



2018 HYC OFFSHORE REGATTA

11, 12 May 2018
The Houston Yacht Club
Shoreacres Texas

NOTICE OF RACE

DESCRIPTION: Two races are covered by this NOR

- **Race 1:** THE REACH DOWN THE BEACH (RDTB) is Friday May 11. This is a Pursuit race from Galveston to Freeport for spinnaker, non-spinnaker and HYC Club Handicap classes. The RDTB is NOT a requirement for the HYCOR. It is merely a “positioning” race (i.e. an event to get race boats to the starting line in Freeport). Racers are welcome to deliver their boat to Freeport in any way and at any time they choose.
- **Race 2: The official HYC OFFSHORE REGATTA (HYCOR),** Saturday May 12, features a Rule 26 start (with the notable exception of the so-called Bimini’s & Barbecue class (B & B class)) off the Freeport jetties and a race back to Galveston. The B & B class is non-spinnaker and will be HYC Club Handicap, featuring a **WorldFest** start (see section 1C below). This race is also known as “the Freeport Race”; the Carroll Blanchard trophy is awarded to the winner in the spinnaker fleet. The Winner in the spinnaker fleet also receives points towards the Texas Navy Cup. The winner in the PHRF non-spinnaker fleet receives points towards the S Rhoads Fisher perpetual trophy. The winner of the Mermaid division within the PHRF non-spinnaker fleet shall be awarded the HYC Mermaid perpetual trophy.



1. RULES

- a. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, and WORLD SAILING Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) **2017-2020** except as altered by this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions.
- b. The RDTB event is designated Category 3.
 - i. The RDTB race will feature a Pursuit start. This changes Rule 26.
- c. The HYCOR event is designated Category 3 for the non-spinnaker classes and Category 2 for the spinnaker class.
 - i. If there are fewer than 3 entrants in the ORC Spinnaker class by midnight May 03, the class will default to PHRF Galveston Bay spinnaker.
 - ii. The B & B Class in the HYCOR (i.e. race between Freeport and Galveston) will feature a **WorldFest** start. In this style of start, competitors in the B & B Class start within a time window defined in the Sailing Instructions. The exact start time will be of the Skipper’s choosing inside that window. The Race Committee will capture the individual start times of each boat. The Race Committee will capture the finish times of each boat and apply the HYC Club Handicap to calculate finish positions. This completely changes RRS 26. In the interest of transparency, all calculations will be posted on the HYC News portion of the HYC Website.
- d. Appendix T will apply.
 - i. Appendix T1.b is modified to read: “A Post-Race Penalty is a 20% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c) if taken before the protest time limit expires. Otherwise, a Post-Race Penalty is a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rule 44.1(a) applies.”
- e. US SAILING Prescription to the RRS Appendix V Rules V1 and V2 will apply.
 - i. US SAILING Prescription to the RRS Appendix V Rule V2 is modified to read: “After a race, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing may take a Post-Race Penalty for that incident. A boat takes the penalty by delivering a written notice to the race office that identifies the race number and when and where the incident occurred. The penalty shall



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be a 20% Scoring Penalty, calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c) if taken before the protest time limit expires. Otherwise a 30% Scoring Penalty shall apply, calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rules 44.1(a) and (b) apply, and the penalty shall not be taken after a protest hearing involving the incident has begun.

- f. Rule 52 (Manual Power) is suspended for double or single-handed entries in the Spinnaker Class when clear of the start / finish areas in both races. This changes Rule 52.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

- a. The Race is open to sailing yachts whose overall length is at least 28 feet. Each yacht shall conform to the WORLD SAILING Safety Equipment Regulations for 2018 governing Offshore Racing for Monohulls & Multihulls.
 - i. Any competitor who wishes to enter a yacht measuring less than 28 feet may do so on approval from the race committee. A written statement of qualifications covering the skipper's experience, the crew's experience, the level of boat preparation / condition and any relevant training / certifications will be required for review by the committee.
- b. It is strongly recommended that each crew consist of at least four members including, as a minimum, a navigator and a watch captain who have each successfully participated (i.e., completed the designated course) in at least 3 offshore races while performing their duties as navigator or watch captain.
- c. Double-handed entries: In an MOB situation each person must be capable of retrieving the other single-handed.
- d. Single, and double-handed entries are urged to employ full harness, tethers and jack lines regardless of weather conditions.
- e. It is strongly recommended that at least one crew have attended an offshore safety at sea seminar presented by a recognized boating organization within the last three years.
- f. A minimum of three yachts will constitute a class
 - i. A class of fewer than the required number of entries will be regarded as having failed to form and may be assigned to another class, or an entry fee refund may be requested.
- g. Potential classes will be:
 - i. RDTB: Pursuit spinnaker, Pursuit non-spinnaker, Pursuit HYC Club Handicap.
 - ii. HYCOR: ORC Club Spinnaker (or PHRF Spinnaker depending on registration numbers), PHRF non-spinnaker (with a Mermaid Class division), Bimini's 'n Barbecue's non-spinnaker HYC Club Handicap Class, any OD class.
 - iii. If there are sufficient entries for a one-design class not listed on the RegattaNetwork registration form, the race committee will create that class in RegattaNetwork upon request.
 - iv. Any one-design class will be given a start separate from the handicap classes and have separate trophy categories.
- h. Boats may enter at www.regattanetwork.com using the on-line entry form.
 - i. The first 5 boats to enter will receive a FREE race package from our sponsor Weather Routing Inc. (WRI)

3. FEES

- a. The entry fee for each race is \$70.
- b. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the race committee.



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4. SCHEDULE

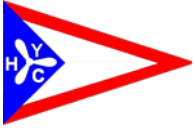
Thursday May 03	2400	ORC Club spinnaker division defaults to the PHRF handicap if fewer than three boats are registered.
Wednesday 09 May	2400	Regatta entry deadline. No entry fee refunds after this point
Thursday 10 May	0900	R/C deadline for emailing final Sailing Instructions to registered competitors
Friday 11 May	0800	Scratch start time for the pursuit fleet. Individual start times are as listed in the sailing instructions. As an aid in planning, sample start times are posted on the Our Club/News section at Houstonyachtclub.com
Saturday 12 May	0800	No warning signal before this time. Rule 26 start for all fleets other than the B&B fleet. Race to Galveston Green 11
Sunday 13 May	0800	Race ends. Time limit expires.
Sunday 13 May	1000	Protest deadline
Sunday 13 May	1400	HYC Offshore Regatta awards ceremony in the HYC bar. The club closes at 1500 hours in order to allow our staff an opportunity to celebrate Mother's Day.

5. MEASUREMENT

- a. ALL yachts racing in the ORC Club Spinnaker class MUST have a current USSAILING ORC Club certificate. If fewer than three yachts register for the Spinnaker class (with ORC Club ratings) by the deadline stated in section 4, the class will default to a PHRF Spinnaker Class requiring PHRF Galveston Bay rating certificates.
- b. ALL yachts racing in the PHRF non-spinnaker class (including the Mermaid division) MUST have a current PHRF Galveston Bay rating certificate.
 - i. HYC Mermaid class. The Mermaid class racers will compete under a PHRF Galveston Bay rating as a division within the PHRF non-spinnaker class. A woman shall helm each boat with an all female crew. A non-sailing boat representative may be on board for safety purposes only and may not offer advice nor provide any physical assistance during the race unless the boat or its crew are in danger. A boat representative may provide verbal helming guidance to a visually impaired helmswoman classified ABSA B1, B2 or B3 Three-Person Format. On entry, please designate your entry as "Mermaid" in the appropriate dialog box.
- c. The HYC B & B class (Bimini's and Barbecue pits... towin' a dinghy) features a Club Handicap assigned by the Race Committee. Boats planning to race with lots of non-essential equipment are welcome to register in this class. The Race Committee does not mean to imply that bimini's and barbecue pits are non-essential equipment. Eligibility is restricted to boats that have participated in no more than ONE regatta on Galveston Bay in the 2017 calendar year. On entry, please leave the handicap field blank – the Race Committee will research your vessel and assign a handicap. The Race Committee reserves the right to refuse entries in this class and may reassign boats to the classes described in 5a and 5b.

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Draft Sailing Instructions will be posted on the HYC web site.
- b. There will be no formal skipper's meeting. Please engage the race committee with questions you may have (billvanrav@gmail.com, 832.428.0785). On request, the Race Committee is available to personally meet with competitors and their team to review details of the race.
- c. Final SI's will be sent to registered competitors via email no later than the time listed in the "SCHEDULE" section above.



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7. VENUE

- a. All races will be sailed offshore in the waters between Galveston and Freeport TX.

8. THE COURSES

- a. Will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- b. RDTB: All boats will race between Galveston and Freeport
- c. HYCOR Spinnaker boats will sail up to a 62nm course (depending on weather and wind conditions) finishing in Galveston. There will be 4 course options.
- d. HYCOR PHRF non-spinnaker (and designated Mermaid division boats) boats will sail up to a 50 nm course between Freeport and Galveston.
- e. HYCOR HYC Bimini's & Barbecues Class Club Handicap boats will sail a course directly from Freeport to Galveston.

9. SCORING: RDTB

- a. A single race is required to be completed.

10. SCORING: HYCOR

- a. A single race is required to be completed.

11. SCORING: The S Rhodes Fisher Series

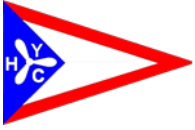
- a. A single race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- b. The series includes the LYC Heald Bank Regatta, The HYC Offshore Regatta and the GBCA Texas Race Week (TRW). For scoring purposes, each race of the TRW will count as a separate race in the series.
- c. Competitors for the series award must participate in all three events listed in 10(b).

12. BERTHING

- a. Thursday evening May 10 Galveston: The Galveston Yacht Basin (reservations: 409.765.3030) has slips available and will be taking reservations after May 1st. The transient rate is \$2 / foot, please bring a copy of your current insurance.
- b. Friday evening Freeport: The Freeport Marina (reservations: tpole@marinasinternational.com or 979.236.1221). Slips will be assigned no later than 1 week before the event. The marina will need to know your mast height over water. Rate is \$1.50 per foot; fuel is available at market prices, mechanics are available, ice is available at \$2.50 per 20 pound bag, beer is \$2 - \$3. The height of the tide gate and power lines on approach to the marina is 69 feet. The height of the bridge inside the tide gate is 59 feet.

13. PRIZES:

- a. Trophies will be awarded based on the number of registrants per class. The number of finish positions to be awarded will be determined based on registration numbers two weeks before the event to allow time for engraving.
- b. Spinnaker class boats in the HYCOR are eligible to win the Carroll Blanchard Cup (which can be seen in the HYC main trophy case) for the Freeport to Galveston Race.
 - i. Spinnaker class boats in the HYCOR are eligible to win points towards the Texas Navy Cup.
- c. Boats racing HYCOR PHRF non-spinnaker class are eligible to win points towards the S Rhoads Fisher Trophy.



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- i. Winner of the HYCOR PHRF non-spinnaker Mermaid division will be awarded the HYC Mermaid perpetual trophy, which resides at HYC. The winner of this division shall also be awarded a “keeper” trophy, which they may... keep.

14. REQUIRED CHARTS:

- a. This event requires charts that cover at least the upper Texas coast, Galveston Bay, Galveston Bay Entrance, and the Freeport Channel Entrance and Harbor.

15. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- a. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

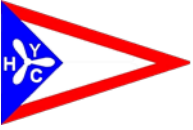
- a. The event chair will post an FAQ with very detailed information on the News section of the HYC Website as details evolve.
- b. For further information please contact the HYCOR Event Chairman at billvanrav@gmail.com

HOTEL INFORMATION

- Galveston: We have a negotiated rate with the Harbor House Hotel (409.515.2154) at \$129 per night. Please ask to book at Harbor House in the “Houston Yacht Club Offshore Regatta Block” for our special rate; the cutoff date for this rate is **April 10th**. The hotel provides a free shuttle service from the Galveston Yacht Basin. Additionally, in the past participants have experienced some success at the Scottish Inn on Harbor Drive – though no special rate is available...
- Freeport: The official regatta hotel (located in Clute, TX) for the night of May 12th is The Holiday Inn Express (979.266.8746) Cutoff date is **April 27th**; the regatta rate is \$125/night.
- THE REGATTA WILL PROVIDE A FREE SHUTTLE BETWEEN THESE HOTELS AND THE MARINA. The Schedule is Friday: Between 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday: Between 5:45 and 7:15 a.m. The pick-up area is in front of the marina office.

DINING INFORMATION:

The official Regatta party (and awards ceremony for the Reach Down the Beach) and banquet will be at Captain Ken's Port O' Call in Freeport Texas the evening of Friday May 12. The cost is \$17 per plate payable directly to Captain Ken by credit card/cash at his establishment. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, we ask that you record the EXPECTED number of souls to feed on your RegattaNetwork registration. As the number shrinks and grows we ask that you send a simple email update to the Race Committee at billvanrav@gmail.com. The RC will keep Captain Ken apprised of the number of meals to plan. PLEASE COOPERATE WITH THIS REQUEST, and there will be plenty of food for all. Regardless, by mandate of the Race Committee there **WILL** be plenty of drink for all. The restaurant is located 3/10's of a mile from the Freeport Marina. We'll start serving food at 7:00-ish, please see the FAQ (HYC website/news) for menu options and details.



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SOCIAL EVENTS:

- OPTIONAL: 2000 hours Thursday evening Galveston: Cocktails at Willie G's bar in a highly civilized environment right on the Harbor House Marina - an excellent opportunity to meet some of your competitors plus quiz the race committee (come find us in the bar). All are most certainly welcome – join us!
- Friday evening: **Official Regatta Party** ≈ 1700 hours at Captain Ken's Port O' Call. **Rum will be free** (but setup's will not – please refer to the FAQ). We will award trophies for the RDTB event, plus host an awesome evening of karaoke featuring DJ Anthony (whose day job is with Discount Bail Bonds). Remember, we provide free transport to the hotels from the marina...
- Saturday afternoon: **The THIRD Annual HYC Rollicking Beach Party** on the East beach. The race committee volunteers will bring leftovers from Friday's party and gather at the Galveston finish line (N29°20.054 W94°44.697). We'll have music and **complementary cocktails**. Invite your friends and relatives to join us to watch you finish! They can bring VHF's and GPS watches, listen to the race chatter on VHF 68, observe your finish time and greet you after your finish (channel 72 please). We expect the bulk of our boats to finish between 2:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Few things are more dramatic than seeing a loved one's sail heave into view over the horizon after a trip offshore, invite them to participate in the event!
- Sunday a.m.: Sail washing and folding on the lawn. Very therapeutic...
- Sunday afternoon: **Mother's Day brunch at HYC** – reservations requested (281.471.1255), blue blazers optional but encouraged!
- Sunday @ 13:00 – HYC Offshore Regatta awards ceremony in the HYC Bar.