

# *U.S. Havana Challenge Yacht Race in Cuba*

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Havana, May 18 (RHC) — For the first time in 15 years, the U.S. administration has authorized the participation of U.S. boats in a yacht race in Cuba. Some twenty U.S. boats have come to Cuba from Key West for the Havana Challenge race to be held on the Havana coast.

The boats, particularly of the type Hobbie Cats-16, arrived at the Havana-based Hemingway International Yacht Club, said Commodore Jose Miguel Diaz.

The travelers include Key West mayor Craig Cates, and yacht racers Joe Weatherby and George Bellenger, who took part at the first Havana Challenge event in 2000.

On Tuesday, May 19th a boat race between Cuban and U.S. boats will take place on the Havana coast and a parade will take place on Wednesday by Key West boats. The U.S. boats will return home on Thursday.

The Havana Challenge event was first organized in the year 2000, but it could not be repeated until now due to prohibitions of the U.S. blockade on Cuba.



**Radio Habana Cuba**