



2017 GBCC
April 8-9th, 2017
Clear Lake Racing Association
El Jardin Beach, Texas

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

1.1 This event is governed by the "Rules" defined in *Racing Rules of Sailing, 2017-2020 (RRS)*.

2. ENTRIES

2.1 Competitors enter the Regatta by registering at <http://www.regattanetwork.com> and must have completed registration and paid all fees with the Organizing Authority before becoming official competitors.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official notice board in the Regatta Tent.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted at or before 1000 hours on the day it takes effect.

4.2 Oral changes to the Sailing Instructions may be given on the water by VHF or verbal hail in accordance with RRS 90.2.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1. Signals Made Ashore shall be displayed from the El Jardin Beach flag pole,

5.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes.'

5.3. Signal flags may be flown either by themselves (in which case they apply to all fleets), or they may be flown BENEATH one or more Fleet flags. The individual Fleets will be designated by the following flags:

- Spinnaker: Yellow SP flag
- Non-Spinnaker A: Light Blue NSA flag
- Non-Spinnaker B: Green NSB flag
- Foiling Class: Yellow M Flag

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 The intent is to conduct one (1) distance race on Saturday, and buoy races Sunday. The number of buoy races will depend on wind and weather condition. The intent is to run a minimum of three (3) races on Sunday.
- 6.2 The distance race may be rescheduled for Sunday if the RC is forced to abandon racing on Saturday.
- 6.3 Race Committee may choose to alter the schedule of races, if it is apparent weather conditions are not favorable for original schedule.
- 6.4 Code Flag "A" displayed on the RC boat (with no sound) in the finish line vicinity while boats are finishing a race means, "There will be no further races today".

7. RACING AREA

- 7.1. All races will be sailed in the vicinity of Galveston Bay bordered by the Bayport Ship Channel to the north, Houston Ship Channel to the east, San Leon shoreline to the south, and the Kemah/Seabrook shoreline to the west.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1. Attachment A shows the courses, how to cross the Start Line, the order in which marks are to be rounded, how to cross the Finish Line, and the course length in nautical miles.
- 8.2. Boats shall not enter the Houston Ship Channel, or Bayport Ship Channel, WHILE RACING.
- 8.3. The distance race may be shortened at a mark in accordance with RRS 32, but this is anticipated only in the event of dire emergencies, adverse weather, and/or prolonged dead calms.
- 8.4. The Non-Spinnaker B class may be given a different course than the Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker A classes.

9. MARKS

- 9.1 Marks of the course will consist both of fixed marks in Galveston Bay, and inflatable marks that will be set by the RC. These marks are all set forth in Attachment B.

10. THE START

- 10.1 Before the first race of each day, each boat shall check-in with the RC.
- 10.2 Distance race check-in: Race Committee will be based on land and will check in boats as they launch. If you sail into the venue on Saturday, it is your responsibility to check in with the RC by telephone: 281-636-3508, VHF channel 68 or hailing by voice on the beach once you arrive in the starting area.
- 10.3 Distance Race: The starting line will be defined by a single pole with an orange flag and an orange floating tetrahedron. At or before the Warning Signal, the RC will display a numeral pennant designating the course to be sailed along the extension of the start/finish line on the beach at the water's edge.
- 10.4 Buoy Races: The starting line will be defined by an orange flag located on the RC boat and a green floating tetrahedron.

10.5A boat shall start a race no later than 15 minutes after her designated start time.

11. THE FINISH

11.1 For the distance race, unless the race is shortened at a mark of the course, the Finish Line will be the same line as the Start Line.

11.2 For the Buoy races. The finish line will be starboard side of the RC boat and the orange tetrahedron

12. TIME LIMIT

12.1 There is no time limit for these races. Race Committee may choose to finish a yacht "in place" if it is obvious a yacht's corrected time will not be less than the last official finisher.

12.2 Abandonment of a race shall be signaled according to the rules.

13. PENALTIES AND PROTESTS

13.1 Scoring Penalties and Protest Procedures shall apply as outlined in Appendix T, sections A, B and D apply. T1, "Penalties at the Time of the Incident" applies. The first two sentences of Rule 44.1 are changed to read: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or Rule 31 when racing. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty."

13.2 Protest forms are available at the Official Notice Board, located at the Regatta Tent. Protests shall be delivered there as soon as possible and within the protest time limit.

13.3 The protest time limit will be sixty (60) minutes after the RC makes notice at the Regatta Tent.

14. SCORING

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

14.2 Competitors will be scored per class, as well as Fleet, using US Yardstick with adjustments.

15. SAFETY

15.1 Any boat that has checked in and withdraws before finishing a race, shall notify the RC on the water, or, if that is not possible, the RC by telephone: 281-636-3508, or VHF channel 68. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification from the event.

15.2 Boats shall not interfere with commercial vessels operating in the Houston Ship Channel (HSC). Boats doing so will be subject to protest and disqualification.

15.3 Race Committee highly recommends each competitor to carry their own safety gear; comprising of at least a cell phone, VHF radio, multi tool with knife and flashlight/mirror.

16. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

16.1 A yacht shall neither make radio transmissions while racing, nor receive radio communications not available to all yachts. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. This does not apply to situations that threaten safety of life and/or property.

16.2 The RC will monitor Channel 68.

16.3 It is highly recommended that yachts carry a VHF radio and/or a cellular phone.

16.4 Competitors will be allowed/encouraged to use the RaceQs app for post-race analysis, but not for instant tracking. For Safety, the RC highly encourages the use of RaceQs with live streaming enabled during the distance Course. A separate notice with the RaceQs regatta page and instructions will be posted in a separate bulletin.

17. PRIZES

17.1 Trophies will be awarded at the discretion of the organizing authority.

17.2 Overall Championship Trophy will be awarded to the lowest point score between Spinnaker Fleet and Non-Spinnaker Fleet (First in Fleet) for all races.

18. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

19.1 Competitors participate in this event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organization will not accept liability for property damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with the event.

ATTACHMENT A



ATTACHMENT A

Distance Courses

Course 1			
Mark From	Mark To	Bearing	Distance in nm
Start	Redfish	133	7.00
Redfish	E	326	5.78
E	Start	270	1.87
Start	Redfish	133	7.00
Redfish	Finish	313	7.00
Total:			28.65

Course 2			
Mark From	Mark To	Bearing	Distance in nm
Start	H	137	3.41
H	E	350	2.55
E	Start	270	1.87
Start	H	137	3.41
H	Finish	317	3.41
Total:			14.65

GBCC Buoy Courses

Course Number	Mark Sequence	Finish Direction
1	A-C-A	Downwind finish
2	A-C-A-C-A	Downwind finish
3	A-C-A-B-C	Upwind Finish
4	A-C-A-B-C-A	Downwind Finish
5	A-C	Upwind Finish
6	A-C-A-C	Upwind Finish
7	A-C-A-B-C-A-C	Upwind Finish

GBCC Buoy Courses

This is schematic only. The angles to Mark B may change.

