



HYC Fall Series Regatta

September 3, October 1, October 15, 2017

Organizing Authority: The Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, Texas

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, Class Guidelines and the Galveston Bay PHRF Guidelines.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official Race Information Notice board located in the breezeway adjacent to the offices of The Houston Yacht Club.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0800 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore shall be displayed from the signal staff on the lawn of The Houston Yacht Club.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in the race signal AP.
- 4.3 Signal flags may be flown either alone or over one or more numeral pennants. Individual lines will be designated by following pennants:
- 4.3.1 When flag AP over "1" pennant is displayed, the signal applies to the Windward/Leeward Line .
- 4.3.2 When flag AP over "2" pennant is displayed, the signal applies to the Pursuit Line.
- 4.3.3 If no Numeral Pennant is displayed, the signal pertains to all lines. This changes RRS Race Signals.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 Races will be sailed according to the schedule in the Notice of Race. All times are GPS times.

6. CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 Ensign: Ensign Class Flag
Pursuit Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker: Pink Flag

7. RACING AREA

- 7.1 All classes will sail around drop or fixed marks in the area bounded by Morgan's Point on the north, the Bayport Channel on the south, the Houston Ship Channel on the east and the La Porte/Shoreacres shore line on the west.
- 7.2 Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel. Ship Channels are designated as obstructions.

8. CHECK IN

- 8.1 Prior to the warning for the first race of each day, each boat shall check-in with, and be recognized by, the Race Committee (R/C) Signal Boat displaying the code Flag "L," by passing close

astern, on starboard tack and hailing her sail number. When a boat has not been recognized, the R/C will hail the boat's sail number. Boats failing to check in properly may not be scored.

8.2 Pursuit Course racers must additionally hail their PHRF rating and spinnaker or non-spinnaker class to complete their entry.

9. THE COURSES

9.1 The Windward/Leeward Line

9.1.1 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee Signal boat will display a numeral pennant indicating the number of legs to be sailed. All marks shall be rounded leaving the mark to port.

9.2 The Pursuit Line

9.2.1 Appendix C shows the courses and the order in which the marks are rounded.

9.2.2 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee Signal Boat will display a numeral pennant indicating the course to be sailed (See Appendix C).

9.2.3 All marks of the course to be rounded leaving the mark to port.

9.2.4 Leg 1 will be 1.0 NM from the start/finish line to the rounding mark.

10. MARKS

10.1 The Windward/Leeward Line

10.1.1 The windward mark will be an ORANGE tetrahedron.

10.2 The Pursuit Line

10.2.1 The Pursuit Line mark layout is shown in Appendix D.

- Mark #1, is the "The Judges Stand" located approximately: **29° 37.367'N, 94° 59.726'W**
- Mark #2, is the "High Range" located at approximately: **29° 37.790'N, 94° 58.214'W**
- Mark #3, a large YELLOW tetrahedron located approximately: **29° 39.833'N, 94° 58.919'W**
- Mark #4, a large YELLOW tetrahedron located at approximately: **29° 38.839'N, 95° 00.114'W**

11. THE START

11.1 The Windward/Leeward Line

11.1.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26.

11.1.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag from the signal boat on the starboard end and a mark or floating shape at the port end.

11.2 The Pursuit Line

11.2.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag from the signal boat on the port end and a mark or floating shape on the starboard end.

11.2.3 The Pursuit Line start is staggered, based on the boat PHRF handicap. The time of the Warning/Preparatory signal, as well as the starting times for all competitors, are listed in Attachment A. The Warning/Preparatory signal is the display of the orange line flag.

11.3 Any boat whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of any boat whose preparatory signal has been made.

11.4 A boat shall start no later than 10 minutes after her assigned starting time.

11.5 The Race Committee may elect to trail a line (not to exceed 30') attached to a floating object, behind the Race Committee boat or elect to attach a buoy to the boat's anchor marking the anchor and the anchor rode (of up to approximately 50'). The floating object and its line shall be considered to be part of the Race Committee boat and hitting the floating object or running over the line shall be treated as hitting the Race Committee boat.

12. RECALLS

12.1 Recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.

12.2 As a courtesy, the Race Committee will attempt to hail boats "On Course Side" (OCS) as soon as possible after the start. The Race Committee may use VHF radios or loud hailer.

- 12.3 The failure of electronic equipment, failure to hear a hail, order of hail, or delay in hailing will not be grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 62.1(a).
- 13. CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK**
- 13.1 The Windward/Leeward Line
- 13.1.1 The race committee boat may relocate the windward mark to square the course. No change will be signaled. This changes Rule 33.
- 14. SHORTENED COURSE**
- 14.1 The Windward/Leeward Line
- 14.1.1 Shortening the race will be at the leeward mark, with a finish downwind in the direction from the windward mark with the Race Committee Signal Boat to port. The Signal Boat will be in the original starting position and will not relocate to the opposite side of the mark.
- 14.2 The Pursuit Line
- 14.2.1 Any shortening of the race will be signaled (flag S displayed with 2 sounds) at one of the marks described in Section 10.2 of these Sailing Instructions.
- 15. THE FINISH**
- 15.1 The Windward/Leeward Line
- 15.1.1 The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat on the port end and a mark or floating shape on the starboard end.
- 15.2 The Pursuit Line
- 15.2.1 The Finish Line will be on the opposite side of the Committee Boat between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat on the starboard end and a mark or floating shape on the port end.
- 16. TIME LIMITS**
- 16.1 Unless posted on the HYC Race Information Board, the Windward/Leeward Line time limit is **120 minutes** and the Pursuit Line time limit is **210 minutes**.
- 16.3 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes (the finishing window) after the first boat in its class sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). The points awarded for boats scored TLE will be the whole number (rounding 0.5 upward) equal to the number of boats starting the race minus 50% of the number of boats scored TLE. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A11.
- 17. PENALTIES**
- 17.1 The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 while racing. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty."
- 18. PROTESTS**
- 18.1 Intent to protest shall be signaled in accordance with RRS. The protesting boat shall also notify the Race Committee and be acknowledged before leaving the finish area.
- 18.1 Protests shall be written on forms available at the office of The Houston Yacht Club and delivered there within one hour following the arrival in the harbor of the Race Committee boat for the racing line involved.
- 18.3 The times and locations of the protest hearings, along with the names of the boats involved will be posted.

19. SCORING

- 19.1 The Low-Point Scoring system of Appendix A shall apply.
- 19.2 One race shall be completed to constitute an event.
- 19.3 No scores will be excluded. This changes Rule A2.

20. SAFETY

- 20.1 Any boat that has checked in, and then withdraws before finishing the race, shall notify the Race Committee on the water, or, if that is not possible, The Houston Yacht Club office by telephone: **281-471-1255**, or **VHF Channel 68**. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification from the event.
- 20.2 Boats shall not discharge trash into the water. The penalty for violating RRS 55 will be a 20% Scoring Penalty.
- 20.3 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participating in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority will not accept liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in connection with or prior to or after the regatta.

21. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 21.1 A yacht shall neither make radio transmissions while racing, nor receive special radio communications not available to all yachts. This does not apply to situations that threaten safety of life and/or property.
- 21.2 The Race Committee will attempt to monitor **VHF Channel 68** for the Windward/Leeward Line and Pursuit Line; and may use VHF radio to hail premature starters and the abandonment of races.

APPENDIX C

PURSUIT LINE COURSES

**Pink Flag
Pursuit Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker Classes
(Course #1, 2, 3 or 4)**

Course #1

Signal to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Mark 3
Mark 3 to Mark 4
Mark 4 to Mark 1
Mark 1 to Mark 2
Mark 2 to the Finish for a total of 8.4 NM

Course #2

Signal to Mark 3
Mark 3 to Mark 4
Mark 4 to Mark 1
Mark 1 to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Mark 3
Mark 3 to the Finish for a total of 8.4 NM

Course #3

Signal to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Mark 3
Mark 3 to Mark 1
Mark 1 to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Mark 4
Mark 4 to Mark 2
Mark 2 to the Finish for a total of 12 NM

Course #4

Signal to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Mark 3
Mark 3 to Mark 4
Mark 4 to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Mark 3
Mark 3 to Mark 1
Mark 1 to Mark 2
Mark to the Finish for a total of 13.6 NM

**Ensign Class Association Flag
Ensign Class (Course #5, 6 or 7)**

Course #5

Signal to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Mark 4
Mark 4 to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Finish for a total of 5.92 NM

Course #6

Signal to Mark 3
Mark 3 to Mark 4
Mark 4 to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Finish for a total of 5.4 NM

Course #7

Signal to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Mark 4
Mark 4 to Mark 1
Mark 1 to Mark 2
Mark 2 to Finish for a total of 6.85 NM

