



**The International Lightning Class Association (ILCA)
Presents the
2018 Lightning Class Texas District Championship (TDC)
April 7—8, 2018**

Organizing Authority: The Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, Texas

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. This event will be governed by the “Rules” as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS 2017-2020) and the US Sailing Prescriptions and by the ILCA rules governing all sanctioned regattas – Including changes.
- 1.2. The following RRS rules have been changed for TDC:
 - 1.2.1 RRS 42.3(c)-Exceptions is changed per the Document Governing Article VIII Racing Conditions Numbers 12 PROPULSION. Modifying rule 42.3(c), "On a free leg of the course, when surfing (rapid accelerating down the leeward side of a wave) or planing is possible, the boat's crew may, in order to initiate surfing or planing, pump the sheet, but not the guy controlling any sail, but only once for each wave or gust of wind. When the mainsail is pumped, only that part of the sheet between the crew member handling the sheet and the first block on the boom shall be used."
 - 1.2.2. RRS Appendix A4.1 to score any boat that does not start within five (5) minutes after her starting sign as DNS.
 - 1.2.3 RRS 35 and Appendix A4, A5, and A11 are changed to score boats failing to finish within thirty (30) minutes after the first boat that sails the course and finishes, who are not scored ZFP, BFD, SCP, RET DSQ, DNE, DNS or RDG, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. Boats scored TLE will be awarded points equal to the number of boats who started minus 50% of the number of the boats scored TLE. The score will be a whole number (fractions 0.5 and higher will round up).
 - 1.2.4. RRS Rule 61.3 and 62.2 to a one (1) hour time limit on filing protests and requests for redress
 - 1.2.5. RRS rule 66 to change the time limit on the last day of the TDC for requesting the reopening of a protest hearing to thirty (30) minutes.
 - 1.2.6. RRS Appendix A7 to change the scoring for boats which tie for a position in a given race.
 - 1.2.7. RRS Appendix A8.2 to change the way that ties between two boats in the final standings are broken.
 - 1.2.8 For safety reasons, the HYC Race Committee asks that all boats competing in the TDC carry VHF radios, and that they monitor the channel prescribed in the sailing instructions. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither transmit nor receive any radio or telephone (Voice or Text) communication not available to all other competitors. A boat that does not carry a VHF radio shall not be penalized.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1. Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official notice board "HYC Race Information" located in the breezeway adjacent to the Houston Yacht Club (HYC) Office.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. Any change to these Sailing Instructions shall be posted before 0800 hours on the day it will take effect. Any change to the Schedule of Races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1. All 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 45 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Friday, April 6, 2018	
1700-1830	Measurement and Check-In
Saturday, April 7, 2018	
0730-0900	Measurement, check-in
0930	Mandatory skippers Meeting
Not before 1030	1 st Race Warning Signal Other races to follow
Sunday, April 8, 2018	
0930	First Warning Signal of the day
1300 or as soon after racing	Trophy Presentation

5.1. On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 12 pm.

6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1. Class Flags will be Lightning Class Flag

7. RACING AREA

7.1. The racing will be in Area A as shown in Attachment A.

8. CHECK IN

8.1. Prior to the warning signal for their first race of the day, each boat shall sail on starboard tack past the stern of the RC signal boat displaying code flag "L", and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee by repeating the boat's sail number.

9. THE COURSES

9.1. Lightning TDC: Attachment B, shows the courses, the order in which the marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be passed.

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. This determines whether there will be a windward or a leeward finish for the race. Odd number of legs = windward finish; Even number of legs = leeward finish.

9.1.2. All marks of the course are to be left to port.

10.1. Marks 1 and 2 will be yellow tetrahedrons.

10.2. New marks, as provided in SI 14.1, will be orange tetrahedrons.

10.3. The starting and finishing marks will orange spheres.

10.4. The offset mark, if present, will an orange sphere.

11. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

11.1. The Houston Ship Channel and the Bayport Ship Channel are designated as obstructions and no boat may enter them while racing.

12. THE START

12.1. The Lightning TDC races will be started using RRS 26.

12.3 The starting lines will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee vessel and the course side of the starting mark.

12.5 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.1. See NOR 5.3.

12.6 The Race Committee may choose to trail a line (not to exceed 30') attached to a floating object, behind the Race Committee boat or choose to attach a floating object to the boat's anchor to mark the anchor and the anchor rode (of up to approximately 50'). The float(s) and their lines shall be considered part of the Race Committee boat and hitting a float or its line shall be treated as touching a mark (RRS 31).

13. RECALLS

- 13.1. The race committee intends to hail the sail numbers of OCS boats after the starting signal. The race committee may use VHF radios or a loud hailer. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, an untimely hail of OCS boats, failure to hail any boats, and the order of the boats in the hail shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 41 and 62.1

14. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COUSE

- 14.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

15. THE FINISH

- 15.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel and the course side of the finishing mark.

16. TIME LIMITS

- 16.1. 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. See NOR 5.4.

17. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 17.1. Sections V1 and V2 of US Sailing Prescription to the RRS Appendix V will apply.
- 17.2. Section V1 - Penalties at the time of an incident. The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: 'A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.'
- 17.3. A boat which takes a One-Turn or Two-Turns Penalty shall notify the race committee finish boat either verbally or via the appropriate VHF channel upon finishing. She shall report when and where the incident occurred and other boats involved.
- 17.4. Section V2 provides for post-race acceptance of penalties.

18. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 18.1. Appendix T, *Arbitration* will apply.
- 18.2. A boat intending to protest about an incident that occurs in the racing area shall, in addition to the requirements of RRS 61.1(a), notify the race committee finish boat of her intention, including the sail number of the boat(s) being protested. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 18.3. Protests shall be written on forms available at the office of the Houston Yacht Club and delivered there within sixty (60) minutes following the arrival in the harbor of the Race

Committee signal boat. Signal boat docking times will be posted on the official notice board.

- 18.4. Notices will be posted on the "HYC Race Information" official notice 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 and where the hearings will be held.
- 18.5. For the purpose of meeting obligations under US Sailing prescriptions concerning redress, notification of a redress hearing shall be by posting on the official notice board for thirty minutes. The requirement for written requests for attendance of the hearing will be satisfied by a signup sheet at the official protest table. No more than one person per boat may attend. No request for reopening a hearing will be accepted after 6 p.m. Saturday, April 7, 2018 or 3 p.m. Sunday, April 8, 2018.

19. SCORING

- 19.1. The Low-Point Scoring system of Appendix A shall apply. One race shall be completed to constitute a regatta. No scores will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.

20. SAFETY

- 20.1. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible either verbally or by VHF Channel 68. If that is not possible, the boat shall contact the Houston Yacht Club office by telephone at (281)471-1255.
- 20.2. Boats shall not intentionally put trash in the water.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

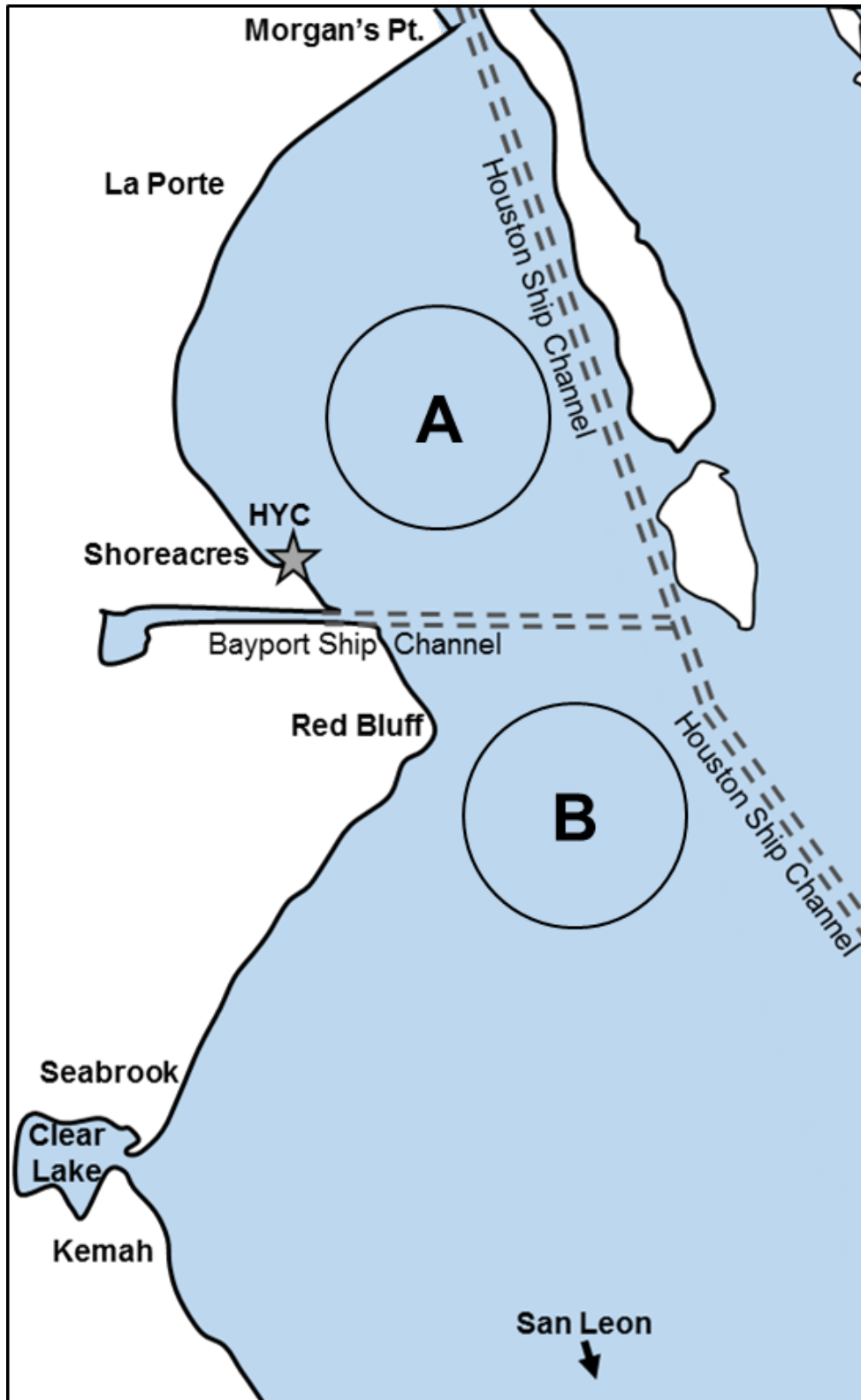
- 21.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

22. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 22.1. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 22.2. The Race Committee will use the following radio channels: **VHF channel 68.**

ATTACHMENT A

Racing Area



ATTACHMENT B

Lightning TDC Windward-Leeward

