



GULFPORT TO PENSACOLA RACE
JUNE 25-27, 2015
Southern Yacht Club
Gulfport, Miss. to Pensacola, Fla.
NOTICE OF RACE



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May 2016
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The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Southern Yacht Club (SYC) of New Orleans, La. The event is sanctioned by the Gulf Yachting Association (GYA) and the host clubs are Gulfport Yacht Club (GYC) and Pensacola Yacht Club (PYC). US Sailing Regatta Network (RN) is the host for online registration. The OA reserves the right to accept or reject the entry of any yacht and will have the authority to interpret the conditions governing the event and shall assign yachts to classes. The Deeds of Gift of the following perpetual trophies are supported by this event:

Governor of Mississippi Trophy Dr. Logan Emlet Trophy Governor Kennon Bowl
Art Mahoney Trophy Pollack Trophy Schreck Trophy Tootie & Joel Barnett Trophy

1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS); the US SAILING prescriptions; the GYA Regulations for Sanctioned Events; applicable class and/or rating rules; the Notice of Race (NOR); and the Sailing Instructions (SI). If there is a conflict between rules, succeeding documents in the list above shall govern. This alters RRS 63.7.

1.2 Between the local hours of sunset and sunrise, RRS Part 2 will be replaced by the *USCG Navigation Rules* Part B–Steering and Sailing Rules (IRPCAS/COLREGS).

1.3 MONOHULL yachts shall be governed by the *By-Laws of the GYA Performance Handicap Racing Fleet* (GYA-PHRF).

1.4 MULTIHULL yachts shall be governed by the *GYA Multihull Council Safety Recommendations* (GYA-MC), for Category 2 events, except that all instances of “should” are replaced with “shall”, and as modified herein.

1.5 RRS 42, 44.3(c), 52, 62.1(a) and 63.7 are altered herein. Other documents may change other rules.

1.6 MOTORING while racing is allowed for a total of up to two (2) hours in the Rally division only. This alters RRS 42.

1.7 POWERED WINCHES are allowed in all divisions. AUTOPILOTS are allowed in Cruising and Rally divisions only. This alters RRS 52.

1.8 Except while changing sails, yachts shall set only one (1) headsail on the permanent forestay and only one (1) staysail per mast, which shall not extend beyond the rated LP distance.

1.9 NON-SPINNAKER classes shall not set unstayed, free-flying sails, such as a spinnaker, gennaker, flasher, shooter, blooper, or any other sail cut or flown to simulate such.

2 YACHT ELIGIBILITY

2.1 The regatta is open to auxiliary yachts with a valid PHRF rating certificate issued by GYA-PHRF or GYA-MC (see also NOR 2.3). Portsmouth multihulls (beach cats, etc.) are not eligible and trapezes are prohibited.

2.2 Yachts entering the CRUISING DIVISION must have an inboard engine and at least one (1) of the following:

- GYA-PHRF Cruiser Furling (CF) classification.
- A fixed (non-folding, non-feathering) propeller.
- An above-deck, roller-furling headsail system permanently installed on the forestay.
- Headsails that attach to the forestay with luff hanks, spaced not more than 48 inches.

2.3 The RALLY DIVISION is open to yachts presented as genuine cruisers. A GYA PHRF rating is recommended, but not required. The OA will assign ratings as needed which are not subject to redress. This alters RRS 62.1(a).

2.4 The OA may modify or reject a yacht's entry if it is deemed to be inconsistent with the intent of the eligibility requirements.

3 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

3.1 RACE TRACKING – Each yacht shall provide and carry a GPS tracking device in accordance with the appendix RACE TRACKING SPECIFICATION. The device shall be operational from the time a yacht casts off before the start and until she next docks, after finishing or withdrawing from the race.

3.2 The equipment listed in Appendix A—MANDATORY SAFETY EQUIPMENT is required for all yachts. Additionally, the OA strongly recommends compliance with the requirements of the *US Safety Equipment Requirements* (USSER) for a Coastal race.

3.3 All yachts will be subject to random inspection for compliance with Appendix A and their rating certificates. Yachts found not in compliance will be subject to protest by the Race Committee which may result in disqualification or other penalties. These inspections are made for rules enforcement purposes only; the RC will not assess nor warrant the safety or seaworthiness of yachts or crews.

3.4 Prior to the start, each yacht shall hold a man overboard (MOB) briefing or drill involving the full crew.

3.5 At each yacht's Prestart Check-in, every soul aboard shall be visible on deck wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD).

4 CREW ELIGIBILITY & RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 The term “Skipper” as used herein means the person, whether or not the owner of the yacht, who is so designated on the entry form and who is the Person in Charge of the yacht during the race. The Skipper is responsible for the yacht, its handling and safety, the conduct of the crew before, during and after the race, and compliance with the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

4.2 The Skipper shall make all race documents available to each crew member for review.

4.3 The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Owner, who shall do his best to ensure that the boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are physically fit and sufficient in number to sail the boat in adverse conditions. The owner must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew knows where it is kept and how it is used.

4.4 Single-handed entries will not be accepted.

5 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Amendments and notices will be posted on the official notice boards at SYC and online at RN. Electronic notifications (email and/or SMS) will be sent to competitors registered via RN.

The SAILING INSTRUCTIONS will be available online the week of the event.

6 DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

6.1 The fleet will have the following divisions, broken into classes as entries warrant:

Racing Divisions

- **PHRF** – Monohull racing yachts.
- **Multihull** – Multihull racing yachts.
- **Cruising** – Monohull cruising yachts with Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker sub-divisions.

Rally Division – Yachts sailing a shorter course and allowed limited use of auxiliary power. Rally yachts are not eligible for the trophies listed herein, but additional trophies may be awarded.

Classes will be announced at the Skippers Meeting.

6.2 There will also be an overall **Masters Division** for Racing skippers aged 60 and over. Special scoring will apply.

7 ENTRIES AND FEES

7.1 The entry form submission deadline is noon on Thursday, June 25, 2015.

7.2 Eligible yachts may be entered by completing the online entry form, including payment of all fees.

7.3 The regatta entry fee is **\$90.00**.

8 SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 25, 2015	
1200	Entry deadline
1830	Skippers Meeting at Gulfport YC
Friday, June 26, 2015	
0900	Skippers Briefing at Gulfport YC
0930	Deadline to submit Crew List Forms
	GPS tracking devices must be active upon casting off
1055	Warning Signal for Rally Division
1155	Warning Signal for Racing Divisions
Saturday, June 27, 2015	
1800	Awards Ceremony at Pensacola YC

9 SKIPPERS MEETINGS

9.1 The Skippers Meeting and supplemental Briefing will be held at Gulfport Yacht Club as noted herein. Each entry must be represented at one of these events to receive their regatta packet; any yacht not so represented may be scratched from the entry list.

9.2 The final SCRATCH SHEET will be distributed at the Skippers Briefing.

10 CREW LIST

No later than 0930 on the day of the start, each yacht must file with the RC a complete and accurate Crew List Form. The RC will not accept Crew List Forms on the water.

11 COURSE, PENALTIES AND SCORING

11.1 The fleet will start in the Mississippi Sound near the Gulfport Yacht Harbor and finish in the Gulf of Mexico at the Pensacola sea buoy, leaving the Mobile sea buoy to port, en route.

11.2 The RACING divisions will sail southward through Ship Island Pass and round the Gulfport sea buoy before turning eastward. The RALLY division is not required to round Ship Island or the Gulfport sea buoy.

11.3 The marks of the course will be specified in the Sailing Instructions. NOAA charts 11373, 11376 & 11382 are applicable.

11.4 The course distances will be **100.0 nm** for Racing divisions and **93.6 nm** for the Rally division and are not subject to redress. This alters RRS 62.1(a).

11.5 Until five (5) minutes after her starting signal, a yacht shall have the option of taking a Turns Penalty (RRS 44.1) or a Scoring Penalty (RRS 44.3). After that time, only the Scoring Penalty will apply. (20% place penalty upon display of a YELLOW FLAG.)

11.6 Yachts shall be scored in accordance with RRS Appendix A, based on corrected time.

11.7 For MASTERS DIVISION scoring only, each qualifying yacht shall have one (1) second added to her GYA-PHRF rating for each full year over 60 of the skipper’s age on the day of the start.

12 DOCKING

Pensacola YC has made arrangements for the docking of the fleet until Monday, June 29, 2015 without charge. The dockmaster will assign berths as yachts arrive at the PYC pier.

13 PRIZES

13.1 Trophies will be awarded for Racing divisions as follows, additional trophies may be awarded:

- First boat to finish.
- Best corrected time for a boat from each state: La., Miss., Ala. & Fla.
- First to fourth places overall in PHRF Division.
- First place in each class with 4 or more entries.
- Second place in each class with 6 or more entries.
- Third place in each class with 8 or more entries.
- First to third places in the Masters Division.

13.2 The following perpetual trophies will be presented for qualified classes as entries warrant:

- **Governor of Mississippi Trophy**
First place in PHRF division.
- **Dr. Logan Emlet Trophy**
First place in Multihull division.
- **Governor Kennon Bowl**
First place in PHRF Class A.
- **Art Mahoney Trophy**
First boat to finish in PHRF Class B.
- **Pollack Trophy**
First place in PHRF Class C.
- **Schreck Trophy**
First place in PHRF Class D.
- **Tootie & Joel Barnett Trophy**
First place in Cruising Spinnaker division.

14 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4 Decision to Race. The Management of the event 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.

15 INSURANCE

Each participating yacht shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance sufficient to cover liability for loss, damage, personal injury or death.

16 MISCONDUCT

In the event of a serious breach of conduct by a Skipper, owner, crew or their guests, before, during or after the race, a yacht may be subject to disqualification and other disciplinary action. Penalties may include, but are not limited to, exclusion from one or more future GYA sanctioned events.

17 CONTACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information, see the SYC web site (www.southernyachtclub.org) or contact:

- Southern Yacht Club: (504) 288-4200 or info@southernyachtclub.org.
- Gulfport Yacht Club: (228) 863-6796
- Pensacola Yacht Club: (850) 433-8804

Regatta Network event page:

www.regattanetwork.com/event/10374

Race Tracking: Kattack.com

Scan the QR code below to view the RN mobile event page.



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APPENDIX A—MANDATORY SAFETY EQUIPMENT

In addition to USCG required safety equipment, the following equipment must be carried by each yacht, as applicable, while racing and is subject to inspection.

A1 MONOHULLS

Marine Compass	Navigational charts and devices for safe piloting
Soft wood plugs	Two buckets, each one gallon minimum capacity
Anchor and rode	Two gallons emergency water
Water resistant flashlight	Minimum of two fire extinguishers
VHF radio	Cell phone with charger or spare batteries
Navigation Lights	USCG approved PFD's with whistle for each crew member
One manual bilge pump	Horseshoe type life ring with pole and self-activating light, or Man Overboard Module
First Aid kit and manual	
Tools and spare parts	USCG required distress signals

A2 MULTIHULLS

- A2.1 The GYA-MC recommends a total crew of no less than three (3) persons for this event.
- A2.2 Multihulls with auxiliary power shall carry two fire extinguishers.
- A2.3 Multihulls are subject to the requirements of the *GYA-MC Safety Recommendations* for Category 2 events, except that all instances of “should” are replaced with “shall”. The Category 2 equipment requirements are excerpted and modified below:

Marine Compass	
Adequate drinking water	Navigational charts and devices for safe piloting
Adequate food, energy bars, and snacks to maintain crew stamina	Tools and spare parts including a knife for each crewmember
First Aid kit	VHF radio receiver (2 suggested) rated submersible and floats
GPS - rated submersible	Water resistant flashlights with spare batteries
Cell phone or satellite phone (sealed)	One hand held flare and PLB for each crewmember*
EPIRB or Personal Locator Beacon*	Tether for each crewmember*

* These (3) items are recommended, but not mandatory.

Southern Yacht Club

RACE TRACKING SPECIFICATION

1 OVERVIEW

Each yacht shall provide, configure, register, carry and maintain a GPS tracking device as specified herein. Live race tracking will be provided by Kattack.com. The public race tracking data will be available online, as linked via the event web site.

2 GPS TRACKING DEVICE

2.1 **OPTION 1 – SPOT Personal Tracker** or other suitable SPOT device, including the SPOT Basic Service Plan and Track Progress service add-on. SPOT devices are available from various retailers. SPOT subscription service is available at findmespot.com. SPOT devices, with Track Progress activated, may also be rented from various sources. *Local SPOT retailers: West Marine; Best Buy; Massey's; Cabela's; Bass Pro*

2.1.1 Track Progress mode (“SPOTcasting”) must be engaged on the SPOT device throughout the event. Note that this mode must be re-engaged on the device at least once every 24 hours.

2.1.2 Fresh batteries should last for several days in Track Progress mode, but replacement batteries should also be available.

2.2 **OPTION 2 – Kattack Mobile** app installed on a compatible GPS-enabled smart device (Apple or Android) with suitable data service plan. The app is available through Kattack.com and the Apple and Android app stores. Check with Kattack for compatibility with other smart devices.

2.2.1 **BATTERY LIFE** is a primary concern when using a GPS-enabled smart device for race tracking. Provision must be made to maintain the battery charge during the race. It is strongly recommended that the device be continuously connected to a charging device while racing.

2.2.3 Care must be taken that the Kattack Mobile app is able to run continuously throughout the race, as other apps or settings may occasionally interfere with its operation.

The mobile app continuously receives and records position data from GPS satellites, but relies on cellular technology to transmit the data back to the tracking site; it is intended for inshore use, but is adequate for near-shore races. There may be periods when a yacht is out of cellular range, but once it returns to cellular coverage, the previously recorded GPS tracking data is uploaded.

2.3 The tracking device shall be secured in a suitable location for best performance. Our experience in 2013 indicates that a waterproof enclosure secured above deck may work better than locating the device belowdecks; and carbon fiber sails seem to interfere with some GPS signals.

2.4 The tracking device shall be active upon casting off before the start of the race and shall operate continuously until the yacht is docked after finishing or withdrawing from the race.

3 DEVICE REGISTRATION

3.1 Prior to the race, the tracking device must be registered with Kattack.com, expressly for the event. Registration can be performed at any time after completing the event's online entry form, as follows:

3.1.1 SPOT devices must be turned on for a brief period (30 mins) prior to registration, so that the Shared Page contains some amount of track data. Then, email the Boat Name and Shared Page URL to tracking@southernyachtclub.org. Allow at least one (1) day for the URL to be processed.

3.1.2 For the Kattack Mobile app, enter the Boat Name and select the proper Race Feed in the drop-down list.

3.2 The RC will moderate the race tracking registrations for the event. You may check your registration by activating your GPS tracking device and going to the Kattack tracking web page linked from the event web site.

3.3 Pre-event testing is strongly recommended for all tracking devices and configurations.

4 FURTHER INFORMATION

SYC: email, tracking@southernyachtclub.org.

Kattack.com: email, info@kattack.com.

SPOT LLC: web site, findmespot.com, or phone, 866-651-7768.