

HYC Fall Series Regatta

October 6-7, 2018

Organizing Authority: The Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, Texas

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 This regatta will be governed by the *Rules* as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, Class Rules for each boat racing, and the Galveston Bay PHRF Guidelines.
- 1.2 In case of conflict between the Notice of Race (NOR) and these Sailing Instructions (SIs), these SIs will prevail.

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 onshore 30 minutes after the skipper's meeting or before 0800 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted onshore by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 The Race Committee may, at its discretion, change the Sailing Instructions on the water, as follows:
 - 3.2.1 Changes will be communicated after Code Flag "L" is raised before the warning signal for the first race to which the change in Sailing Instructions apply.
 - 3.2.2 The change will be communicated via VHF and orally at the stern of the Race Committee (RC) signal boat.

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 after removal" in the race signal AP .

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 Races will be sailed according to the schedule in the Notice of Race, unless changed in accordance with the procedure listed in Instruction 3 of these SIs.
- 5.2 All start times are GPS times.
- 5.3 Racers should expect one or two races per day.
- 5.4 Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means "No more racing today".

6. **CLASS FLAGS**

6.1 The Class flags will be:

PHRF Spinnaker and Non-spinnaker: Blue color Flag
Ensign Fleet: Ensign Class Flag

7. **RACING AREA**

7.1 All races will be in the area of the Bay bounded by Morgan’s Point on the north, the Bayport Ship Channel on the south, the Houston Ship Channel on the east, and the La Porte/Shoreacres shore line on the west, as shown in Attachment A to these SIs.

7.2 Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel while racing. Ship Channels are *obstructions*.

8. **THE COURSES**

8.1 The Pursuit Line

8.1.1 The course descriptions in **Attachment B** show the course, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be rounded.

8.1.2 No later than the Warning signal, the Race Committee (RC) signal boat will display a numeral pennant indicating the course number to be sailed or will display the course designation on a board.

8.2 The Windward/Leeward Line

8.2.1 The diagram in **Attachment C** shows the course, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be rounded. There will be no gate (2S, 2P) at the leeward mark. The leeward mark (2P) will be rounded to port.

8.2.2 No later than the warning signal, the RC signal Boat will display a numeral pennant indicating the number of legs to be sailed or will display the course designation on a board.

8.2.3 The weather mark will have an offset pin.

8.2.4 The leeward mark will be approximately 0.1 mile to windward of the starting line.

8.2.5 On all starts and finishes, the leeward mark is of no significance.

9. **MARKS**

9.1 The Pursuit Line

9.1.1 The Pursuit Line mark layout is shown in Attachment A.

- 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

9.2 The Windward/Leeward Line

9.2.1 The weather mark will be an orange tetrahedron.

9.2.2 New marks as provided in Instruction 14 will be yellow tetrahedrons.

10. **CHECK -IN**

10.1 Prior to the warning signal for the first race of each day, each boat shall check in with, and be recognized by, the RC signal boat displaying the code Flag "L". All boats must check in by passing close astern of the RC signal boat on starboard tack and hailing her sail number until acknowledged by the RC. A boat failing to check in will be scored a 20% penalty without a hearing. This modifies RRS 35, RRS 63.1, and A5.

11. **THE START**

11.1 The Pursuit Line

11.1.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal Boat and the Judge's Stand.

11.1.2 The Pursuit Line start is staggered, based on each boat's PHRF handicap rating. The PHRF starting time from the Warning signal for each boat is listed on Attachment D. The starting time will be posted on the RC signal boat. The Warning signal is anticipated to be on the hour or on even 10-minute increments (e.g., 1100, 1110, 1120, 1130 ...). The Warning signal is the display of the orange flag.

11.2 The Windward/Leeward Line

11.2.1 Races will be started according to RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

11.2.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC Signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of a floating shape at the port end.

11.3 A boat shall start no later than 10 minutes after her assigned starting time. A boat that starts 10 minutes or later after her assigned starting time shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

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

11.5 The RC signal boat may elect to trail a line (not to exceed 30') attached to a floating object, behind the RC 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 RC boat and hitting the floating object or running over the line shall be treated as hitting the RC boat.

12. **RECALLS**

12.1 The Pursuit Line

12.1.1 Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.

12.1.2 As a courtesy, the RC will attempt to hail boats "On Course Side" (OCS) as soon as possible after the start. Flag X will be displayed for a short period. This changes RRS 29 and Appendix A. The RC may use VHF radios or a loud hailer to attempt to hail boats.

12.1.3 For the Pursuit Line, OCS boats have the option of returning to the start line and restarting or shall take the penalty as shown in the table below. The penalty will be assessed at scoring. This changes RRS 29.1 and Appendix A.

0 to 10 sec early	penalty of 30 seconds
10 to 30 sec early	penalty of 1 minute
30 to 1 min early	penalty of 3 minutes

1 min to 2 min
> 2 min

penalty of 10 minutes
disqualified

12.2 The Windward/Leeward Line

12.2.1 Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.

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. **SHORTENED COURSE or CHANGE OF COURSE**

13.1 The Pursuit Line

13.1.1 Any shortening of the race will be signaled (Flag S displayed with 2 sounds) at one of the marks described in Section 9.1 of these Sailing Instructions.

13.2 Windward/Leeward Line

13.2.1 Any shortening of the race will be signaled (code Flag "S" displayed with 2 sounds) at one of the marks described in Section 9.2 of these Sailing Instructions.

13.2.2 To change the position of the next mark, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. This change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not be in position. New marks W will not have an OS.

14. **THE FINISH**

14.1 The Pursuit Line

14.1.1 The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC boat and the Judge's Stand. The Race Committee will record the order and time of finish for each boat.

14.1.2 If the RC boat is absent, the Finish Line will be between the course side of an orange sphere or floating object and the Judge's Stand. Each boat's skipper shall report the boat's time and position in relation to nearby boats to the Principal Race Officer (PRO) at the skipper's first reasonable opportunity.

14.2 Windward/Leeward Line

14.2.1 The finishing line will be the same as the starting line between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of a mark or floating shape.

15. **TIME LIMITS**

15.1 The Pursuit Line time limit is 210 minutes.

15.2 The Windward/Leeward Line time limit is 60 minutes.

15.3 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 total number of boats starting that race minus 50% of the total number of boats scored TLE in that race. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A11.

17. **PENALTIES**

17.1 The first two sentences of RRS 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 Protests, Scoring Inquiries, and Requests for Redress shall be written on forms available at the office of The Houston Yacht Club and delivered to the protest desk there within the protest time limit.

18.2 A boat intending to protest another boat shall signal her intent in accordance with RRS 61.1(a). The protesting boat shall also notify the RC signal boat and be acknowledged before leaving the finish area.

18.3 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the RC signal boat enters the HYC harbor, whichever is later.

18.4 The times and locations of the protest hearings, along with the names of the boats involved will be posted on the official Race Information Board no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

18.5 A protest by the race committee, technical committee or protest committee about an incident the committee observed in the racing area shall be delivered to the protest desk at the office of the Houston Yacht Club within the protest time limit stated in Instruction 18.3.

18.6 Scoring inquiries must be delivered to the protest desk at the office of the Houston Yacht Club by 0730 hrs. on the day following the race in question or one hour after the posting of the preliminary results for that race, whichever is later, except for the last day of racing. For races held on the last day of racing, scoring inquiries must be delivered to the protest desk within the protest time limit or 30 minutes after the provisional final results are protested, whichever is later.

18.7 On the last day of scheduled racing, a request for redress based on an incident in the racing area shall be delivered to the protest desk at the office of the Houston Yacht Club within the protest time limit. This changes RRS 62.2.

18.8 On the last day of racing, a request to reopen a hearing based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered to the protest desk at the office of the Houston Yacht Club no later than 30 minutes after the parties to the protest receive the protest committee's decision (oral or written). This changes RRS 62.2 and RRS 66.

19. **SCORING**

19.1 The Low-Point Scoring system of Appendix A shall apply.

19.2 One race shall be completed to constitute a series.

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, shall notify the Houston Yacht Club office by telephone at 281-471-1255 or by hailing on **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 participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority, Houston Yacht Club, and all of its officers, employees, members, and volunteers, will not accept liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in connection with or prior to or after the regatta.

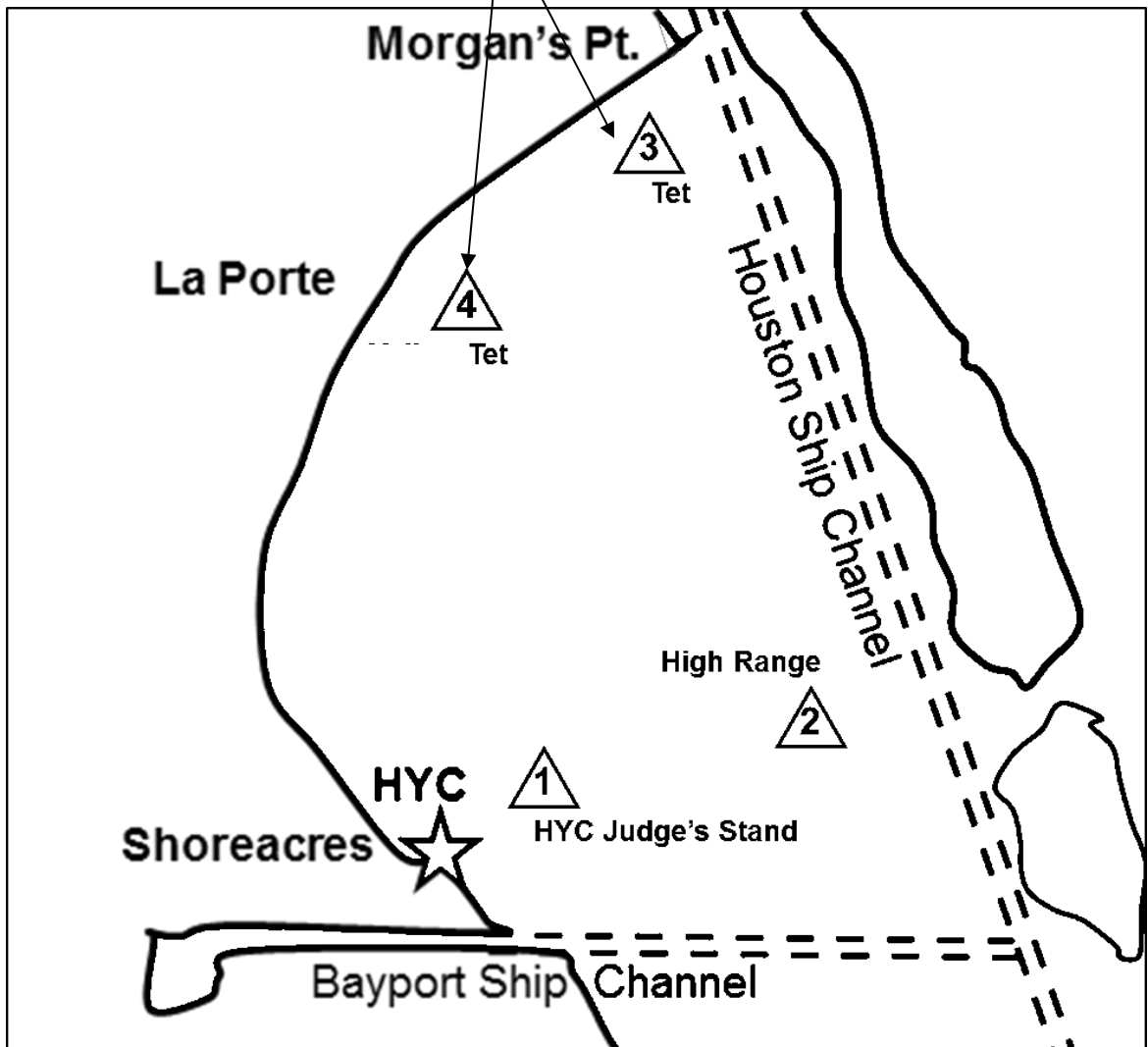
21. **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

21.1 While racing, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive special radio communications that are not available to all boats. This does not apply to emergency situations that threaten safety of life and/or property.

21.2 The Race Committee will attempt to monitor VHF Channel 6830 for the Pursuit Line; and may use VHF radio to hail premature starters and the abandonment of races.

ATTACHMENT A

PURSUIT COURSE MARK LAYOUT
#3 and #4 are Yellow Tetrahedrons



ATTACHMENT B
PURSUIT LINE COURSES

Course #1 (8.8 NM)

Mark 1 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 1 Leave on Starboard
Mark 1 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Finish

Course #2 (8.6 NM)

Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 1 Leave on Starboard
Mark 1 to Mark 4 Leave on Starboard
Mark 4 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Finish

Course #3 (11.8 NM)

Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 1 Leave on Starboard
Mark 1 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 1 Finish

Course #4 (13.6 NM)

Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Finish

Course #5 (6.4 NM)

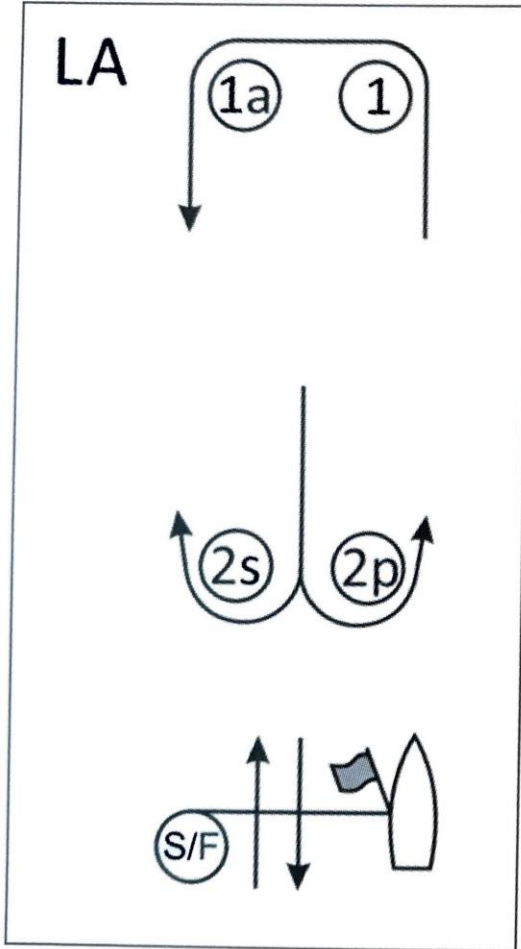
Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Finish

Course #6 (10.5 NM)

Mark 1 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 1 Finish

ATTACHMENT C

Windward/Leeward Courses



Course LA – Windward/Leeward with Offset Mark, Leeward Finish	
<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
LA2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish
LA3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish
LA4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish