

Winter Lightning Championship

ACCOMMODATIONS

Lightning Sailors,

Please remember March is “High Season.” Rates everywhere are high and reservations must be made early. I have blocked out some rooms at properties that are typically “sold out” during the spring tourist season so that competitors will have some options that are within walking distance of the Club and Sailing Center. Although the following arrangements have been made, each individual may have better opportunity to negotiate the best rate by claiming AARP, AAA, Senior, Corporate, Military, or other rates that best suit the individual’s circumstances.

Ponce De Leon has set aside 10 Standard Rooms at the rates of \$89 [1 Full bed] or \$99 [1 Queen or Queen Delux bed] + tax per night. The Ponce De Leon is directly across Beach Drive from the Yacht Club. *Parking in their lot is \$7 per all day.*

To get these rooms you must call for reservations **BEFORE** February 18, 2010.

To reserve one of the rooms call the property directly @ 727-550-9300 and refer to the Lightning Regatta and **confirmation code CGWL**. Since the hotel is being renovated, be sure you understand what you will be getting.

The Ponce De Leon website link is www.PonceDeLeonHotel.com

Hampton Inn & Suites has set aside 15 Standard Rooms at the rate of \$179 + tax per night. The Hampton is directly across Beach Drive from the Yacht Club. *Parking in their garage is \$10 per night.*

To get these rooms you must call for reservations **BEFORE** February 24, 2010.

To reserve one of the rooms call the property directly @ 727-892-9900 and ask for the Lightning Regatta rate.

The Hampton Inn & Suites website link is www.stpetehampton.com

Hotel Indigo has set aside 15 rooms at the rate of \$119 + tax per night. The Hotel Indigo is a 3 ½ block walk from the Yacht Club. *The room rate also includes parking on the property.*

To get these discounted rates you must call for reservations **BEFORE** February 26, 2010.

To reserve one of these rooms call the property directly @ 727-822-4814 or the direct toll free @ 800-971-4654 and ask for the Lightning rate.

The Hotel Indigo website link is:

<http://www.hotelindigo.com/stpetedowntown>

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Additional Information

Two motels that have been popular in the past are the **BEST WESTERN GATEWAY INN** (6638 4TH Street N, 727-525-1800) and the **COMFORT INN**, (2260 54th Avenue N, 727-362-0075). At this time, they are unable to give us a group rate.

Also, many sailors choose to stay at the **HILTON HOTEL** (333 First Street South, 727-894-5000) which is two blocks from the Sailing Center.

If you prefer to camp, there is the spectacular **FT. DESOTO CAMPGROUND** on Tierra Verde. There are 236 sites for tents or RV's and most are within ten feet of the water. The rate for tents, pop-ups, and vans is \$33.60 and for RV's is \$39.20. This rate includes full hook-ups, showers, and laundry.

Please get further information at 727-893-9185 or their website:

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/park> . RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED 6 MONTHS TO THE DAY BEFORE YOU WISH TO ARRIVE. The campground fills up almost instantly. They advise the best way is to make reservations online at 12:01 AM. For example if you are arriving February 27, 2010, you need to make reservations at 12:01 AM August 27, 2009.

There are other hotels and bed and breakfasts within a few blocks walking distance of the Club, and many, many more within a 15-20 minute drive. Accommodations range from one- to four-stars, and are priced accordingly. This is a very busy time in St. Petersburg and the peak of the winter season, so early reservations are essential and rates are more expensive than non-tourist areas in other parts of the country.

For additional information about accommodations in the St. Petersburg area visit the SPYC website link below:

http://www.spyc.org/club/scripts/library/view_document.asp?CLNK=1&GRP=4560&S=NAV&NS=PUBLIC&DID=11679&APP=80

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Enclosure: Map Follows

