



PRESS RELEASE

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Hospice Cup XXVI Invites Chesapeake Bay Sailing Clubs to Compete

Sailing clubs encouraged to compete against each other for speed and fundraising.

[Annapolis, MD] The Hospice Cup, Inc. and race officiators, the Shearwater Sailing Club and the local Storm Trysail Club, are encouraging Chesapeake Bay-area sailing organizations to compete in both sailboat racing and fundraising for the area hospices participating in this year's 26th annual Hospice Cup sailboat race to be held on September 8, 2007, in Annapolis, Maryland.

Chesapeake Bay-area sailing organizations are invited to compete to raise the most funds to support hospice by assembling a team of boats to race in the group's name. The group raising the highest sum of donations will be honored during a special awards ceremony following the race at the Shore Party held at the Atria Manresa, overlooking the Severn River. However, all fundraising teams will be winners since they will be raising money for a great cause.

To date the Hospice Cup has raised over \$7 million to support Hospice programs in local communities around the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC areas.

Additionally, groups are also welcome to sponsor their own trophies (upon approval by the Shearwater Sailing Club and the local Storm Trysail Club) that will be presented to one of its own members during the Shore Party ceremony – be it for fastest boat or largest amount of funds raised among your group – it's up to each group.

Each group has the option to raise money on behalf of one or more of the participating hospices or choose to donate funds to Hospice Cup, Inc. where funds are distributed among all participating hospices after the day of the event.

As a participating group, each organization must be represented by at least 5 boats and are asked to donate at least \$100 by August 8 to confirm your intention to enter. Each group is also encouraged to compete in the non-spinnaker Hospice Class, since those racing in that category have the opportunity to host a Hospice caregiver as crew – treating him or her to a day on the water on your boat.

As a "thank-you" for fundraising, for every \$120 raised, each team entering as a group will receive one ticket for the post-race Shore Party, which includes food, full bar, music and other entertainment. Additional tickets must be purchased in advance or on site to gain access.

For details on registering your sailing organization, please contact Hospice Cup Executive Director Karma O'Neill at 410-919-8393 or e-mail info@hospicecup.org.

For more information about the Hospice Cup visit www.hospicecup.org.

The 2007 participating hospices which include: Hospice of the Chesapeake, Capital Hospice, Montgomery Hospice, Calvert Hospice and Community Hospices, must meet the standards of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. Hospice Cup, Inc. is a proud member of the National Hospice Regatta Alliance, www.hospiceregattas.org.

Supporting Hospice Cup means that there will continue to be no out-of-pocket expenses for any patient or family seeking the services of one of the participating hospices. Hospice Cup funds help pay the 25 to 30 percent of the expenses not covered by Medicare or private insurance. These dollars enable the hospices to provide skilled compassionate care, comfort and dignity to the terminally ill, their families and friends, regardless of their ability to pay. Hospice enables patients to carry on alert, pain-free lives so their last days may be spent in comfort, at home or in home-like settings. Hospice care concentrates on care, not cure. Bereavement counseling and support groups are part of hospice services after the loss of a loved one.

The Hospice Cup is sanctioned by the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association (CBYRA) and counts for CBYRA season-long High Point competition. Hospice Cup, Inc. is a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia for the purposes of conducting a benefit yacht race and related events. Net proceeds are disbursed to the participating hospices on a pro-rated basis.

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