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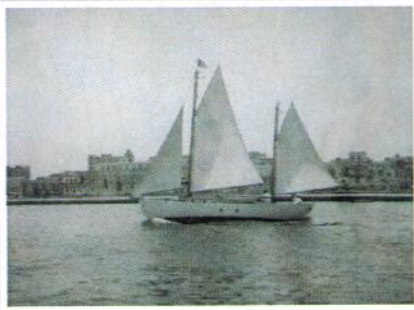
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Ball Watch USA Named Official Watch of Revived St. Petersburg-Habana Regatta in February 2017

Roberta Naas / October 21, 2016

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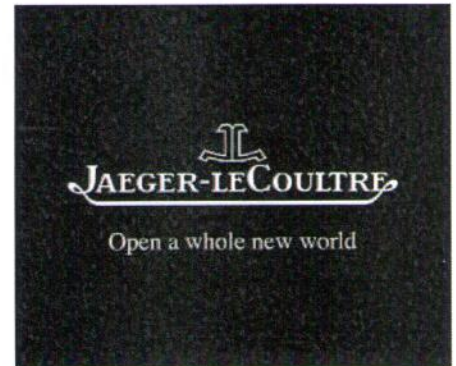
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Some of the finest yachts of the 1920's sailed the St. Petersburg-Habana regatta.

In February 2017, one of the finest sailing races in American/Cuban history will be re-launched: the St. Petersburg-Havana Regatta. There to time the event and act as official watch is Ball Watch USA. THE company will also be the watch sponsor and timing partner of The St.

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Petersburg Yacht Club – the Club responsible for renewing this historic race.

A race of legendary history, the regatta's first seeds of concept lay in the late 1920's, when St. Petersburg, Florida, was experiencing the effects of the Great Depression and Prohibition. But just a sail away in Havana, Cuba, rum was flowing and nightlife flourishing.



1957 Havana start

A yachtsman by the name of George S. Gandy, Jr. (Gidge Gandy) approached the commodore of the Havana Yacht Club and proposed the race. It became the official St. Petersburg Habana Regatta (using the Spanish spelling for Havana) as of March 1930. That first race witnessed an 11-boat fleet. Within five years, the fleet had doubled and some of the best racing yachts were involved.

With the exception of three years during World War II, the race ran annually, until it was discontinued in 1959 when the US embargo on Cuba was imposed. Its revival is highly anticipated.

