



HYC Club Championship

November 3, 2017

Organizing Authority: The Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, Texas

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

This event will be governed by the "Rules" as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS 2017-2020), the prescriptions of US Sailing Association.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official HYC Race Information notice board located in the breezeway adjacent to the offices of the Houston Yacht Club.

3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to these sailing instructions shall be made at the competitors briefing and posted on the official notice board 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" (Answering Pennant) is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in the race signal AP.

4.3 When flag Y is displayed ashore, rule 40 applies at all times while afloat. This changes the Part 4 preamble.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Races will be sailed according to the schedule in the Notice of Race, unless changed by the provisions of paragraph 3 of these Sailing Instructions. All times are GPS times.

5.2 The race committee will attempt to run 5 races.

5.3 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 1300.

5.4 The race course will be located in that part 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 LaPorte/Shoreacres shore line on the West.

6. CLASS FLAG

The Class Flag will be a White Flag.

8. RACE AREA

8.1. All boats will sail around dropped 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.

8.2. Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel. Ship Channels are designated as obstructions.

9. **THE COURSES AND MARKS**

- 9.1. The course will be windward-leeward legs.
- 9.2 The windward mark will be a yellow shape. The starting pin will be the leeward mark.
- 9.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display a number flag designating the number of legs to be sailed.
- 9.4 The intent is to have each race sailed in approximately 15 – 20 minutes.

10. **THE START**

- 10.1 Races will be started by using Rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 10.2 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.
- 10.3. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule A4.
- 10.4. The Race Committee may elect to trail a line (not to exceed 30') attached to a floating object, behind the Race Committee boat. 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.

11. **RECALLS**

Recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rule 29. The race committee intends to hail the sail numbers of any OCS boats. 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 rules 41 and 62.1.

12. **CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK**

- 12.1. The race committee boat may relocate the windward mark to square the course.
- 12.2. No change will be signaled. This changes Rule 33.

13. **SHORTENED COURSE**

Shortening the race at the leeward mark, 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. **THE FINISH**

The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying orange flag on the race committee signal boat on the port end and a mark or floating shape on the starboard end.

15. **TIME LIMIT**

- 15.1 Time limits and target times are as follows: If no boat has passed the windward mark within 15 minutes, the race will be abandoned. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1.
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

16. **PENALTIES**

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 the starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty. This changes Rule 44.1. Reference Appendix V1.

17. **PROTESTS**

- 17.1. 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.
- 17.2. Protests shall be written on forms available at the office of the Houston Yacht Club and delivered there within 20 minutes following the arrival in the harbor of the Race Committee boat for the racing line involved.
- 17.3. The times and locations of the protest hearings, along with the names of the boats involved will be posted on the official race notice board near the entrance to the breezeway at the front of the HYC Clubhouse.
- 17.4. Appendix T shall apply
- 17.5. 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 PM Saturday, 11/3//2018. This modifies Rule 63.2.

18. **SCORING**

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

19. **SAFETY**

- 19.1. Before the warning signal of the first race for each group, all boats shall sail past the stern of the Signal Boat on starboard tack and hail the boat's sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee.
- 19.2. 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.
- 19.3. Boats shall not discharge trash into the water. The penalty for violating RRS 55 will be a 20% Scoring Penalty.
- 19.4. **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.

20. **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

The Race Committee will attempt to monitor **VHF channel 68.**