

## **An interview with Rolex Yachtsman of the Year and Snipe World Champion Augie Diaz**

**SCIRA USA:** What are some of the best times you have sailed Snipes with a family member?

**Augie:** I have sailed with my father, my brother and both of my sons and it was great sailing with all of them. But the best times were crewing for my son Lucas. I'll never forget that after tacking to leeward of Brian Fishback one time I told my son that we needed to go high and fast. After a few seconds of silence, Luke responded: Pop, that is impossible!

**SCIRA USA:** What are your current sailing goals?

**Augie:** To sail at the highest level that I can while still having a lot of fun, win or loose; and hopefully defend the Snipe Western and World Championships.

**SCIRA USA:** Are the parties Serious Fun in the Snipe Class? Can you give me an example of a Serious Fun Party?

**Augie:** Snipe parties are great because of all the different people and the girls- we have girls; we need more girls! Oklahoma Nationals is a good example- Jato or Nico ended up in the pool with a dress on and we danced the last night into the wee hours of the night at the Hotel's night club.

**SCIRA USA:** How does your experience in the Snipe class help you in other classes? Is it the competition, or the tuning aspect, or what?

**Augie:** It is both the competition and the tuning lessons learned. The depth of Snipe is great and this is how you learn, sailing against good competition and in deep fleets.

**SCIRA USA:** If a young sailor asks you what non-Olympic boat helped the most to understand how to win a regatta which boat would you answer with and why?

**Augie:** Clearly the Snipe class, because of the depth, the international participation and the boats being so even.

**SCIRA USA:** How and when did you start sailing Snipe?

**Augie:** I started sailing Snipes when I was 12 years old , OUCH, that makes it 38 years.

**SCIRA USA:** Is Serious, Sailing Serious Fun ® what you see in the Snipe Class?

**Augie:** Definitely.

**SCIRA USA:** Give me a list of some of the regatta titles that you are most proud of (say top 5) in any boat.

**Augie:** Snipe Worlds (Championship 1<sup>st</sup> place), World Youth Championship, Snipe Western Hemisphere (1<sup>st</sup> place), Pan Am Silver Medal, 4th Star World Championship,