

Houston Yacht Club Women's Sailing Weekend

June 10 and 11, 2017

Organizing Authority: Houston Yacht Club
Shoreacres, Texas

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Catherine Spiller Regatta
Fairfax Moody Regatta

1. RULES

This event will be governed by the *Rules* as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.

2. ENTRIES

- 2.1 Competitors may enter the Regatta by registering on-line at <http://www.regattanetwork.com/>.
- 2.2 Entrants must meet all ownership, class membership and yacht measurement requirements, and must have completed registration and paid all fees with the regatta organizing authority before becoming official competitors.
- 2.3 Competitors in PHRF classes must have a current PHRFGB certificate.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

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.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to these sailing instructions shall be posted before 0900 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.

5. IDENTIFICATION

Each boat shall comply with the requirements of Appendix G and her class rules with respect to class insignia and numbers unless the Principal Race Officer for the line involved grants an exception before her start. This modifies RRS 77.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 6.1 All signals made ashore shall be displayed from the signal staff on the lawn of the Houston Yacht Club.
- 6.2 Signal Flag "AP" (Answering Pennant) with two sound signals (one when lowered) means "The race is postponed". The warning signal for the postponed line(s) will be made not less than 45 minutes after the "AP" is lowered.
- 6.3 Signal flags may be flown either alone or beneath one or more Line Flags. Individual lines will be designated by following Line Flags:
 - Windward/Leeward Line = Numeral Pennant 1
 - Pursuit Line = Numeral Pennant 2

If no Numeral Pennant is displayed, the signal pertains to all lines. This changes RRS Race Signals.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 7.1. Races will be sailed according to the schedule in the Notice of Race, unless changed by the provisions of paragraph 4 of these Sailing Instructions. All times are GPS times.
- 7.2. Classes, starting sequences and starting flags will be announced at the Competitors Meeting and posted following the end of that meeting.

8. RACE AREA

- 8.1. 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.
- 8.2. The Pursuit Line layout is shown in Appendix D: Mark #1, is the "The Judges Stand" located at 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 at 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.
- 8.3. Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel. Ship Channels are designated as obstructions.

9. THE COURSES and MARKS

- 9.1. **The default course for Pursuit Line is a six leg course.** Leg 1 will be from the start/finish line to one of the four corners of the quadrilateral. Legs 2,3,4,5 will be the four sides of the quadrilateral. Leg 6 will be the return to the start/finish line. All marks shall be left to port.
- 9.2. **The Pursuit Line may sail an eight leg course.** The eight leg course will include the same 6 legs as SI 9.1 and add a leg from Mark 4 to Mark 2 and a leg from Mark 2 back to Mark 4. These legs are inserted when the boats come to Mark 4 for the first time.
- 9.3. **The Windward/Leeward Line will sail a 4 leg course leaving marks to port.** The windward mark will be a yellow tetrahedron. The starting pin will be the leeward mark.
- 9.4. No later than the 5 minutes before the warning signal, the committee boat shall display a number pennant to signal the corner of the quadrilateral that ends leg one for the Pursuit Line and a White Flag if the longer eight leg course is to sailed.

10. THE START

- 10.1 The Windward/Leeward 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. The Pursuit Line will start on the opposite side of the committee boat. The Pursuit line will be between a mark of floating shape on the starboard end and a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat on the port end.
- 10.2. 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 for in Attachment B. The Warning/Preparatory signal for the Pursuit Line is the display of the orange line flag. The Windward/Leeward Line start will use Rule 26. Class flags to be announced at the Competitor Briefing.
- 10.3. Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

- 10.4. A boat shall start no later than 10 minutes after her assigned starting time.
- 10.5. 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

- 11.1 RC intends to hail the sail numbers of OCS boats after her starting time. As a courtesy, the RC may use VHF radios or a loud-hailer to hail over-early starters. 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 RRS 41 and RRS 62.1
- 11.2 Code flag X will be displayed for a short period for the Pursuit Line. This changes RRS 29.1
- 11.3 Pursuit start times are GPS time, which governs. All boats will be responsible for determining their exact start time, and no start times will be announced or signaled from the Race Committee boat. The Race Committee will monitor start times of each boat. 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.

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	penalty of 10 minutes
More than 2 min	disqualified

12. CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK

- 12.1. 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. The change will be signaled before the leading boat in a class has begun the leg, although the new *mark* may not yet be in position.
- 12.2 The Class flag will be displayed with the Code Flag C to indicate the class for which the change is being made. If there is no class flag the change is made for all classes. This is in addition to the displaying of Code Flag "C" and making repetitive sound signals. This modifies *rule 33*.
- 12.3 The new mark will be an orange tetrahedron. When in a subsequent change a new *mark* is replaced, it will be replaced by an original *mark*.

13. THE FINISH

The Windward/leeward Finish Line will be between a staff displaying orange flag on the race committee boat on the port end and a mark or floating shape on the starboard end. The Pursuit line finish will be on the opposite side of the committee boat with a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat on the starboard end and a mark or floating shape on the port end..

14. TIME LIMIT

The Windward/Leeward Line time limit is **90 minutes**. The Pursuit Line time limit is **210 minutes**. 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.

15. PENALTIES AND PROTESTS

15.1. Scoring Penalties and Arbitration Procedures shall apply as outlined in Appendix T apply.

15.2 RRS 44.1 is changed to use a One-Turn Penalty in accordance with Appendix V1.

16. 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.

17. SAFETY

17.1. 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.

17.2 Boats shall not discharge trash into the water. The penalty for violating RRS 55 will be a 20% Scoring Penalty.

17.3 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See *Rule 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.

18. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

18.1 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.

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

19. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the NORs.

Appendix "D"

#3 -- Yellow Tet

#4 -- Yellow Tet

#2 -- High Range

#1 -- HYC Judges Stand



