

September 29, 2020

Hello Double-handed Offshore Sailors!

As we approach the preparation and excitement of the 2020 AYC Double Handed Distance Race, I'm sure all of you are looking forward to an action-packed weekend and challenge! The entry list of 38 registered boats is an impressive collection of avid double-handed teams and demonstrates a popularity and growth in exciting times. I know all of you will have a great event, deciphering weather, current, sail trim and technique, all while managing your physical and mental energy around the Chesapeake course area.

My name is Luther Carpenter, and I am currently the Head Coach of the US Sailing Team. I've been working with the team for 30+ years, coaching our US athletes who ultimately compete in the Olympics. Every four years, a new Olympic quadrennium brings new challenges which creates interest, opportunity, and dedication toward the ultimate goal.

Today, we are excited to venture into the new discipline, "Mixed Offshore Doublehanded", slated for competition in Marseilles (Paris) 2024. Our country is strong with sailors like you, that are primed and ready for this new challenge. The boats, the format, the racing, and even the formula for success, will have their unique twist in Olympic sailing, and our program is dedicated to discovering those things together with you. Building an avid community that works towards the same goals is incredibly rewarding, especially when shooting for the highest Olympic bar.

This weekend we look forward to growing our relationship with all of you and offering a small amount of support. Olympic Development Director Leandro Spina will be onsite in Annapolis Thursday evening and Friday and looks forward to seeing all of you as you make final preparations. Also attending is our media correspondent Allison Chenard, so if you would like to participate in an interview, or perhaps see yourself in some excellent drone footage, look for Allison and Leandro walking the docks!

The organizers are providing access to Chris Bedford as the race meteorologist, who's experience is vast. Chris has forecasted most sailing events across the globe, including America's Cup, Volvo, and our own US Olympic Team. Definitely seek the opportunities and information he provides to put you on the yellow brick road to success!

Our US Team would also like to offer a debrief of the Annapolis Race on Weds, Oct 7th. We will record a zoom session with participating winners, hosted by an expert panel including Jonathan McKee, Sally Barkow, Paul Cayard, Leandro Spina, and Chelsea Carlson (our US Team meteorologist who is forecasting and watching the race as well.). The recorded session will then be emailed to all of you for replay and comments from the winners and experts.

Additionally, we want to make sure you are aware of our email mailing list that you can sign up for here: <https://form.jotform.com/92973943744169>

The main message here is that the US Sailing Team is impressed and excited to see all 37 (74 sailors) of you competing in this race! We are excited about the community of double handed sailors in our country and look forward to learning more about this discipline and those involved. And finally, whether you are Olympic minded, a weekend warrior extraordinaire, or an avid sailor of any kind, we would like to offer you the tools and opportunities to enjoy and succeed in your sailing. The Olympic

world can seem far-fetched for many, but you'll find that we are just a very motivated and dedicated group that loves sailing, collaboration, and community. We look forward to working together!

Good luck in the race!

Luther

Luther Carpenter
Olympic Coach

17330 Morgans Lake Dr
Cypress, TX 77433

+1-281-702-7640 (cell)

Luth2008@mac.com

LutherCarpenter@USSailing.org

Skype: luth2000

