



Puerto Galera Yacht Club

"The Cruising Yacht Club of the Philippines"

PGYC Easter Regatta 2025

- Save the dates, April 18-20

The Puerto Galera Yacht Club (PGYC) will be holding the Annual PGYC Easter Regatta 2025 from April 18 to 20, 2025, and we hope that you will be to join us for the three days of exciting big boat action and challenging, competitive yacht racing on the Verde Island Passage.

This will be the 34th year that PGYC has staged the Easter Regatta. It was one of the first National regattas to be held outside of Manila and is still the longest running yachting event held in the Philippines.

The recently concluded BPI Boracay 200 Race 2025 saw PGYC members yachts dominate the event with Ray Ordeveza's 'Karakoa' breaking the course record to take both Line Honors and 1st Place in the IRC Class, John Quirk's 'Allusive' and its crew of young PGYC Small Boat Program sailors take 1st Place in Cruiser Class with Rick McGonegal's 'Neptunus III' win 3rd Place in Cruiser Class.

So please join them and our own PGYC resident yacht fleet, visiting international yachts and yachts and crews from across the Philippines for three days of fast-paced racing, fun and camaraderie to share and experience the renowned sailing conditions and spectacular natural scenery that make



Puerto Galera one of the Philippines' leading yachting destinations.

The ER2025 is open to all yachts of all classes, whether they are cruisers who have never raced before or veteran racers. Anyone wishing to join as crew, whether an experienced sailor or not, are also welcome.

Please see the attached ER2025 Program of Events, Notice of Race and Entry Form. For more information please email clubhouse@pgyc.org, or call or text 09175205874.



2025 OFFICERS

Atty. Melanie Lagera
Commodore

Bob Finlayson
1st Vice-Commodore

Steven Payne
2nd Vice-Commodore

Bob Finlayson
Treasurer

Kim Barnaby
Ian Nelson
Bo Frank Nielsen
Stuart Pryke
Brian Walpole
Terry Duckham
Directors

Carlos Garcia
Secretary

Puerto Galera Yacht Club Inc.,
Sto Nino, Puerto Galera 5203,
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Tel: 09175295874
www.pgyc.org

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Commodore's Message

I am honored to have been elected as Commodore for 2025. I am optimistic that collaboration with the 2025 board will contribute to the club's long-term success.

Our Board members with their respective committees are as follows:

Commodore Melanie Lagera - Small Boats Program (SBP) and Events

Vice Commodore and Treasurer Bob Finlayson - Finance

2nd Vice Commodore Steven Payne - Club and Grounds

Ian Nelson - Food and Beverage

Kim Barnaby - Marine Operations

Brian Wardrop- Sailing

Bo Frank Nielsen- Communications

Terry Duckham - Marketing and Membership

Stuart Pryke – At Large

We have an exciting year ahead with many initiatives and activities. The club will remain true to its mission/ vision to promote sailing and protect the environment. We will foster a thriving community through activities that promote sailing, boating and social engagement.

Continuous youth involvement in sailing is important to the sustainability and viability of our small boats program as we train our young sailors realize their dreams. Our SBP sailors had 2 days of fun sailing with the Acacia Waldorf School. In addition, we will have another international school join our sailing classes.

Just around the corner is the Easter Regatta which will be held on April 18-20, 2025. Looking forward to exciting races and tactically demanding courses! We will elevate and solidify our standing in the sailing community as we further strive for sailing excellence.

I am strengthening our ties with the Philippine Sailing Association, the governing body for the sport of sailing in the Philippines and recognized by the International Sailing Federation.



Commodore's Message *continued*

I have also reached out to sailors who have competed in international regattas, including the America's Cup. In April, we will have a guest speaker from Italy lecture to our SBP kids and share his experiences in international regattas starting from his training in small boats abroad.

We will also continue to foster our relationships with the LGU and local government agencies including the Bantay Dagat, the Philippine Coast Guard, the police forces, etc. We are partnering with the Bantay Dagat in planting mangrove seedlings.

We will undertake to increase the membership. To date, we have at least 4 new members this quarter.

I have also been networking with our inactive members, members of other yacht clubs as well as with other regatta enthusiasts.

I have also touched base with the publisher of Active Boating Watersports and am tapping the magazine to be our media partner again.

We are exploring ways to generate funds/ income. We will continue to charter yachts.

We have expanded our restaurant client base to include the Classic Club and the Hash Run members.

We have seen an increase in members' participation in the club's activities such as the Valentine's Day celebration and the curry nights. We also have Sunday family day promo of P375 for crispy pata. We also offer boodlefight with the usual tocino, longganisa, salted egg, mango and eggplant ensalada with tomatoes and onions.

With the opening of the Muelle Walkway bridge, we have also simultaneously opened the club to hosting events such as weddings, birthdays, gender reveal parties, baby showers, office meetings and other social gatherings.

We have a new menu. We have more variety in our club's drink list which includes wines from Australia, Chile and Italy. We are now serving Starbucks and UCC coffee, both hot and cold.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Wishing you fair winds and following seas.

COMMODORE MELANIE LAGERA
PGYC Commodore 2025

BPI Boracay Race 200 Wrap up

By Martyn Willes

The last party is over in Boracay for the BPI Boracay 200 Race series, but for sure it will be one that will be talked about for months and years to come . . . or at least until next year.

The overall champion for the Boracay 200 Series, 2025, was PGYC Member Ray Ordoveza's Andrews 53 yacht 'Karakoa', skippered by son Francis, taking home the BPI perpetual trophy. 'Karakoa' achieved Line Honors in the Boracay 200 Race, won in IRC Racing Class and won the inshore series that followed. 'Karakoa' also set a new course record for the BPI Series race from Subic Bay to Boracay with a time of 21hrs 11min 59sec.

Very positive mention in the IRC Racing class is also made of Bobby Benares's 'Sabad' in 2nd place overall and Jun Avecilla's 'Selma Star' in 3rd place overall.

Looking at the Cruising Class we find that PGYC Members' yachts, John Quirk's 'Allusive' and Ric McGonegal's 'Neptunus III'. walked away with 1st and 2nd places overall, ahead of Padlum Lobregat's 'Despacito' in 3rd.

Special mention needs to be made of PGYC's young SBP sailors who made up the majority of the 'Allusive' and 'Neptune III' crews.



In the Ocean Multihulls Class the overall BPI Boracay 200 Race series winner was Albert Altura's 'Cariño' followed by Roman Barberis's 'Maelie'.

It was a very impressive performance once again by PGYC members' yachts and crews who recorded four of the five available 1st Places in the BPI Boracay 200 Race 2025. Congratulations to all!

For those of you following the weather you will know that the yachts on the race from Subic Bay to Boracay enjoyed almost ideal moderate to strong breezes, but the inshore series were impacted by 30+ knot winds, causing the Race Committee to cancel two days of actual racing.

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Starlink Hi-Speed Internet Service

Intermittent Internet connection and inconsistent service providers have long been a bane of the Club and a severe handicap to Club operations and services. The installation of the PLDT's fibre optic service in 2023 has proved to be an expensive disappointment

with regular service failures and downtime. The installation of Starlink services have been much debated over the past year and the PGYC 2025 Board of Directors are now very happy to announce that Starlink Hi-speed Internet Service will be available at the Club from the end of March. Thank you 2nd Vice-Commodore Steve Payne for your donation of the installation and first year of service fees.

Members' Donation Drive Challenge

Despite cutbacks and financial controls, the Club has been slowly losing the struggle to revive its dwindling financial resources since the Pandemic struck in 2020. These in turn have contributed to reduced Club activities and opening hours, only aggravating the problem and resulting in reduced member participation and membership.

*In an effort to help revive the PGYC's finances, image and future, the PGYC's newly elected 2nd Vice-Commodore, Steve Payne, has generously offered a radical solution and challenge to the membership - **He will donate 500,000.00 pesos to the Club if each member matches his donation with a minimum 5,000.00 pesos donation of their own.***

Yes, just 5,000.00 pesos, only one percent of Steve's generous 500,000.00 peso donation pledge!

Your Club needs your support and Steve has just made it easy and inexpensive (for you) to help put the PGYC back onto its financial feet. 100,000 pesos of his P500,000 pesos donation will be allocated to the Easter Regatta (as sponsorship), and the balance (with your donation) will go towards the urgent improvements needed to repair and upgrade club facilities, equipment and its accessibility, listed below.

Please fill in the pledge attached to this Newsletter now and email it to clubhouse@pgyc.org and the office will send you an invoice and bank details for your donation of 5,000.00 pesos, or any greater amount you may wish to offer.

Don't think about it... do it now please!

All donations will be acknowledged (unless you request anonymity) in the next Newsletter and in an email to members. A plaque will also be hung in the club thanking Steve and co-donors.

Estimated cost of PGYC Essential Repairs

- Moorings Maintenance and Repair	230,000.00 pesos
- SBP Dinghy Maintenance and Repair	100,000.00 pesos
- Jetty Pontoon replacement/repair	300-400,000.00 pesos
- Primary Service Boat replacement	400,000.00 pesos

Total funds required within the next six months 1,100,000.00 pesos

We Need To Do More Than Cover Our Costs

The Board has got off to strong start and proposals are being prepared by the directors to upgrade the moorings, food and beverage operations, and the grounds and facilities. These initiatives have the potential to transform the club's operations, but they will require some investment.

After COVID, depressed economic conditions after the pandemic, and high and sustained levels of inflation over the last three to four the club is in a difficult financial position. Cash reserves are almost exhausted and new ways are being investigated by the Board to sustain and reinvigorate the club's finances so it can return to the conditions it enjoyed pre-pandemic.

PGYC has been lucky to receive generous financial, physical, and technical support and advice from donors such as Steve Payne and Jonathan Thorp. The Board is investigating opportunities to raise donor funds for the Easter Regatta from regular supporters such as the Philippine Retirement Association. In addition to these sources of funds, the club is raising food and beverage prices and mooring fees to reflect cost recovery levels,

and enable the club to move away from its current loss-making situation.

Mooring fees have not been adjusted since 2019 despite large increases in the cost of fuel, mooring supplies, wages, contractor's charges and general overheads. These are currently being reviewed and will be adjusted in accordance with inflation.

In line with the generous support from Steven Payne of PHP500,000, we are requesting members to make a matching voluntary contribution of PHP5,000, to help recapitalise the club. In addition, the club is considering the introduction of other innovative long term initiatives. These, and other opportunities, will be canvassed with users of PGYC's mooring facilities in the coming months.

In conclusion, this is an exciting time for the club, but it will need support from all of its stakeholders, including users of mooring facilities, users of the club premises, staff, and its members. We look forward to working closely with you on these initiatives over 2025.

Annual Moorings Inspection and Repair

It's that time of the year again when we send divers down to inspect all PGYC-managed moorings and carry the necessary maintenance and repair that make our PGYC moorings recognized as among the safest in the Philippines.

This is due to our program of year-round diligence, annual inspections and regular maintenance. It is an expensive and time-

consuming task that is one of the Club's largest single expenses. This year we have managed to cut our estimated budget down from 233,000 pesos, to 176,000 pesos. But without the generous support of and Vice-Commodore Steve Payne's cash donation to the Club we would not have been able to begin and our yachts would have been at risk for the typhoon season.

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New Menu and Week-day Happy Hour

Firstly, I wish to thank the members for voting me to the Board of Directors and I will try hard to ensure the restaurant and bar become a social venue where members and guests can enjoy reasonably priced drinks and excellent food.

Both the bar and restaurant have suffered losses in recent months due to the low turnover, so the top priority must be to attract more members and guests to the club to increase the value of sales. Measures have already been instigated to improve this situation and during the past few weeks, we have:

- Held a very successful Valentines Dinner
- Re-commenced the ever-popular Curry Nights
- Established more extensive menu and included breakfast
- Updated the Drinks Menu
- Introduced a new Wine Menu
- Started a daily Happy Hour

In addition, we are improving the overall ambiance of the restaurant & bar by providing background music and giving a coat of paint to the walls. A new pool table light will be installed in the coming days.

For the future, we shall provide more theme nights, invite guest chefs and offer special private events such as weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, etc. So, if any member wishes to host their birthday or



other event at the club, please contact the office.

Thank you for supporting the club by visiting us ..

PGYC Website upgrade and Members Forum

Last year saw the upgrade and update of website landing page and the addition of a ticker feed with links to the latest PGYC new updates, a Members Forum (under construction) and a new look with updated menu bar banners and social media links. This was the start of a long distance overall of all pages to take place as voluntary time allows and will continue through 2025.

The 2024 Board chose to focus on increasing the frequency of social media posts in an effort to reach out to a larger audience and increase member's participation and new membership. The 2025 has bought back the popular newsletter format (of which this is the first) and we will continue to expand our social media reach in combination with direct mailing to members and Reciprocal Clubs.

This is part of a bigger update that includes the overhaul and update of our Membership Group Mailing software and consolidation of our social media and online member groups. The aim is to make the website more interactive and member-friendly, and to build chat rooms and dialogue with cruising yachtees visiting the Philippines and around the world.

Membership crept up to 100 members by September 31, 2024, including 18 Life Members, three 10-Year Term Members and three Honorary Members, of which the Mayors Office is one. Unfortunately, 20 of those did not renew at the end of 2024 and we still have a long way to go to reach the level of active membership we enjoyed Pre-COVID ... so please, bring your friends and



colleagues the next time you visit and be sure they leave with an application form!



Muelle Mangrove Walk Now Open

Located at the Western end of the Muelle Heritage Park, beside the concrete Galleon replica, the Muelle Mangrove Walk now provides direct access to the Clubhouse, just a short five minute walk away. Now it is even easier to drop by and enjoy your favourite PGYC dishes washed down by a cold beer, a glass of one of our fine selection of wines or your favorite cocktail.



Don't forget, Curry Nights are back every Wednesday, Saturday Night is the our popular Saturday Night BBQ and Happy Hour is now 2pm to 6pm every weekday.

Proposed Carpark and National Highway Access

Club carparking and access to the National Highway in Sto. Nino was originally proposed as a part of the additional PGYC land purchase in the early 2000's, when the use of The Moorings carpark became restricted.

In recent years, through the efforts of members, Kim and Nnette Barnaby, and Club Secretary, Carlos Garcia, we have slowly been making progress and have had permission to use the adjacent mini-golf development for deliveries and access during

regattas and events. Further, the owner, Mr. Don Don (Poseidon) Atienza, has given permission to the Club to re-survey the boundary access and we are waiting for a cost to develop both a carpark and access path along the boundary right-of-way.

Once completed we will need to find the funding and agree on a legal contract that will assure the longevity of use. Part of that agreement will be car parking charges, various fees to be paid to the owner, as well as maintenance obligations. Vehicle access to the Club will be game changer for our F&B operations and participation in Club activities.

Proposed carpark and access path from the National Highway to the PGYC Clubhouse



Young SBP sailors to try out for SEA Games

The Puerto Galera Yacht Club's Small Boats Program (SBP) is focused on its mission to promote sailing and produce athletes who will compete and win in international regattas.

We have been sending select SBP kids to the ranking races of the Philippine Sailing Association (PSA). Our goal is train SBP students who will qualify for the SEA games to be held sometime December 2025 in Thailand.

For 2025, we have been having at least 20 students every Saturday. We even saw the number peak at 30. On March 8-9, 2025, we will be having approximately 40 students join our fun sailing - 20 of which are from the Acacia Waldorf School. On March 9th, the club will prepare a boodle fight lunch where all students will have lunch together using shared banana leaves as plates while enjoying fellowship, forging friendships and creating wonderful memories.

We have repaired 5 mirror boats last week. Next in line for repairs are our Optimist boats. Hopefully, we will be receiving 10 optimist boats by the end of June 2025.

We have updated waivers/ parental consent forms, attendance sheets and the logbook. We had a meeting with the parents and have open lines of communication with them.

We have been fostering cordial relationships with the kids by creating buddy systems and rotating them. We will have quarterly birthday celebrations at the end of each quarter. We recognize that teamwork and camaraderie is a very important aspect of sailing.



We will be distributing PGYC SBP shirts next quarter. The last time shirts were given to SBP kids was 5 years or so ago. SBP baseball caps and tumblers are available for purchase at the PGYC chandlery for P350 and P250, respectively. Thank you in advance for your support. For inquiries re SBP, please call 0917-520-5874.



Curry Night Wednesday, April 26!



590 pesos per head

Add a little spice to your life by popular demand PGYC Curry Nights are back with a boost. Every Wednesday Night Chef Noriel will present a selection of tantalizing curry dishes inspired by the kitchens of India, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

Take the free Service Boat from Muelle Pier in front of the Tourism Office or enjoy the stroll along the Mangrove Walk at the Western end of the pier to the PGYC Clubhouse. Visitors most welcome.

Wednesday, April 26, 6:30pm-9.00pm

For bookings please e-mail clubhouse@pgyc.org
Call or text at +639175205874

BPI Boracay Race 200 Wrap up *continued*

Nonetheless the racing and the venues ashore made the whole event a memorable occasion for the crews and yacht owners that participated.

The next and final race in the BPI Signature Series is the BPI Subic Regatta to be held on March 27-30, 2025. For more information about the BPI Subic Regatta, BPI Signature Series, and the upcoming PGYC Easter Regatta 2025 to be held in the Verde Island Passage from April 18-20, 2025, please contact the Puerto Galera Yacht Club at clubhouse@pgyc.org or call 09175205874.

Annual Moorings Inspection and Repair *continued*

The moorings are not the only pending expenses that MarOps are facing. Our primary Service Boat is long overdue for replacement and the jetty's floating pontoon requires major repair or replacement. These and the jetty are undergoing interim running repairs in preparation of the Easter Regatta.

Outboard Motor maintenance and repair is also an ongoing expense and Club's four OBM's are almost never out of the water, except for regular servicing.

The workshop is undergoing a major clean-up and upgrade and we are interviewing for a regular OBM mechanic who can look after both the Club's OBM and provide repair and maintenance services to our members and visiting yachts.

Volunteers are needed to help with daily supervision of the operations now scheduled post Easter. We also need members to join Steve and participate in our newly launched Member's Donation Drive. Please see details in this Newsletter and contact clubhouse@pgyc.org to confirm your participation or request more information.



HAPPY HOUR

2pm-6pm
Monday to Friday

Take the free Service Boat from Muelle Pier in front of the Tourism Office or enjoy a stroll along the Mangrove Walk at the Weestern end of the Muelle Heritage Park to the PGYC Clubhouse. Visitors most welcome.

You can visit the Puerto Galera Yacht Club in Muelle Bay for lunch or dinner. We offer a tasty selection of Western, Asian and Filipino dishes, washed down with cold beer and cocktails, fine wines and a selection of spirits at some of the best prices in Puerto Galera. The Clubhouse is also available for private bookings and events.

For bookings please e-mail clubhouse@pgyc.org
Call or text at +639175205874



JML Easter 2025
REGATTA

SIGN UP
to
JOIN!!

https://www.pgyc.org/pdf/er25_NOR.pdf

Please use the link above to view, download and print the PGYC ER2025 NOR and Race Registration Form.

For more information please ring or text 09175205874, email clubhouse@pgyc.org or visit www.pgyc.org

DINING at the CLUBHOUSE 2025

PGYC will be added in new dining events and promotions to the Clubhouse calendar this year. The list below is just the beginning with more to come. Wednesday Curry Nights and PGYC's iconic Saturday Night BBQ, but these will be joined by National Day Dinner celebrations, visiting Chefs, theme and Quiz nights and more. The Clubhouse is also available for private parties and functions, including weddings birthdays, christenings, anniversaries and special events. Please email cubhouse@pgyc.com for more information and bookings.

MARCH

- 19 - Thai Curry Night
- 20 - Classic Club Lunch
- 26 - Curry Night*
- 29 - Saturday Night BBQ**



*Every Wednesday is Curry Night, unless otherwise advised

** Every Saturday is PGYC's popular Saturday Night BBQ, unless otherwise advised

APRIL

- 4 - Visiting Chef Macrina T Maumbas (Mediterranean Buffet)
- 5 - Sailor's Dinner (An invitation to all those moored on PGYC managed mooring + others)
- 17 - ER2025 Welcome Cocktails & Dinner
- 19 - ER2025 Gala Dinner
- 23 - St Georges Day English Dinner



MAY

- 11 - Mother's Day Lunch

JUNE

- 6 - Swedish National Day - Meatball Dinner
- 15 - Father's Day Lunch



JULY

- 14 - Bastille Day French dinner
- 17 - Classic Club Lunch

OCTOBER

- 3 - German Unity Day and Oktoberfest
- 30 - ASR2025 Welcome Cocktails & Dinner
- 31- Halloween Party & ASR2025 Gala Dinner(?)

NOVEMBER

- 01 - ASR2025 Gala Dinner(?)
- 20 - Classic Club Lunch



DECEMBER

- 25 - Christmas Lunch
- 31 - New Year's Eve Party

