

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is **Hernan Peralta** and I am the Head Laser Coach of **Coconut Group Sailing Club (CGSC)**. The CGSC was founded in 1946. The purpose of the Club is to encourage the sport of sailing, to promote the science of seamanship and navigation, to participate in races and instructional classes, and to foster a spirit of cooperation and good fellowship.

David Perez has been an active member of our club since January of 2015. As a sailor, he is a shining example of the values held by our club, by virtue of his dedication and love for the sea and the sport of sailing, his discipline and perseverance in training, his camaraderie with fellow team members. In addition to his exemplary and outstanding accolades through his sport, David genuinely goes above and beyond for our club, using his experience and skills to act as a mentor and educator with the more junior members of the team. David trains and competes in Laser class, by and large the most popular Men's and Women's Olympic single-handed class.

David was chosen by his peers as **Team Captain** for the Laser Class and exercises his leadership in training and competitions wherever the sport takes him and his team. For me, as a coach, it has been a huge benefit to have him working with our younger sailors who have undergone more than 18 hours a week of hard training at sea, including Saturdays and Sundays, often in difficult weather conditions, where any mistake can be very costly. In the summers of 2015 and 2016, David **worked more than 400 volunteer hours in CGSC** as assistant coach in summer camps to teach children to navigate. Throughout the entire season he remained mindful of the evolution of these junior sailors, who recognize and admire him as a role model.

In 2015, the name "David Perez" was inscribed upon the club's grand trophy that records the winners of the "Annual Halloween Howler Regatta," one of the most important fall regattas in South Florida. David was the U16 Spanish Cup champion and reached 9th place in the European Championship in 2014. In 2016, he as a Junior (16 years) competed against the 100 best sailors of the U.S. in the "Laser Class U.S. Laser National Championships" in Cleveland in the Under-19 division, ranked 22nd in the overall standings, and placed 1st in one of the 10 events of the competition. Thanks to his outstanding results, David was voted "Best Laser 'Sailor of CGSC" in 2015 and 2016.

Overall, it has been my utmost pleasure to have been David Perez's coach at the CGSC for the past nearly two years and watch his dedication and talents reach new heights. I feel fortunate to have been a part of developing further his passion for sailing, and with his hardworking spirit, positive attitude and strong leadership qualities, I firmly believe that he will be an invaluable asset to any school or organization that brings him aboard.

Hernan Peralta,



Contact: **786 214 1745** - hernanperalta5@hotmail.com

