

## Southern Yacht Club

# RACE TRACKING SPECIFICATION

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## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:tracking@southernyachtclub.org).

[Kattack.com](http://Kattack.com): email, [info@kattack.com](mailto:info@kattack.com).

SPOT LLC: web site, [findmespot.com](http://findmespot.com), or phone, 866-651-7768.