

Ahoy Puddle Jumpers,

Please read the following info carefully:

### **CRUISERSAT.NET: IMPORTANT CHECK-IN CLARIFICATION**

For more than 20 years the Pacific Puddle Jump has been operating as a loosely structured 'group migration' to French Polynesia, rather than a highly structured rally.

There has never been an official committee boat, nor have we ever before required a formal daily check-in. However, this year we are requesting that all boats check in at least once a day by electronic means (offshore email, satellite messaging, etc.) as a basic safety measure. Needless to say, offshore emergencies do occasionally occur, and when they do, having recent boat location data on hand can greatly aid those who would render assistance.

(\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: If you have no ability to check in by email or satellite messaging, please contact us about radio check-in.)

If you haven't done so already, please register your boat at CruiserSat.net. Just follow the PDF - posted on Letters to the Fleet Archive . It's free and only takes a few minutes to do so.

In addition to its check-in function, the site's tracking page can be accessed by invited family and friends while you're. And boats en route can request info from the system's administrator on all boats within a 200-mile radius of you.

We think participation in the Sat net could also help to build a 'sense of community' within the fleet, as crews checking in can post brief comments.

### **HF RADIO NETS**

Part of the reason we have adopted the cruisersat.net for check-ins and tracking this season is that each year, fewer and fewer boats are equipped with Ham or SSB radios. However, crews that do have HF radios typically enjoy the camaraderie of offshore radio nets.

We don't set up radio nets for the crossing, but we encourage fleet members to do so.

Almost every year two nets are established by volunteer fleet members, who take turns doing net control duties: one net for Panama Jumpers and one for Mexico Jumpers.

The sample frequencies below could be followed again, or a new setup could be established.

**SAMPLE: (2018) PUERTO VALLARTA PPJ NET**

Time: Net began 0100 Zulu

Frequency: 8.294.0 USB with alternate frequencies of 8.297.0 USB and 6.224.0 USB.

**SAMPLE: (Former) PANAMA PPJ GROUP NET**

Time: 1300Z (8am Local), and 2300Z (6pm Local). Times may alter, as the group gets farther West.

Frequency: 8A (8294 USB)

(Please keep us informed if you do start up a 2019 PPJ crossing net.)

## PACIFIC SEAFARERS NET

If you have Ham, you should make note of the default net when sailing the South Pacific, the Pacific Seafarers Net, (HAM) 14300 kHz at 0300 (UTC).

Informal chat followed by roll call at 0310 (UTC).

According to one South Pacific cruiser we know, “The three nets that share 14300 kHz provide an outstanding safety net for cruisers. Whether you talk to the Pacific Seafarers Net, the Maritime Mobile Service Net, or the Intercon Net, all the net controls support cruising sailors (and other mobile operators), hand off well to one another, and have robust links to official responders.”

## POLYNESIAN MAGELLAN NET

When you near the islands, join this net also, recommended by many PPJ veterans

Time: 1800 and 0400 zulu

Frequency: 8173.0 USB

## **SPECIAL DISCOUNTS PACIFIC PUDDLE JUMPERS**

Our longtime Tahitian partners at Tahiti Crew and Archipelagoes have organized a discount program in Tahiti that all registered Puddle Jumpers may access. Just drop by the Tahiti Crew office at Papeete’s Marina Taina, and pick up your card. It will give you substantial discounts at many local businesses, including the two largest marine supply stores in French Polynesia.

## **SAVE THE DATE FOR THE RENDEZVOUS**

We’ll save the details until a later letter, but we’d encourage you to save the dates June 21-23 for the annual Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendez-vous. It’s a three-day celebration of the fleet’s safe arrival, and a showcasing of traditional Polynesian music, dance and sport, in which cruisers are allowed to participate. Details to follow.

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Director, Pacific Puddle Jump

## ***Thanks to our 2019 PPJ Sponsors:***

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