

## LOW COUNTRY HOOK 2020 OCEAN RACE

Covid-19 Edition

21, 22 August 2020

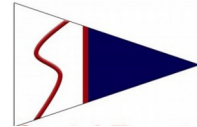
Skidaway Island Boating Club

and

The Yacht Club of Hilton Head

Present The Low Country Hook Ocean Race

Hilton Head Island to Skidaway Island



### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

#### 1. RULES:

1.1 The race will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

1.2 Boats must comply with 2020 US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements:

<https://cdn.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Monohull-SER-2020.0.xlsx>

**This race is categorized as a Nearshore Race.** A functioning VHF radio is mandatory equipment for all Offshore races.

#### 2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1 The race is open to monohull sailboats with a length minimum of 22 ft and a maximum of 51 ft. All eligible boats must have a PHRF rating, have auxiliary power, VHF radio and be manned by an eligible captain and crew.

2.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing the registration form available at

<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/20203>

together with the required fee before the race.

2.3 There will be separate classes for Spinnaker boats, Non-Spinnaker boats, and Cruising boats. The Race Committee reserves the right to assign boats to classes based on PHRF. If enough boats are not registered for a cruising class then those boats will be combined with the non-spinnaker class.

#### 3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:

Notice to competitors will be announced at the Competitors' meeting and over the VHF hailing channel in advance of the start of the race. Notices may also be emailed to registrants.

#### 4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

4.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be announced at the Competitors' meeting and announced over the VHF hailing channel prior to the first warning signal.

4.2 Any schedule change will be emailed to the registrant by 8:00 pm on the day before it will take effect.

#### 5. CHANGES MADE ON THE WATER

Any changes made on the water will be over the VHF hailing channel prior to the start of the race.

#### 6. SCHEDULE

6.1 Friday, 21 August 7:00 pm, Zoom Competitors' meeting (link will be sent to registrants)

6.2 Saturday, 22 August at 9:55 am, Warning Signal for the first class will be given (The order of starting each class may be given at the Competitors' meeting and announced again over VHF

prior to

the warning signal). Consideration of late arrivals due to wind and tide may alter the time of a class warning signal. Any changes will be announced over the VHF hailing channel.

## 7. RACING AREA:

The racing area will be the Calibogue Sound, Atlantic Ocean, Wassaw Sound and the Wilmington River.

## 8. THE COURSE

- Start – Near G7 Calibogue Sound (honor Calibogue Sound Channel Markers)
- Mark – R2 to Port Calibogue Sound
- Mark – G5 to Starboard Tybee Roads (Tybee Roads Channel Markers do not need to be honored to avoid shipping traffic)
- Mark – R2W to Starboard Wassaw Sound (honor Ocean, Wassaw Sound & Wilmington River Channel Markers)
- Finish – Landings Harbor Pier & Inflatable Mark (or perpendicular to Pier)

## 9. THE START

9.1 The race committee may announce upcoming signals over VHF hailing channel.

9.2 Before the warning signal, boats intending to race shall check in by sailing past the stern of the signal boat on starboard tack hailing their sail number or boat name if no sail number. [DP]

9.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and an inflatable buoy located near G7 at the entrance to Calibogue Sound.

9.4 Any boat starting later than 10 minutes after its starting signal shall notify the signal boat of their intention to race using the VHF hailing channel or calling the PRO (Joleen Rasmussen) (919) 440-2802. The boat must pass in the neighborhood of the starting area if the signal boat has left the area.

9.5 Class Flags Spinnaker – Yellow; Non-Spinnaker – Purple; Cruising – White. Additional Class flags may be assigned at the Competitors' Meeting and announced as a change to the SI.

## 10. THE FINISH

10.1 The finish line will be line between a staff displaying an RC flag on the Landings Harbor Pier, and an inflatable buoy directly across the river. In the absence of a buoy, the finish line will be perpendicular to the Landings Harbor Pier (approximate compass bearing 66 degrees.)

10.2 The course may be shortened. In that event, the finish line will be the **S** flag on the signal boat and a government mark in the Wilmington River. The shortened course will be announced over the VHF hailing channel.

10.3 The time limit to finish will be 7:00 pm.

10.4 Boats not finished by 7:00 pm shall be scored based on their position on the water at 7:00 pm.

## 12. RETIREMENT

A boat which retires from the race shall notify the signal boat over the VHF hailing channel as soon as reasonably possible [DP].

## 13. PROTESTS

13.1 A boat intending to protest must inform the signal boat via the VHF hailing channel after crossing the finish line.

13.2 Protests shall be emailed to the Protest Committee (daveangell@bellsouth.net) within 30 minutes of the last boat to finish in their class. Use of the US Sailing Form is encouraged.

13.3 Protests shall be heard as soon as practicable in the approximate order received. In-person protests will be at an open area at Landing Harbor and participants must wear face coverings and respect social distancing.

#### 14. SCORING AND PRIZES

14.1 Hook Regatta will use Time on Time handicapping. Each boat's elapsed time will be multiplied by a correction factor to determine their corrected time. The correction factor will be  $650/(550+\text{PHRF handicap})$ . The boat with the lowest corrected time in each class will be the winner. The Low Point Scoring system Rule A2 of the RRS will apply.

14.2 Announcement of race results will be done via email to competitors ASAP after the conclusion of the race.

14.3 A trophy will be awarded to the top three finisher of each class. A trophy will also be presented to the first to cross the finish line. Trophies will be mailed to winners, as necessary.

#### 15. SAFETY

15.1 All boats shall carry an operating VHF radio. The hailing channel will be 71.

15.2 All boats shall be sailed by at least 2 persons. The maximum number of crew is N people, where N is:  $(\text{LOA} \times .3) - 2$ , with all fractions rounded up.

15.3 The US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements for category Nearshore are recommended.

#### 16. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the race entirely at their own risk. See RRS 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 race.

#### 17. INSURANCE

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