

# 2016 HOBIE 16/18 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PUERTO PEÑASCO, MEXICO OCTOBER 10-14, 2016

Lodging, Event and Travel Information  
**UPDATED 2016-09-26.**  
**FINAL UPDATE PRIOR TO THE EVENT!**



We are pleased to announce that Puerto Peñasco, Mexico, the home of Hobie racing for Phoenix Fleet 66 and Tucson Fleet 514, has been awarded the 2016 Hobie 16 and Hobie 18 North American Championships. Both fleets have been hosting Hobie regattas in Puerto Peñasco for the last 30 years, including the 1994 Multi-Boat Nationals.

An easy 4.5 hour drive from both Phoenix and Tucson, the regatta site is just an hour south of the border. A working port, this small Mexican fishing village boasts warm water, a sheltered harbor, wonderful downtown and a beautiful sandy beach. We race in the Sea of Cortez off of Sandy Beach near Playa Bonita. This location offers preeminent sailing for beach cats, with an endless sandy beach, warm water, consistent winds, 350 days of sunshine, and of course, fantastic people.

Leading up to the championship, Fleet 66 will host the Cinco de Mayo regatta the first weekend in May 2016, and Fleet 514 will host their Piñata Regatta October 8-9, the weekend before the Championship. Both regattas consistently have over 25 boats each year, and have hosted 100+ boat regattas in the past. All levels of lodging, from tent camping and RV hookups at the Playa Bonita RV Park, to hotel rooms at the Playa Bonita Resort, to deluxe condominiums, are within walking distance of the regatta venue. There are multiple food options within walking distance, and many more restaurants and shopping opportunities just a short 5 minute drive into town. For the non-sailors in your group there is plenty to do including shopping, fishing, four-wheeling, jet-skiing, or a cold Tecate on the beach. No other US location has this combination of beach access, open ocean sailing, warm air, warm water, and lodging of all levels within walking distance of the regatta venue.

The remainder of this packet includes information and maps to make your planning easier. Of course, if you have questions please call me or any fleet member, as we will be happy to assist you. See you here!

Tony

**ARE YOU IN?**

I. CONTACT INFORMATION.

	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Email/website</u>
Regatta Chairman	Tony Krauss	520-955-2769	abkrauss@cox.net
Mexico Travel and Youth Coordinator	Quinn DeAngelis	480-678-1777	quinn@azdox.com
Airport Shuttle Coordinator	Chris Wessels		xanderwess@yahoo.com
Mexico Insurance	Clinton Martin	520-331-2607	www.insurance4mexico.net
Sponsorship Coordinator	Barb Perlmutter	520-303-1473	skipperbarb@hotmail.com
Charter Boat Coordination	Rex Miller		<a href="mailto:rextreme99@hotmail.com">rextreme99@hotmail.com</a>
Charter Boat Insurance	George Burchfiel		hobiedude@yahoo.com
<b>Updated 2016-09-26 EVENT EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER</b>	<b>Event Organizers – Phone is monitored continuously during the event</b>	<b>520-912-5748</b>	

II. Closest Accommodations. We strongly encourage participants to make their reservations as soon as possible, This year the RV park and the Playa Bonita Resort were FULL during the week in question.

A. Play Bonita RV Park (Race Headquarters)

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

Rates: approximately \$25/night with full hook up and showers

Email: [reservations@playabonitarv.com](mailto:reservations@playabonitarv.com)

\*\*ADDED 3/5/2016 – Mail in reservation form – This is the best way to reserve your space at the RV park! -

<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/53cd8300e4b01d2bd01090f3/t/56ccbae9b6aa60b50696fbd8/1456257770060/2016+Playa+Bonita+RV+Park+Reservation.pdf>

B. Playa Bonita Resort [www.playabonitaresort.com](http://www.playabonitaresort.com)

Rates: \$86.00 USD Sun-Thursday and \$97.00 Friday and Saturday

Email: [info@playabonitamail.com](mailto:info@playabonitamail.com)

Reservation code is 161987.

C. Best Western Laos Mar Hotel [www.playabonitaresort.com](http://www.playabonitaresort.com)

Email: [laosmar@hotmail.com](mailto:laosmar@hotmail.com)

Rates: \$75.00 Sun-Thursday and \$86.00 Friday and Saturday.

Reservation code is 30470.

D. Sonoran Sky Condominiums [www.sonoranresorts.mx/sonoran-resorts/#sky.com](http://www.sonoranresorts.mx/sonoran-resorts/#sky.com)

Rates: variable \$125 to \$425, no group reservation code

Three ways to secure accommodations:

VRBO.com  
Search "sonoran sky"

Seaside Reservations  
reservations@seasidemexico.com  
Attn: Maria Pena  
Toll Free from Mexico 011 52 638 383 0700  
Toll Free from USA 1 888 262 4508

Rocky Point Reservations  
reserve@rprMexico.com  
Attn: Marissa Hernandez  
Toll Free from Mexico 01 800 681 6534  
Toll Free from USA 1 800 997 9431

III. TRAVEL OPTIONS.

- A. Rental Cars. Both Avis and Budget allow travel across the border.
- B. RVs. RVs may be rented from Phoenix or Tucson, including:
  - El Monte RV
  - Arizona Kachina RV Center
- C. Carpooling with locals. Hitch a ride with a local sailor.
- D. Airport Shuttles.

**2016-09-01** – At this writing, all shuttles are being coordinated through [www.headouttorockypoint.com](http://www.headouttorockypoint.com) and through our shuttle coordinator Chris Wessels [xanderwess@yahoo.com](mailto:xanderwess@yahoo.com). Contact Chris for more information

IV. INSURANCE.

- A. Vehicle Insurance. All participants that intend to drive in Mexico MUST purchase Special Vehicle Coverage while traveling in Mexico. This coverage must include the trailer and all boats carried. This coverage is only in place while travelling and does NOT cover your boat while racing or on the water. Many options are available, but we suggest [www.insurance4mexico.net](http://www.insurance4mexico.net) - Clinton Martin is the agent associated with that site, and is a fleet sponsor. Feel free to contact him by phone if you have questions at 520-331-2607. Savvy travelers put a policy in place only for travel days, on rigs (RVs) that will not be driving during their time in Mexico.
  - a. UPDATED **2016-09-01** - There will also be an option to purchase Mexican vehicle insurance in person on the way to Puerto Penasco at the Why Not Travel Store in Why, AZ

- B. Boat Insurance. Mexican Vehicle Insurance described above only covers your boat while it is on the trailer. There are a couple options for insuring your boat while sailing:
- a. Option 1 – Check with your US insurance company about coverage during competition in International Waters – If your existing insurance covers you, great!
  - b. Option 2 – (**Updated 2016-09-26**) For chartered boats, loaned boats, and for those whose insurance does not extend to international waters, we have arranged through Gowrie and the HCA for event-specific coverage for participating competitors – Cost will be \$100 for the event, and participants can get coverage up until the day of the event. This is great coverage for a great price, and fills the HCA Competitor liability requirement. Contact George Burchfiel for further information [hobiedude@yahoo.com](mailto:hobiedude@yahoo.com). Insurance forms now hosted on the Event web site <http://www.fleet514.com/2016-hobie-16/18-nac-event-page>
- C. Medical Insurance. Most clinics in Puerto Peñasco do not accept U.S. insurance as payment. Therefore, cash, credit card or personal trip/vacation insurance can be purchased. Check your existing policy for coverage while traveling in Mexico.

## V. BORDER CROSSING.

- A. You must have in your possession when crossing the border copies of your current title and/or registration for all automobiles, trailers and boats you are transporting. If your state does not require registration, bring a copy of the bill of sale, receipt or other ownership document that shows you own the boat. If the owner of the vehicle, trailer or boat is not present at the time you cross the border, the owner should sign a letter or document granting permission to the driver to transport the vehicle/trailer/boat described in reasonable detail with VIN numbers into Mexico and back into the United States. To be safe you might want to have the letter notarized as notaries give the document additional credibility. Be organized – have all your documents neat, tidy, and complete. Make copies of all ownership and registration documents, do NOT bring originals. The documents include:
- i. Tow Vehicle –
    - a. Driver should match the Ownership docs or have a signed permission from owner as described below
    - b. Have copies of title, American insurance, Mexican Insurance and current registration
  - ii. Trailer –
    - a. Ownership should match the Tow Vehicle or have a signed permission from owner as described below.
    - b. Have copies of title, American insurance, Mexican Insurance and current registration
  - iii. Boat –
    - a. Ownership should match the Tow Vehicle, Driver, and Trailer or have signed permission from owner as described above.
    - b. Have copies of ownership documents and current registration. If your state does not require small boats to be registered bring a copy of the Ownership Document.
    - c. **UPDATED 2016-09-01** - If you have gotten a Temporary Importation Permit, include this.
    - d. **UPDATED 2016-09-26** - ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST IMMEDIATELY provide the boat owner information and hull number to Mimi Appel for inclusion in a master list, to ensure an uneventful crossing, regardless of permit status.
  - iv. Additional Boats (or where Owner is not the Driver for any of the above) –
    - a. Have a copy of the Owners passport, all ownership documents, and a letter from the Owner stating something like “I hereby give Driver permission to transport my [insert description of vehicle/trailer/boat with VIN number] to and from Puerto Peñasco, for my use, via the route of his choosing”.
    - b. Notarize this package for extra credibility.

- B. **UPDATED 2016-09-26** – General Customs Requirements - The most current recommendations can be found here - <http://www.puerto-penasco.com/customs.html>
- C. **UPDATED 2016-09-26** - Crossing with Food and Alcohol - The most current recommendations can be found here - <http://rockypoint360.com/what-food-can-i-bring-across-the-border-into-mexico/> Short story is, be prepared to buy most of your food and booze in Mexico, it avoids potential border issues, and supports the local businesses and people.
- D. **UPDATED 2016-09-26** - Crossing with Pets. The most current recommendations can be found here - <http://www.puerto-penasco.com/customs.html> See further info at the end of this document, section IX.
- E. Emergency Telephones are disbursed throughout the route as noted on the attached map. It is always good practice to travel during daylight hours, travel in caravans, and stay on the main route. **UPDATED 2016-09-26** - FOLLOW ALL THE TRAFFIC SIGNS IN SONOITA. Speed limit is 40kmh, which is about 25mph. Exceeding this may give you the opportunity to 'pay the fine' right there on the side of the road.
- F. Traveling from the border to Puerto Peñasco does not require a travel visa. However, if you are traveling further than Puerto Peñasco, you will need one.
- G. **UPDATED 2016-09-26** - Travel Caravans - We will be coordinating caravans on the Thursday-Sunday prior to the event, with a local fleet member familiar with the route. Meet-up time is 9am in Why, AZ, and corresponds to an approximately 6am departure from Phoenix or Tucson. Groups needing guides, and arriving at Why in time for the scheduled caravan, will call 520-912-5748 (the contact number for the event organizers, continuously monitored), and a guide will be dispatched from Puerto Penasco to meet the group at the Lukeville port of entry. Google map to the venue is here, and uses our preferred route to the venue <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Playa+Bonita+hotel/@31.3184428,-113.5572258,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x812ba4df0b0e55b7:0xc24409b489a33386!8m2!3d31.3184428!4d-113.5550371?hl=en> . Please note that the border is closed between Midnight and 6:00a.m.
- H. Passports are required for re-entry into the United States. Children under 16 can show their U.S. birth certificate if they do not have a passport. **UPDATED 2016-09-26** if you are from a country other than the United States, Confirm that you have the documents that originally allowed you to enter the US. As you approach the border heading north, be sure your documents are prepared to ensure a speedy return. Border agents recommend keeping a copy of your documents on your phone

## VI. TELEPHONE AND INTERNET

- A. The area has decent cell phone service if you have an international cellular plan. If you do not have an international plan on your phone, we recommend that you turn your phone and data off to avoid international roaming charges and use Wi-Fi for internet access. Otherwise, the charges for roaming can be astronomical. **UPDATED 2016-09-26** – Cell Phone use in Penasco has gotten very good in the last few months. Verizon especially, has something called 'Travel Plan' – you access your US plan for just \$2/day, no roaming charges, and the connectivity to the Mexican towers is seamless. Check with your own carrier for more details
- B. If you require reliable internet service we recommend bringing your own smart phone/international hotspot with an international data plan. International hot-spots are readily available from your cellular provider. Make sure you have them set it up on an international plan. **UPDATED 2016-09-01** - Most major cellular services are improving in their ability to communicate with Mexican TelCel towers, but we have had recent success with Metro PCS, a prepaid provider that is marketed specifically to regular border crossers, and talks seamlessly with the TelCel towers.
- C. Wireless internet connections are available in Puerto Peñasco, but vary in strength and availability.

VII. FOOD - **UPDATED 2016-09-26** - Crossing with Food and Alcohol - The most current recommendations can be found here - <http://rockypoint360.com/what-food-can-i-bring-across-the-border-into-mexico/> Short story is, be prepared to buy most of your food and booze in Mexico, it avoids potential border issues, and supports the local businesses and people. There is a Wal-Mart on the main route into town that is perfectly functional and familiar

- A. There are two restaurants within walking distance from the regatta headquarters.
  - a. The first is at the Playa Bonita Resort. It has a fantastic patio overlooking the Sea of Cortez, with a wide assortment of dishes available.
  - b. The second is located in the Sonoran Sky Resort.
- B. There are several restaurants in the Old Port area of town, which is a five dollar cab ride away from the regatta headquarters. In Old Port you can find everything from fine Italian to roadside taco stand. Our favorites include: the Point, Pane Vino, Pollo Lucas, and El Capitan.

VIII. MEDICAL EMERGENCIES –

- A. The local Bomberos Rescue Services will be stationed at the venue during all on-the-water activities (a condition of our permit with the Penasco Port Captain) A complete emergency action plan is in place for the event, including information on how to activate and access local emergency care and medical facilities.

**B. CLOSEST MEDICAL FACILITIES**

From Puerto Penasco.com –

In the downtown area of Puerto Peñasco you can find **San Jose Clinic** it is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. San Jose Clinic provides the following services; X-rays, ultrasounds, a delivery room, surgery and also if you required transportation to local hospitals and or hospitals to the United States. Another service San Jose Clinic provides is an onsite pharmacy where you will get discounts for being a patient there.

Phone **(638) 383 51 21** and **(638) 383 15 21**  
Blvd. Benito Juárez and Guillermo Prieto

You may need to add the dialing code prefix **00+52**

There is also an equivalent emergency number to our 911 – it is **066**. This is a reliable number, but they may not speak English, and it is suggested to contact the San Jose Clinic first

Maps to the Clinic will be posted on the notice board at regatta HQ, and will be provided in everyone's regatta packet

## IX. PETS

- A. While pets (other than birds) are allowed to cross the border, it is of course easiest if they stay home, especially if you are going to be sailing all week. If you are going to bring your pet, you are limited to two pets per vehicle. It also pays to be organized – all pet health certificates, registrations, and veterinary information should be current and well organized. Bring copies of the following:
- U.S. Veterinarian Health Certificate Form & Rabies Certificate #77043 (within last 6 months old)  
PDF of the form is hosted here -  
<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/53cd8300e4b01d2bd01090f3/t/57d340f71b631b0de8805de/c/1473462519454/Mexico+Health+Certificate.pdf>
  - Pet Registrations
  - Vaccination records from your Veterinarian
  - Prescriptions for any medications or special food
- B. We have heard reports of people having pet food confiscated at the border crossing. One solution to this issue is to bring small quantities or get a prescription for the food you are bringing across the border.
- C. Do not be surprised if the border agents make copies of your pet paperwork and take pictures of the pets.