



*Welcome to the 59th Annual Mug
Race*

Saturday May 5, 2012

Hosted by:

The Rudder Club of Jacksonville, Inc.

Since 1954, sailors have tested their mettle in a one-way distance race between Palatka and Jacksonville, Florida, along the beautiful St. Johns River. Each mile of the 38 miles of this race is a challenge of current and fickle wind, but racers return year after year to try for the coveted Mug or to win one of the 100 class trophies.

The 2012 Mug Race will be held Saturday, May 5, 2012. The start is in Palatka, Florida, just north of the US 17 Bridge across the St. Johns River. Boats race north along the river passing under the Shands Bridge at Green Cove Springs and finishing just south of the Buckman (I-295)

Bridge in Jacksonville. Boats of a wide variety of types are eligible so long as their mast height is less than 44 feet. Sailboards and sailing canoes are welcome, but must provide their own safety boat.

This race uses a pursuit start. Slower boats begin racing at 7:30 am, and faster boats start progressively later until the fastest catamarans start at about 10:30 am. All boats must finish racing by 8:15 pm so that we may clear the river as darkness falls.

The Mug Race is also a social event! Thanks to the Putnam County Tourist Development Commission and the efforts of the Palatka Yacht Club and the Rat Island Yacht Club, you will want to come early. Friday afternoon is the Beef O'Brady Cup, a fun set of triangle races in the river off the Palatka waterfront. Friday evening there will be live music in the park, an oyster roast, and a trolley to ferry you to nearby restaurants and bars.

The "Notice of Race" will be available on www.rudderclub.com by about March 1, 2012. For a brochure, email commodore@rudderclub.com. Save the date for one of the most fun sailing events in north Florida!

