yacht Club hosted the latest chapter of the prestigious **Thai Fiji Adventure**. This high-octane event, which traces its storied heritage back to the turquoise waters of the Fiji Islands, has spent the last four years evolving into a premier Southeast Asian maritime tradition, transitioning from the open ocean to the tactical challenges of the Gulf. Under the uncompromising 2026 motto "**GO HARD OR GO DOWN,**" twelve elite teams comprising Hobie 16 legends and Dart 18 champions pushed their crafts to the absolute limit.



The seven-day odyssey tested every facet of seamanship, featuring a gruelling schedule of 6 short-course races around the buoys and 12 long-distance marathons weaving through the rugged beauty of the surrounding islands.

The Champions of the Gulf

The competition was fierce, with podium positions often decided by mere seconds of corrected time.

Short Course Dominance: In the sprint format, the Australian duo of **Lachlan Macfarlane and Sharon Rayner** showcased masterclass consistency. With three first-place finishes across six races, they claimed the overall Short Course title and were awarded the traditional, hand-carved **Fijian War Clubs**.

The Long-Distance Grind: When the course stretched toward the horizon, experience reigned supreme. The American pair **Mike Montague and Kathy Ward** proved untouchable in the endurance format. Their strategic brilliance secured them the **Big Bowl Trophy** as the 12-race Long Distance winners.



Veteran Excellence: In a testament to lifelong skill, **Mike Montague** also steered his way to the **Fossil Shield Trophy**, a specialised honour reserved for the top-performing Skipper over the age of 65.

National Pride: For their combined excellence and top-tier rankings across both formats, **Australia**—represented by **Lachlan Macfarlane** and **Sharon Rayner**—was crowned the **Country Winner** for 2026.



The event concluded with a celebratory atmosphere at the **Royal Varuna Yacht Club**, cementing the Thai Fiji Adventure's reputation as a "must-attend" fixture for the world's most elite multihull sailors. Save the date, book your seat and see you all next year for another crazy **Thai Fiji Adventure** from **23 March to 1 April 2027**.





Blasting Through the Gulf: Why the Nacra F18 is the Ultimate Varuna Rush.

If you want to completely redefine what it means to go fast off the Varuna beach, look no further than the Nacra F18. It is easily one of the most exciting, high-performance catamarans in our fleet. Fast, powerful, and deeply rewarding, it's the perfect platform to push your skills to the next level, whether you are an intermediate or advanced club racer. For intermediate sailors, the F18 is a massive leap into high-performance sailing. It quickly sharpens your instincts as you master the trapeze, manage a massive spinnaker downwind, and learn the delicate art of balancing on a single hull. Above all, it forces helm and crew to work in perfect synchronisation. For advanced sailors, the boat becomes a high-speed chess match played out at 20+ knots. Because the F18 is so powerful, the margins for error shrink, and micro-adjustments mean everything. A fraction of an inch on sail trim, precise rig tuning, and exact crew weight placement to track through the chop make all the difference between winning and losing a regatta.

“I’ve taken absolute beginners out on this boat, and I’ve sailed with seasoned veterans. It doesn’t matter their background—everyone comes back up the RVYC beach with the exact same expression: wide eyes, a massive grin, and a pure rush of adrenaline.” - Henry Wiedmann

We all know how lucky we are to sail out of Varuna, but blasting on an F18 really makes you appreciate it. The combination of warm water, reliable breeze, and the scenery across the Gulf of Thailand is tough to beat anywhere in the world. When you're fully trapped out and flying a hull, the view is incredible. You can watch the Pattaya coastline fade away as you track past Koh Larn and Koh Sak, with the rugged silhouette of Koh Phai sitting right on the horizon. The Nacra F18 isn't just an awesome racing machine—it's the ultimate way to experience our club's waters. Whether you're looking to transition into high-performance catamarans or trying to master the perfect trim, it promises the exact same thing every time you launch from the grass: pure excitement. See you on the water!



Henry Wiedmann solo on F18

ADVERTISING



They call him **The Dart Oracle** **A World Champion's perspective: Gareth Owen and his art of flying the Dart 18 hulls.**

He is a multihull and monohull champion, notably winning the Dart 18 UK Nationals in 1997, the Dart European Championship in 1986 and 1988, and the Dart World Championship in 1998 in Nouméa, New Caledonia, with crew Christopher Delves. Gareth has seen the sport evolve from the late 90s to the present day. From the 1998 World Stage to the Gulf of Thailand: An interview with the man who brought the World to Pattaya and mastered Dart 18 sailing.

Q – Gareth, what are your most vivid memories of competing in Nouméa?

A - It was windy, very windy, seldom dropping below 25 knots for the 3 weeks we were in Noumea. My crew and I were very fast in these conditions, managing to win every race. A great venue!

Q - The late 90s were a highly competitive era for the Dart 18. Who were the rivals that pushed you the most during that championship?

A - The Dart class was very strong in Europe from the mid-1980s to 2000. The 1991 World Champs in the UK had 302 boats at the start. (Finished 2nd). Many class champions progressed onto Olympic and WC success in other cats from AUT, FRA, GBR, GER, ITA, USA. However, they remember the Dart for its legendary Apres sail, which no other class could match.



1972 Cadet Class World Champion
 Split Yugoslavia

Q - How has the Dart 18 changed since 1998, or is its "one-design" simplicity the reason it remains so popular?

A - One design racing is best, and it is no coincidence that the Dart was in the past marketed by Laser. Forty-year-old boats are winning championships. It is a great boat for a boy/girl, husband/wife, or single-handed, as it is simple and fast, with fun sailing.

Q - Bringing the Dart Worlds to Thailand was a massive undertaking. Looking back at the fleet in the Gulf, what was the proudest moment of that week for you?

A - The proudest moment was being part of a small, dedicated RVYC team of members and staff, both race management and shoreside, who delivered a great event both on and off the water (on budget), supported by Pattaya City Hall sponsor, which made things happen. Without the need to import outside race or other gravy train officials, and completely free of coach blight. Possibly the best event in my time at RVYC.



1998 Dart 18 World Champion in Nouméa, New Caledonia
 with crew Christopher Delves



1995 Dart 18 Class World Championship runner-up in Travemünde Germany
 with crew Will Thompson

Q - You've been instrumental in bringing major events to Thailand (like the 2019 Worlds). What makes the Gulf of Thailand such a unique venue for catamaran racing?

A - I have been lucky to sail all over the World. The conditions we enjoy here are as good as it gets. Thailand is a wonderful country with great people.

Q - You are often seen training younger Thai sailors. What is the most important lesson you try to instil in the next generation?

A - Sailing is a life sport and a great way to make new friends. We can't all be champions, but the one thing you must have is PASSION for the sport. All too often, I have seen young sailors burnt out and then drift away from the sport by overcoaching. Above all, enjoy your time on the water!

Q - Many sailors look to you for "wisdom" on boat setup. What is the most common mistake you see sailors making with their Dart rigs?

A - The Dart is a simple boat to rig and sail. Information is available through books and the class websites. Now we have a club verandah awash with experts! some more knowledgeable than others. A wealth of advice is there for you if you are prepared to listen!

Q - What keeps you passionate about the Dart 18 after decades in the class?

A - I am passionate about sailing, although I'm concerned about the direction racing is going. No problem, as I don't compete anymore. I just love sailing, whether in a Laser, a Dart, or any boat, just pottering down the coast to the *Drifters Beach Bar* in Jomtien, enjoying some beers. And *tomyam khung* is just good for your soul!

A big thank you to Gareth for his time and his continuous support to the RVYC Dart Fleet!



1984 Laser Pacific Championship in RVYC Pattaya, Thailand

Royal Varuna Yacht Club takes on the 2026 Dart 18 Open at Stokes Bay



50 YEARS OF DART
Stokes Bay SAILING CLUB

Dart 18 Open 23rd & 24th May
Celebrating Dart's 50th Anniversary

Six Races - First Start 12.55
Camping & Motor Home Parking - Live Band
Entry Fee £59 Double Handed & £49 Single Handed
Entry Via Web Collect
Contact MarcoManganelli@aol.com - 07770376006
<https://webcollect.org.uk/stokesbay-sc/category/open-events-1>

It was a fantastic training weekend for the RVYC Dart Fleet on May 23rd and 24th at Stokes Bay Sailing Club in the UK. Our Dart Champion, David Lloyd, and crew Jojo Trafford secured an impressive 3rd place finish out of 26 participants. Marco Manganelli, representing both RVYC and Stokes Bay, alongside crew Amanda Jenks, claimed a strong 9th position, while Simon and Praweena Lake fought hard to finish 21st. Every hour on the water right now is pure gold. The Thai Dart Team is currently in Europe preparing for the Dart 18 World Championship, which will be held in Carnac, France, from July 4th to 10th. With nearly 120 crews already confirmed, sailing against such a massive fleet will be an incredible experience. The unique tidal challenges and intense tactical complexity of racing in France will be a step up, but the team is putting in exactly the kind of gritty preparation needed to make an impact. What a wonderful opportunity for our sailors to test their skills against the very best in the world. Stay tuned to our newsletter and alerts for live updates on their performance!



IB Super Series Championship Dart18 Fleet is 2026 Winner



The **2026 IB Super Series RVYC Championship** was organised by the Royal Varuna Yacht Club (RVYC) in collaboration with the Hobie Cat and Dart Varuna fleets as a "best of 10" regatta series. The competition aimed to foster inclusive, competitive sailing among members while revitalising fleet activities. It was a hard-fought battle throughout the year, ranging from the intensity of the German Cup to the magic of the Drifters Dash during the Thai Fiji Adventure. Both fleets pushed their limits in every race. In the Gold Team, the Dart 18s showed aggressive dominance; champion **David Lloyd** dropped only the final battle to Hobie Australian Champion **Lachlan Macfarlane**. In the Silver Team, **Simon Lake** was a force to be reckoned with, securing an impressive seven victories. Perhaps the most animated fight occurred in the Bronze Team, where every sailor gave their all to contribute to their fleet's total points. Ultimately, the Dart 18 fleet secured the overall victory and was named the new **IB Defender**. With the 2027 edition expanded to 16 events running through March, the stage is set. The big question remains: Will the Hobie fleet be able to reclaim the trophy? They face a monumental task: matching the Dart 18s' aggressive pace while maintaining peak performance over a significantly expanded season. The hunt is on, but the Dart fleet isn't likely to give up its hard-won ground without a fight. **Let's wait and see!**

OVERALL STANDING								
	BRONZE		SILVER		GOLD		Darts	Hobies
The German Cup	Hobie 16	Philip Yorkshire	Dart 18	Simon Lake	Dart 18	David Lloyd	3.0	3.0
The Varuna Cup	Hobie 16	J. Christopher Deledalle	Hobie 16	Antony Chapman	Dart 18	David Lloyd	1.0	5.0
The Japan Cup	Dart 18	Jon Sims	Dart 18	Simon Lake	Dart 18	David Lloyd	6.0	-
The Siamese Cat Cup	Hobie 16	Philip Yorkshire	Dart 18	Simon Lake	Dart 18	David Lloyd	3.0	3.0
The French Cup	Hobie 16	Tobias Kurtz	Dart 18	Dirk Janovsky	Dart 18	David Lloyd	3.0	3.0
The Bira Trophy	Dart 18	Cees Algra	Dart 18	Simon Lake	Dart 18	David Lloyd	6.0	-
The Commodore Cup	Dart 18	Claes Elmen	Dart 18	Simon Lake	Dart 18	David Lloyd	6.0	-
Hobie Dart National	Dart 18	Claes Elmen	Dart 18	Simon Lake	Dart 18	David Lloyd	6.0	-
The New Land Race	Dart 18	Cees Algra	Dart 18	Simon Lake	Dart 18	David Lloyd	6.0	-
Drifters Dash	Hobie 16	Tobias Kurtz	Hobie 16	Daniel Slaby	Hobie 16	Lachlan Macfarlane	-	6.0
TOTAL							40.0	20.0

IB Super Series Championship's 2027 Results & Standing

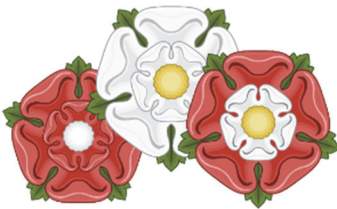
Gold Fleet

Silver Fleet

Bronze Fleet

The Yorkshire Cup

April 25, 2026



The American Cup

May 30, 2026



The Italian Cup

June 20-21, 2026



OVERALL STANDING

	BRONZE (5 Points)	SILVER (3 Points)	GOLD (1 Point)	Darts	Hobies
The Yorkshire Cup	Hobie 16 Nat Mulford	Dart 18 Simon Lake	Dart 18 David Lloyd	4.0	5.0
The American Cup	Hobie 16 Nat Mulford	Dart 18 Manito Henry	Dart 18 Will Thompson	4.0	5.0
The Italian Cup	Hobie 16 Nat Mulford	Dart 18 Manito Henry	Hobie 16 Grahame Southwick	3.0	6.0
Carnaval de Vela Brasileiro				-	-
The German Cup				-	-
The Japan Cup				-	-
The Varuna Cup				-	-
The Siamese Cat Cup				-	-
The Hobie & Dart National				-	-
The Chandler Challenge				-	-
The Prince Bira's Firebird Trophy				-	-
The French Cup				-	-
The Commodore Cup				-	-
The New Land Race				-	-
The Irish Cup				-	-
The Drifters Dash				-	-
			TOTAL	11.0	16.0

Safety at Sea at the Royal Varuna Yacht Club

Sailing out of Pratamnak Hill offers some of the best racing and cruising conditions in the Gulf of Thailand. However, whether you are maneuvering an Optimist, racing a Laser, or rigging a catamaran, a clear understanding of local safety protocols ensures a minor mishap doesn't turn into a serious medical incident.

Here is what you need to know about staying safe on and off the water at RVYC.

1. Immediate First Line of Defense: Club Reception

For any non-life-threatening injury sustained while launching, retrieving, or rigging on the beach, the **RVYC Club Reception** serves as your primary first-aid hub.

- **Available Resources:** The reception desk keeps a stocked first-aid kit for treating immediate beachside issues—cuts from barnacles, rope burns, heat exhaustion, or minor stings.
- **Emergency Coordination:** The staff at reception are trained to coordinate with the safety boat fleet on the water and can quickly contact emergency services if an injury requires advanced medical attention.

2. Serious Medical Incident Routing: Jomtien Hospital

If an accident on the water requires professional medical diagnosis, emergency care, or stitches, **Jomtien Hospital** is the closest, fully equipped private medical facility.

- **Location & Proximity:** Located right on Sukhumvit Road (just south of the South Pattaya Road intersection, next to Chic Republic), it is roughly a 10-to-15-minute drive from Pratamnak Hill, depending on traffic.
- **Capabilities:** Jomtien Hospital operates a 24/7 emergency department capable of handling acute trauma, severe dehydration, fractures, and deep lacerations.

3. The Hidden On-Water Risk: Marine Bacterial Infections

While physical injuries like boom strikes or capsizing are top of mind, the invisible risk of waterborne pathogens is just as critical—especially in warm, tropical coastal environments. The Gulf of Thailand remains warm year-round, creating an ideal breeding ground for **Vibrio** bacteria (specifically *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and *Vibrio vulnificus*). These are naturally occurring marine bacteria, not necessarily caused by pollution, but their concentrations rise with warm water temperatures.

Symptoms to Watch For

If a minor cut or abrasion begins to exhibit these signs within 24 to 48 hours of a sail, do not ignore it:

- Rapidly increasing redness, swelling, or heat around the wound.
- Throbbing pain that feels disproportionate to a simple scrape.
- Fever, chills, or dizziness (signs the infection may be entering the bloodstream).

Enjoy sailing with us and stay safe!

ALERT



Successfully Completing the 2026 RYA Instructor & First Aid Courses at Royal Varuna Yacht Club

We are thrilled to look back on a highly successful run of the **2026 RYA Instructor Course** hosted at our beautiful Royal Varuna Yacht Club. From classroom theory and essential hands-on training to taking our skills out onto the water, every participant brought incredible focus and energy. Our training covered crucial building blocks, including a vital First Aid certification session and where everyone mastered life-saving CPR techniques. Whether fine-tuning instruction strategies on land or gearing up on the beach, the camaraderie and dedication were unmatched. A massive thank you to our expert trainers and all the passionate participants who worked hard to elevate their skills. The future of dinghy and powerboat instruction is looking incredibly bright!



ALERT

OPEN TO ALL FLEETS



Summer is here, and so is the perfect opportunity to get some time on the water! We are excited to invite all club members to participate in the upcoming *Summer Series at RVYC*.

These regattas are a fantastic way to train, improve your sailing skills, and—most importantly—have fun together as a club.

Let's make it a great turnout. Grab your gear, get your crew ready, and let's get racing!

Legends Of The Sea

— Greatest Sailors In History



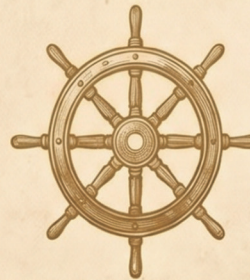
Ferdinand Magellan
1480-1521
First Circumnavigation



Christopher Columbus
c. 1451-1506
Discovering the Americas



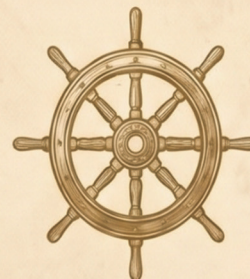
Vasco da Gama
c. 1460s-1524
Route to India via Cape of Good Hope



Captain James Cook
c. 1728-1779
Detailed Mapping of the Pacific



Steve 'Abel' Timms
2026
Circumnavigating Koh Larn



Joshua Slocum
1844-1909
First Solo Circumnavigation

Sailing Lover

What a SWITCH

Any sailor has the chance to enjoy the thrill of foiling on a full carbon composite, state-of-the-art dinghy. Royal Varuna is the perfect place to test and enjoy this revolutionary boat.

For generations, high-performance dinghy racing was a game of endless tinkering, deep pockets, and tech upgrades that made boats obsolete before the next season even began. But a new contender is rewriting the rules of the water, offering all the heart-stopping adrenaline of 30-knot flight without the engineering headache. Meet the Switch One Design. Built by Element 6 Evolution, the Switch is a full-carbon, one-design foiling dinghy designed to put the focus back where it belongs: on the sailor's skill. Unlike traditional development classes like the International Moth, where sailors spend hours adjusting complicated mechanics on shore, the Switch arrives ready to race out of the box. Featuring pre-tuned control systems and simplified, intuitive flight controls (Cunningham, Vang, Ride Height, and Pitch), it significantly flattens the steep learning curve of foiling. It takes off in a mere 6 knots of breeze, effortlessly climbs past 19 knots upwind, and screams downwind at speeds exceeding 30 knots. The true genius of the Switch lies in its modularity. Instead of forcing sailors to buy entirely new setups as they grow or changing boats based on gender, the Switch utilizes a single, unified platform. By simply swapping the bottom section of the three-piece carbon mast, the boat seamlessly transitions between three distinct categories:

- **Switch 6.5:** Tailored for youth and lighter sailors (45–65 kg).
- **Switch 7.5:** The sweet spot for women and medium-weight sailors.
- **Switch 8.5:** Engineered for maximum power for heavier athletes (70–100+ kg).

This plug-and-play adaptability allows sailing clubs, families, and training programs to share a single hull across an incredibly diverse roster of athletes. The Switch isn't just fast on the water; it's incredibly efficient on land. Recognizing the logistical nightmares of international racing, the designers engineered the wings and tramps to disassemble effortlessly. The entire boat packs down into a compact aluminum travel box. Even better, the three-piece mast and sails can be checked onto standard commercial flights, allowing sailors to travel light and charter a hull once they land at major global events.

The Verdict

By combining elite, Olympic-grade carbon manufacturing with a strictly regulated one-design framework, the Switch One Design delivers the ultimate foiling experience. It is fast, fair, affordable to maintain, and undeniably thrilling, proving that the future of sailing isn't about who has the best gear, but who is the best pilot.

ALERT

German Cup 2026 & Oktoberfest

September 26-27

Eligible Classes: Optimist / Hobie-Dart / F18 / Monohulls

Mark your calendars for September 26–27! Get ready for an epic weekend at the club, packed with:

- **Sailing: Hit the water for some great racing.**
- **German Buffet: Indulge in a delicious, authentic feast.**
- **Games & Fun: Traditional activities and festive entertainment for everyone!**

Stay tuned for more details and ticket info. Don't miss out on the best weekend of the autumn!



SWITCH
ONE DESIGN



GERMAN



ROYAL VARUNA YACHT CLUB

James' farewell party at the beach bar



ADVERTISING



MARINE WORKS



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Royal Varuna Yacht Club achieved the clean regattas certification from Oceania

Sailors for the Sea Powered by **Oceana** is the world's leading ocean conservation organisation that engages, educates, and activates the sailing and boating community to restore ocean health. Boaters see firsthand many of the issues our oceans face, from pollution, which fouls their playground, to overfishing and habitat destruction, which threaten marine life and the food source for billions of people worldwide. Through solution-oriented programs, sailors for the sea unite a core constituency of sailors and boaters, nearly 12 million strong, whose support helps to win victories to save the world's oceans. Clean Regattas is the world's leading sustainability certification for all on-the-water, near-the-water, and water-loving events. With over 4,000 events hosted since 2006, this program has reached 1.7 million sailors and attendees across 53 countries. The target is promoting Sustainability in the Sailing and Boating Community. Clean Regattas is a free self-assessment tool that allows events to earn certification levels ranging from Participant to Platinum. With robust resources and support, the goal is to provide organisers with the most effective ways to make their event better for attendees, communities, and our planet. **ROYAL VARUNA YACHT CLUB** is proud to be part of this great effort to save our sea. Many thanks to Tamsin and Apple for this achievement.



Varuna Open Masters Championship
Hosted by Royal Varuna Yacht Club

SILVER LEVEL
CLEAN REGATTAS CERTIFICATION

January 30 to February 1, 2026

Emily Conklin
Program Manager
Sailors for the Sea

David Rockefeller, Jr.
Founder
Sailors for the Sea



ALERT

The Brand-New **EXPAT CUP** - Only for outstanding sailors!



When Thailand's rainy summer season rolls around, many people pack their bags—but the country's most dedicated sailors head straight for the water. On July 11 and 12, the prestigious Royal Varuna Yacht Club in Pattaya will host the inaugural **EXPAT CUP**. Spanning two intense days, this brand-new competition is specifically designed for outstanding sailors who remain in Thailand during the low season, ready to test their mettle against the elements and each other.

Braving the Summer Monsoon

The summer months in Thailand bring unpredictable tropical weather, shifting winds, and sudden downpours. For the average boater, it's a time to stay ashore. But for the elite community of expatriate and local sailors staying behind, it is the perfect playground. The **EXPAT CUP** isn't just another weekend regatta; it's a masterclass in heavy-weather tactics and resilience. Competitors will have to read the complex, monsoon-driven currents of the Gulf of Thailand and handle rapid weather shifts that only true veterans of the sport can exploit to their advantage.

Latest: The Beluga Cup 2026

The **Beluga Cup** is a symbol of dedication, hard work, and perseverance in the world of sailing. It serves as a powerful reminder that the joy of being on the water is open to everyone, regardless of size or shape. This trophy is an invitation and an inspiration for others to join us at the **Royal Varuna Yacht Club (RVYC)** and discover this wonderful sport.

Awarded as part of the **Thai Fiji Adventure**, this year's winners are brothers **Joshua Ananda Kurtz** and **Levi Kassapa Kurtz**. They were selected for their relentless perseverance while crewing the **Hobie 16** and for their role in inspiring a new generation of multihull sailors.

Congratulations to the Kurts brothers for embodying the true spirit of the Gulf!





ROYAL
VARUNA
YACHT CLUB

