

2017 HYC OFFSHORE REGATTA

12, 13 May 2017
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 12. This is a Pursuit race from Galveston to Freeport for spinnaker and non-spinnaker 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 13, features a Rule 26 start off the Freeport jetties and a race back to Galveston. This race is also known as “the Freeport Race”; the Carroll Blanchard trophy is awarded to the winner in the spinnaker fleet.

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) 2016-2017 except as these are altered by this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions.
 - i. The RDTB event is designated Category 3.
 - ii. The HYCOR event is designated Category 3 for the non-spinnaker classes and Category 2 for the spinnaker class.
- b. 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.”
- c. 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 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.

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 Offshore Special Regulations for 2016 – 2017 governing Offshore Racing for Monohulls & Multihulls.
- b. Any competitor who wishes to enter a yacht measuring less than 28 feet may do so on approval from the race committee. A simple 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.



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- c. 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.
- d. Double-handed entries: In an MOB situation each person must be capable of retrieving the other single-handed.
- e. Double-handed entries are urged to employ full harness, tethers and jack lines regardless of weather conditions.
- f. 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.
- g. A minimum of three yachts of the same design 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.
- h. Potential classes will be:
 - i. RDTB: Pursuit spinnaker, Pursuit non-spinnaker, GBCA Cruising Class Handicap, any OD class.
 - ii. HYCOR: PHRF Spinnaker, PHRF Non-Spinnaker, GBCA Cruising Class Handicap, 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.
- i. Boats may enter at www.regattanetwork.com using the on-line entry form.
- j. 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.

4. SCHEDULE

Wednesday 10 May	0600	Dinner purchase deadline. Food will be ordered that am.
Wednesday 10 May	2400	Regatta entry deadline. No entry fee refunds after this point
Thursday 11 May	0900	Deadline for emailing final Sailing Instructions to registered competitors
Friday 12 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 13 May	0800	No warning signal before this time. Rule 26 start for all fleets. Race to Galveston Green 11
Sunday 14 May	1000	Protest deadline
Sunday 14 May	1500	HYC Offshore Regatta awards ceremony in the HYC bar

5. MEASUREMENT

- a. ALL yachts racing in the PHRF Spinnaker class and the PHRF non-spinnaker class MUST have a current PHRF Galveston Bay rating certificate.
- b. All yachts racing in the GBCA Cruising Class Handicap class MUST have a current GBCA Cruising Class Handicap ~~certification~~ rating issued by the Galveston Bay Cruising Association.
- c. All yachts racing in the GBCA Cruising Class Handicap class MUST have completed a GBCA handicap race in the last year previously to race in that fleet.



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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 any questions you may have (billvanrav@gmail.com, 832.428.0785)
- c. Final SIs will be sent to registered competitors via email no later than the time listed in the "SCHEDULE" section above.

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 PHRF spinnaker boats will sail up to a 62nm course (depending on weather and wind conditions) finishing in Galveston. There will be ~~5-4~~ course options.
- d. HYCOR PHRF non-spinnaker boats will sail up to a 50 nm course between Freeport and Galveston.
- e. HYCOR GBCA Cruising Class Handicap boats will sail a course directly from Freeport to Galveston.

9. SCORING

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

10. BERTHING

- a. Thursday evening May 11 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.

11. 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. A "take home" award will also be presented.
- c. Spinnaker class boats in the HYCOR are eligible to win points towards the Texas Navy Cup.
- d. Non - spinnaker class boats racing HYCOR PHRF non-spinnaker class are eligible to win points towards the S Rhoads Fisher Trophy.

12. 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.



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13. 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.

14. 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

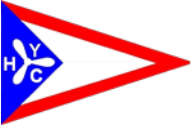
- o Galveston: We have a negotiated rate with the Tremont House (409.515.2154) at \$99 per night. Please ask for the Houston Yacht Club Offshore Regatta Courtesy Block for our special rate; the cutoff date for this rate is **April 26th**. The hotel provides a free shuttle service from the Galveston Yacht Basin. Additionally, in the past participants have experienced success at the Scottish Inn on Harbor Drive.
- o Freeport: The official regatta hotels (located in Clute, TX) for the night of May 12th are:
 - The Holiday Inn Express (979.266.8746) Cutoff date is **April 28th**; the regatta rate is \$125/night. If you prefer to book on line please click [here](#) or copy / paste the following into your browser:
`https://www.hiexpress.com/redirect?path=event-facilities&brandCode=ex&localeCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=CUTXS&_PMID=99801505&GPC=HYC&viewfullsite=true`
 - The Hampton Inn (979.265.3200). King is \$119, and a studio (sleeps 3 or more...) is \$129. The cutoff date is **April 21** and they have a special web portal for our registration. Please click [here](#) or copy and paste this link into your browser window (c&p is the only way it seems to work...).
`https://secure3.hilton.com/en_US/hp/reservation/book.htm?inputModule=HOTEL&ctyhocn=LJNCLHX&spec_plan=CHHHYR&arrival=20170512&departure=20170513&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&roomId=HILTONLINKDIRECT`
- o 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:

Dinner tickets for the evening of Friday May 12 will be available for purchase at on line registration on Regatta Network. Participants who pre-purchase their meal tickets will pick them up in pre-sorted envelopes (by ship name) at Captain Ken's Port O' Call's main bar area. You may pick up your tickets and proceed directly to the buffet tables. Those that have not pre-purchased food must queue up at the credit card processing machine to pay for dinner. The cost is \$17 per plate. 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 for menu options and details.

SOCIAL EVENTS:

- Thursday evening Galveston: Cocktails on the rooftop of the Tremont hotel – not an official part of the regatta, at least some of the regatta participants (and definitely the race committee) will sample some of the best Galveston has to offer. We will meet up at the rooftop bar for cocktails in a highly civilized environment - an



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excellent opportunity to meet some of your competitors plus quiz the race committee. All are most certainly welcome – join us!

- Friday 12 May: **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 - maybe we can receive a group rate?...) Remember, we provide free transport to the hotels from the marina...
- Saturday 13 May: **The Second 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 **free rum**. Invite your friends and relatives to join us there and 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 14 May a.m.: Sail folding on the lawn. Very therapeutic...
- Sunday 14 May p.m.: **Mother's Day brunch at HYC** – reservations requested (281.471.1255), blue blazers optional but encouraged!
- Sunday 14 May 13:00 – HYC Offshore Regatta awards ceremony in the HYC Bar.