



The New York Harbor Sailing Foundation's

# America's Cup 12 Meter Program

An invitation to join a select group of sailing enthusiasts who are supporting and preserving these important pieces of American yachting history.



*Sceptre from the United Kingdom races Columbia from the United States in 1958 off Newport RI. This was the first America's Cup competition in Twelve Meters.*

## 12 Meters and the America's Cup

In 1907, the International Rule (also known as the Meter Rule) was established by the new International Yacht Racing Union to better coordinate international racing. This rule led to the development of many classes and the most popular were the 15 Meter, 12 Meter, 8 Meter and 6 Meter.

12 Meters were used in the Olympics from 1908 to 1920. Over the years, more than 300 yachts have been built under the 12 Meter rule.

In 1958, the 12 Meter class was selected to revive the America's Cup Races. This catapulted the 12 Meter into the limelight and they became the most iconic and famous yachts in American history.

12 Meters raced for the America's Cup from 1958 to 1987. The names of yachts like Intrepid, Courageous, Freedom, Australia II and Stars & Stripes helped define yacht racing during this era.

*1962 – Weatherly from the United States races against Gretel, the first challenger from Australia.*



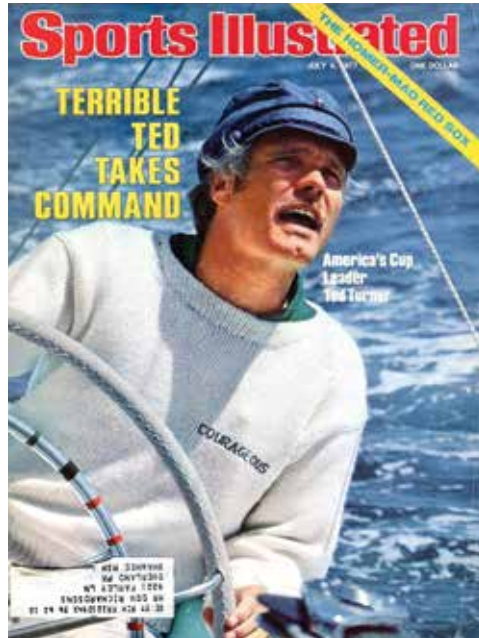




1967 – Intrepid from the United States races against Dame Pattie from Australia.

The 12 Meter class has inspired many generations of sailors. They are iconic and majestic boats and they personify the timeless beauty of sailing. In the United States, 12 Meters are the pinnacle of American yachting tradition. Here are some of the 12 Meters and personalities who have competed in the America's Cup.

When Australia won the America's Cup in 1983, many tears were shed. But in fact, this loss was going to lead to the greatest America's Cup in history as well as the peak of the 12 Meter class. 1987 witnessed one of the greatest comebacks in sports history.



1977 – Courageous from the United States races against Australia.



1980 – Freedom from the United States races against Australia.



1983 – Liberty from the United States races against Australia II. Australia II wins and the America's Cup moves to Freemantle, Australia.





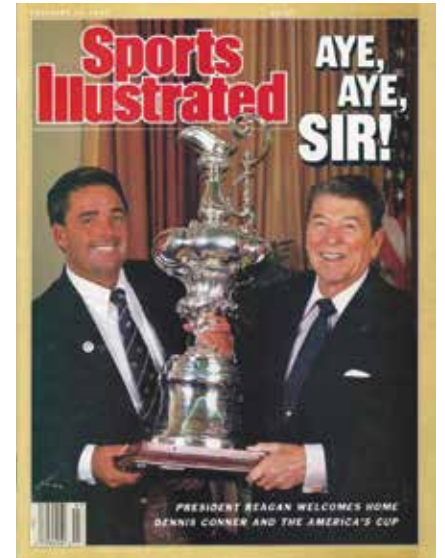
*The Twelve Meter World Championships in Freemantle, Australia was a lead up to the America's Cup Races. It drew the largest gathering of 12 Meters ever on a race course.*

## 1987 and the Greatest Year for 12 Meters

When the New York Yacht Club lost the America's Cup in 1983, the races moved to Australia and many more nations got involved. This made the 1987 America's Cup races the greatest show ever. It was also when ESPN began broadcasting Cup races on television, attracting new interest to the sport of sailing.



*Dennis Conner, Mr. America's Cup, gives his thumbs salute.*



Thirteen syndicates from six countries, Canada, France, Italy, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States competed. Four Australian syndicates battled to defend the Cup. In total, 34 boats were involved in the 1987 America's Cup, making it the biggest event ever.

Dennis Conner on Stars & Stripes won the Louis Vuitton Cup and then defeated Australia 4-0. Dennis succeeded in bringing the America's Cup back to the United States.





*US 46 was originally painted white when she sailed in the 1987 Cup Races.*

## America II (US 46) Comes to NY Harbor

On its 20th Anniversary in 2007, Manhattan Yacht Club gathered a group of Members to do something special - acquire an America's Cup 12 Meter. MYC had been inspired by Yacht Club de Monaco in Europe which acquired a 15 Meter "Tuiga" as their flagship in 1994. In the US, our most iconic boats were the 12 Meters and represented the epitome of American yachting tradition.

MYC was fortunate to acquire America II (US 46) which was skippered by John Kolius in the 1987 Cup races in Australia. This Cup was eventually won by Dennis Conner on Stars & Stripes. US 46 was the ideal yacht for MYC because the Club began sailing in 1987, the same year when US 46 raced for the Cup.

MYC began restoring US 46 and she was relaunched in New York Harbor in 2007. Sailing America II in the harbor is an incredible experience. She leans over in the sea breeze and charges down the harbor past the Statue of Liberty. Everyone onboard is filled with inspiration and appreciation.

After her relaunch, MYC donated America II to the New York Harbor Sailing Foundation which was a better structure to continue her historic preservation.

The Foundation's mission is to foster and promote amateur sailing of national and international importance in New York Harbor. An America's Cup 12 Meter helps achieve this goal by serving as a Flagship and raising awareness of sailing in our harbor.

From 2007 through 2016, America II was the most famous sailing icon in front of the Statue of Liberty. Then our 12 Meter story got even better.







*US 46 (left) skippered by the Manhattan Yacht Club races against US 42 skippered by the Black Rock Yacht Club off CT in 2018.*

## Acquisition of the second 12 Meter, US 42

In 2015, the New York Harbor Sailing Foundation moved from Manhattan to Liberty Harbor Marina in Jersey City. This provided a great home for the Foundation's & Manhattan Yacht Club's growing fleet of sailboats. During this move, the opportunity arose to acquire the sister-ship of US 46, US 42.

There were three America's Cup IIs built by the New York Yacht Club for their 1987 America's Cup campaign, US 42, 44 & 46. The possibility of reuniting two of these matched 12 Meters was historic.

The Foundation acquired US 42, put her in storage at New England Boatworks and began fundraising for her restoration. Then in 2017, on the 30th Anniversary of the 1987 Cup Races in Australia,

and also the 30th anniversary of the Manhattan Yacht Club, US 42 was relaunched and began match racing in New York Harbor against US 46.

Together, these historic America's Cup 12 Meters have created incredible visual images, inspired thousands of sailors and helped excite the next generation.

The Foundation is also proud to be serving as an ambassador for Louis XIII cognac. Working with Louis XIII, we have brought 12 Meter sailing to a whole new group of people. The 12 Meters have also traveled out of the harbor, sharing their stories with other yacht clubs up and down Long Island Sound.

## What our Program is Trying to Accomplish

The goals of the New York Harbor Sailing Foundation's 12 Meter Program are:

**1. To be good caretakers of these important pieces of American yachting history.** This means raising enough money each year to continue the restoration and preservation of each 12 Meter, plus establishing an endowment that will continue to support the 12 Meters after we are gone.

Our financial goal is to raise an annual budget of \$140,000 for each boat. \$100,000 covers the operating and restoration costs and \$40,000 goes towards the endowment. We reach this goal via annual donations from individuals to support the yachts, the annual "12 Meter Dinner" before the Sailors Ball in April, and 12 Meter charters where groups of up to six people can sail the harbor. Many donors become part of the "12 Meter Syndicate."

**2. To preserve the history of the 1987 America's Cup.** This was the final year for 12 Meters in the America's Cup. With Dennis Conner winning the Cup back for the United States, this also marked the pinnacle of our nation's enthusiasm for sailing.

**3. To share these important pieces of American yachting history with more people.** This means inviting people to sail on the 12 Meters in New York Harbor, and also bringing the 12 Meters to other yacht clubs and organizations in order to inspire the next generation of sailors who will love, appreciate and support these vessels into the future.







## How You Can Get Involved

If you are a sailing enthusiast who would like to participate in the restoration and preservation of these iconic 12 Meters, we invite you to get more involved. This is a rare opportunity to be a part of something historically significant and special.

Every donation is welcome. In addition, the Foundation bestows the title of “Syndicate Member” on people who donate at these levels:

- **Gold** - \$2,500 per year
- **Silver** – \$2,000 per year
- **Bronze** - \$1,500 per year

Syndicate Members contribute their time and skills to help clean and maintain the 12 Meters as well as sail them in the harbor and beyond.

You do not have to be an experienced sailor to support this mission of historic preservation. If you are a novice sailor or just a sailing enthusiast, this is a great opportunity to get more involved in the world of sailing.

You do not have to be a member of the Manhattan Yacht Club to participate. But if you begin actively sailing on the 12 Meters, you may be invited to join the Club, whose facilities are used by sailors of the 12 Meters.

For more information about how to become a supporter of the 12 Meter Program, please email [office@nyharborsailing.com](mailto:office@nyharborsailing.com) or call 212-786-3323.





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