

The **REDgatta** is coming!

The Sailors' Virtual Blood Drive

--A friendly challenge to earn points via blood/platelet donations.

The summer season leaves the Red Cross in a blood drought. With everyone off on vacation, the blood bank has fewer donations and the need for blood is amplified.

This is a chance to rally the crew, family, friends to pitch in—a great time to remind the occasional donor to give or the never-ever donor to start giving!

WHEN: July 1st through October 1st!

WHERE: Anywhere in the USA (that the Red Cross serves).

WHO: Any recreational boating vessel can enter a team. Donors can come from anywhere in the USA served by the Red Cross.



Register: Sign up by emailing REDgatta@gmail.com

You'll be sent a link and instructions to create your own boat's page on the Red Cross "Sleeves up" campaign site.

- You can do as little as just enter your boat's name or as much as post photos, messages, update videos/pictures of people donating...
- There are quick uploads to post your boat's page to your facebook and/or Instagram accounts to help get the word out.
- make your page before the first (or after). Pages go live July 1st.



Rally the troops: Get the word out.

- Or not, if you just want to keep it simple.
- Anyone in the US (so long as the Red Cross serves that area) can donate in their own neighborhood. Send people to your boat's donation page.



Earn Points

- Whenever someone makes an appointment to donate through your boat's Red Cross page, a point will be entered for your boat. The boat pages go live on July 1, so any appointment made that day up to Oct 1 earns a point.
- Whole Blood donors can give every 54 days. Platelet donors can give every two weeks. Do the math: more points per person if they're donating platelets.



Earn PRIZES:

The first 10 new boats to sign up and reach 5 pints receive a REDgatta flag for flying in high fashion under your club burgee. Last year's participants earn a 2017 blood drop on your flag!

Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd places awarded at the MBSA banquet in November.

Why?

If you or a loved one have not yet benefited from a life-saving blood transfusion, it's only a matter of time. Be a part of saving lives, doing good, and having fun. One donation can save **THREE** lives. That's a **bit of your time to save three families.**

Just as you save for retirement, put a donation or two in the bank for a rainy day— If you don't, how will you know there'll be blood for you when you need it?

Help devout sailors turn all that beer and rum into life-saving blood!!

