



**GBCA**

## **Texas Race Week**

Gulf of Mexico - Galveston to Freeport

July 19-21, 2012

### **Sailing Instructions**

#### **1. Rules**

The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the current 2009-2012 *Racing Rules of Sailing*, including US Sailing Prescriptions, the International Rules for Prevention of Collision at Sea (COLREGS), the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.

#### **2. Owner's and Skippers Responsibilities**

- 2.1 The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the skipper, who must ensure that the yacht is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew. The skipper is responsible to be fully knowledgeable of all the requirements and skills of offshore sailing.
- 2.2 It is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the skipper to decide whether to start or to continue a race.
- 2.3 The skipper shall ensure that all necessary equipment for safe offshore racing is carried on board and that all crew are instructed in its proper use.
- 2.4 Yachts **MUST** obey all maritime **RULES OF THE ROAD** when encountering vessels not racing. This is especially important when dealing with ship and other commercial traffic. Special attention to Rules 6 & 9. Serious violation of applicable regulations shall be cause for disqualification by the Race Committee without hearing. This modifies Rule 63.1
- 2.5 Special attention is called to the shoal area that exists along the south side of the Galveston jetties. Skippers should have the most recent charts of the racing area and all Notice to Mariners.

#### **2. Notices to Competitors**

Official notices to competitors will be posted on the door of the GBCA office and at:

[https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet club\\_events.php?CLUB\\_ID=162](https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet club_events.php?CLUB_ID=162) .

Notices to Competitors and Protest Hearings will also be posted at the Ocean Village Hotel Race HQ. Any written change to the sailing instructions, schedule of races or notice of race will be posted before 2000 the day before it will take effect. Any oral change will be communicated to each boat via VHF radio channel 69 at Check In.

#### **3. Race Schedule**

- 3.1 The warning gun for the Thursday, July 19 race will be no earlier than 1755 hours.  
The warning gun for the Saturday, July 21 race will be no earlier than 1055 hours.
- 3.2 The class starting order for the *first* race and the class flags are shown in Appendix A.

#### **4. Race Area and Courses**

The race area will be the Bolivar Roads, Galveston Jetties and the waters of the Gulf of Mexico from Galveston to Freeport. The course to be sailed by class will be signaled by numeral flag and announced via VHF channel 69. Fixed Marks and Courses are described in Appendix B.

#### **5. Check In**

Before the warning signal of each race, all yachts intending to race shall contact the Race Committee on VHF Channel 69 and hail the boat's name or sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee.

#### **6. The Start**

- 6.1 The starting line:
  - 6.1a For Thursday July 19 will be in the Bolivar Roads area between HSC Marker #11 on the Port side and an orange flag or shape displayed on the south jetty shore, bearing approximately 190° from HSC #11 or a signal boat on the Starboard side.
  - 6.1b For Saturday July 21 will be in front of Surfside Beach and east of the Freeport Jetties, between a large orange tetrahedron on the Port side located N 28° 56.64' - W 095° 16.25' approximately and an orange flag or shape displayed from the jetties or a signal boat on the Starboard side.
- 6.2 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.
- 6.3 Any class subjected to a General Recall may be re-started after the last scheduled start for that race. This modifies RRS 29.2.
- 6.4 Yachts starting later than fifteen (15) minutes after their starting signal will be allowed only at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 6.5 Yachts shall avoid commercial ship channel traffic. Yachts shall keep Channel Marker 5A to Starboard when entering into the Gulf of Mexico.

#### **7. Shorten Course**

If the Race Committee displays the "S" code flag with one or more class flags, the shortened course applies only to those classes. If the "S" code flag is flown alone, all classes will sail the shortened course. This modifies RRS 32.

#### **8. The Finish**

The finish line will be between a large orange tetrahedron located N 28° 56.64' - W 095° 16.25' approximately and an orange flag or shape displayed from the beach in front of the Ocean Village Hotel Race HQ on the starboard end, bearing approximately 305° from the tetrahedron. Boats shall pass the orange tetrahedron to Port (except course 10).

For the Thursday night race, yachts approaching the finish are requested to hail the Race Committee on VHF Channel 69 or by phone at 713.823.1577 and identify themselves. In the event that communication cannot be established with the Race Committee, boats shall take their own finish time when they cross the finish line.

Yachts shall avoid commercial ship channel traffic.

#### **9. Time Limit**

Racing will conclude at 1700 hours CDT each day. Yachts exceeding the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This modifies RRS 35.

## 10. Protests

Protests shall be communicated to the Race Committee before by VHF channel 69 before leaving the race area and must be filed in writing prior to 1900 hours each day. This modifies RRS 61.

## 11. Scoring

The Low Point system, RRS Appendix A will apply. One race constitutes a series. There will be no throw-outs, except for purposes of Texas Navy Cup scoring. This modifies RRS A2

## 12. Larry Kevan Trophy

The Larry Kevan Trophy will be awarded to the PHRF Spinnaker Fleet Winner

## 13. Texas Navy Cup

The Texas Navy Cup will be awarded to the PHRF Spinnaker yacht with the lowest PHRF fleet score combining all races of the GBCA Texas Race Week, LYC Heald Bank race (PHRF Fleet) and the HYC Offshore Freeport Race #2 (PHRF Fleet). Yachts that did not participate in the LYC race shall have the score of 7 added for the purposes of Texas Navy Cup scoring. The highest score of the combined series shall be excluded.

## 14. Sail Numbers

Boats shall carry USSA, class, or hull numbers on mainsails, spinnakers, and each overlapping headsail having a luff perpendicular exceeding 130% of the base of the fore triangle. These sail numbers shall correspond to the sail numbers listed on the scratch sheet, unless different numbers or identification are approved by the Race Committee. Notification of such approval will be posted on: [https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet club\\_events.php?CLUB\\_ID=162](https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet club_events.php?CLUB_ID=162) before 0800 on the day approval is given.

## 15. Safety

- 15.1 A boat that retires from a race prior to finishing shall notify the Race Committee as soon as practicable on VHF channel 69. If radio communication is unavailable, call the Race Committee phone number: 713.823.1577 and leave a message.
- 15.2 Attention is called to RRS 4: Decision to Race, "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone."
- 15.3 No Luffing will be allowed between Sundown and Sunrise. . Luffing shall be defined as changing course to windward after another boat has approached within two boat lengths from any direction. A boat passing to windward or leeward must maintain at least two boat lengths to either side until no overlap exists.

## 16. Communication

- 17.1 Radio communication will be conducted on VHF channel 69.
- 17.2 The Race Committee will attempt to monitor and may make courtesy announcements on VHF channel 69. The failure of the Race Committee to make announcements or the manner in which announcements are made will not be grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 62.1(a).
- 17.3 In addition to signaling Individual Recalls in accordance with RRS 29.1, as a courtesy, the Race Committee will attempt to broadcast the names or sail numbers of boats that have started early. Failure to make such a broadcast, failure of a boat to receive that broadcast, a boat's order in that broadcast, or the promptness of that broadcast will not be grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 62.1(a).
- 17.4 If a weather-related postponement is required it will be announced at 2 hours prior to the warning signal on VHF Channel 69.

**Appendix A**

**2012 Texas Race Week  
Starting Order / Class Flags**

Fleet		Flag
PHRF Spin	-	Purple
PHRF Non Spin	-	Pink
Club Handicap	-	Yellow

## Appendix B

### Marks

Mark	Latitude	Longitude
Galveston Jetty HSC 11	N 29° 20.535'	W 094° 44.474'
Galveston Jetty HSC 5A	N 29° 19.667'	W 094° 41.338'
GA151A	N 29° 13.530'	W 094° 34.690'
G190	N 29° 08.500'	W 094° 40.180'
Buccaneer	N 28° 53.621'	W 094° 42.227'
Mobil 213-3	N 28° 50.183'	W 094° 15.616'
Freeport Farewell Buoy	N 28° 52.634'	W 095° 14.139'
310L	N 28° 50.58'	W 095° 14.88'
AOL278L#1	N 28° 55.37'	W 095° 12.61'
ROC-BR-335L14	N 28° 48.27'	W 095° 19.29'
Surfside Beach Tet (approx)	N 28° 56.64'	W 095° 16.25'

### Thursday Courses

Course #	Mark	Distance (nm)	Bearing (°)	Rounding
<u>1</u>	Start @ HSC 11	0.0		Port
	HSC 5A	2.9	108	Starboard
	Mobil 213-3	37.3	142	Starboard
	Surfside Tet	53.9	276	Port
Total		94.1		

Course #	Mark	Distance (nm)	Bearing (°)	Rounding
<u>2</u>	Start @ HSC 11	0.0		Port
	HSC 5A	2.9	108	Starboard
	Buccaneer	26.1	182	Starboard
	G190	15.0	007	Starboard
	Buccaneer	15.0	187	Starboard
	Surfside Tet	30.1	275	Port
Total		89.1		

<b>Course #</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Distance (nm)</b>	<b>Bearing (°)</b>	<b>Rounding</b>
<b><u>3</u></b>	Start @ HSC 11	0.0		Port
	HSC 5A	2.9	108	Starboard
	G190	11.2	175	Port
	GA151	7.1	044	Starboard
	Buccaneer	21.1	199	Starboard
	Surfside Tet	30.1	275	Port
<b>Total</b>		<b>72.4</b>		

<b>Course #</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Distance (nm)</b>	<b>Bearing (°)</b>	<b>Rounding</b>
<b><u>4</u></b>	Start @ HSC 11	0.0		Port
	HSC 5A	2.9	108	Starboard
	Buccaneer	26.1	182	Starboard
	Surfside Tet	30.1	275	Port
<b>Total</b>		<b>59.1</b>		

<b>Course #</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Distance (nm)</b>	<b>Bearing (°)</b>	<b>Rounding</b>
<b><u>5</u></b>	Start @ HSC 11	0.0		Port
	HSC 5A	2.9	108	Starboard
	Surfside Tet	38.8	232	Port
<b>Total</b>		<b>41.7</b>		

### Saturday Courses

Course #	Mark	Distance (nm)	Bearing (°)	Rounding
<b>6</b> W/L 6 legs	Surfside Tet	0.0		Port
	AOL278L#1	3.5	100	Port
	Surfside Tet	3.5	280	Port
Total		21.0		

Course #	Mark	Distance (nm)	Bearing (°)	Rounding
<b>7</b> W/L 6 legs	Surfside Tet	0.0		Port
	Freeport Farewell Buoy	4.0	127	Port
	Surfside Tet	4.0	327	Port
Total		24.0		

Course #	Mark	Distance (nm)	Bearing (°)	Rounding
<b>8</b> W/L 4 legs	Surfside Tet	0.0		Port
	310L	5.7	164	Port
	Surfside Tet	5.7	344	Port
Total		22.8		

Course #	Mark	Distance (nm)	Bearing (°)	Rounding
<b>9</b> W/L 2 legs	Surfside Tet	0.0		Port
	ROC-BR-335L14	8.8	197	Port
	Surfside Tet	8.8	017	Port
Total		17.6		

Course #	Mark	Distance (nm)	Bearing (°)	Rounding
<b>0</b> Triangle 6 legs (2 laps)	Surfside Tet	0.0		Port
	310L	5.7	164	Port
	AOL278L#1	5.2	022	Port
	Surfside Tet	3.5	280	Port
Total		28.8		