



GBCA / Watergate Spring Regatta

Galveston Bay

March 16 & 17, 2013

1500 Marina Bay Dr. Suite 1592 Building #113B, Clear Lake Shores, TX 77565

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the current 2013-2016 *Racing Rules of Sailing*, the Notice of Race, any OD Class Rules and these Sailing Instructions.

2. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the door of the GBCA office and online at:
https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_club_events.php?CLUB_ID=162 .

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the sailing instructions, schedule of races or notice of race will be posted before 0800 on the day it will take effect.

4. Race Schedule

- 4.1 The warning gun for the first race will be no earlier than 1100. Subsequent races for each class will follow as soon as possible after the end of the previous race.
- 4.2 The class starting order for the *first* race and the class flags are shown in Appendix A.

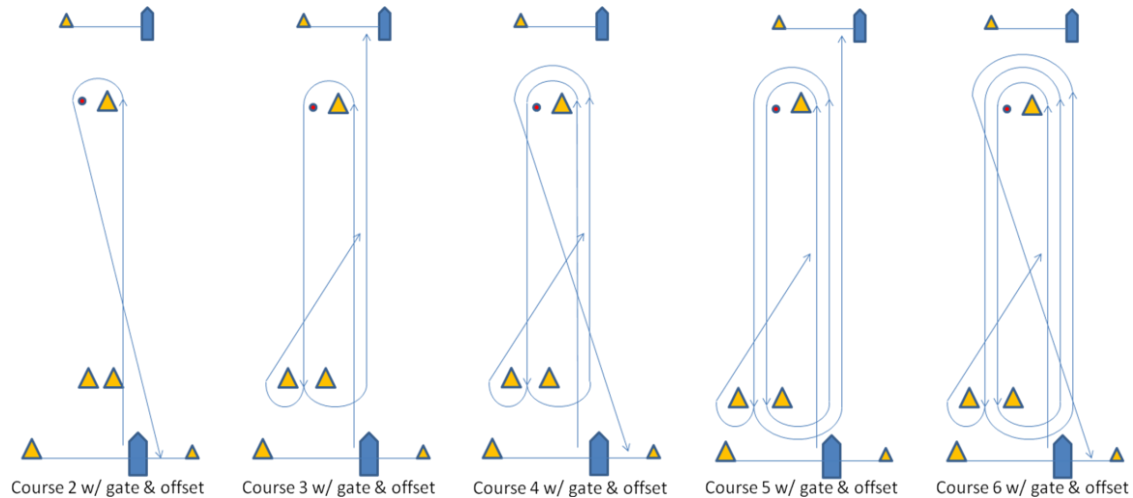
5. Racing Area

The racing area will be between Seabrook Channel Marker No. 2 and the Houston Ship Channel, and between San Leon and The Bayport Ship Channel. Boats shall not enter the Houston Ship Channel or Bayport Ship Channel while *racing*. The Houston Ship Channel and The Bayport Ship Channel are designated as obstructions.

6. Courses and Marks

- 6.1 **Windward/Leeward Courses** (*PHRF & OD classes*)
Marks will be orange and yellow tetrahedrons. The original course marks will be yellow. Change of course marks will alternate between orange and yellow. An offset mark will be placed adjacent to the windward mark.
- 6.1a Courses will be signaled by a numeral pennant representing the numbers of legs to sailed correlating with the course diagrams below. The approximated heading and distance to the windward mark may be displayed on a board on the committee boat.

Course Diagrams



- 6.1b The leeward mark will be set approximately 0.1 nm on the course side of the starting line. The windward finish will be set approximately 0.1nm beyond the windward mark.
 - 6.1c Boats racing on W/L courses shall leave all turning marks to port.
 - 6.1d For the first and last leg of a leeward finish, the leeward gate is not considered to be a mark of the course. For the last leg of a windward finish, the windward mark is not considered to be a mark of the course.
- 6.2 **Fixed Mark Courses (Cruising Class)**
- 6.2a Two courses will be used for the Spring Regatta. The Icicle Series Triangle and the Rum Race Series Triangle.
 - 6.2b Start will be Pursuit style according Cruising Class PHRF rating as described in Appendix B for race 1; race 2 will start according to the same schedule with adjustment to the next top of the hour.
 - 6.2c Fixed mark courses will use marks "E", "H" and "J". Approximate coordinates and description of the marks are:

Mark	Approximate Coordinate	Description
E	N 29° 35.787' W 094° 56.935'	<i>The Low Range Marker (Upper Range "A") in Galveston Bay. The mark is an orange and white structure near Houston Ship Channel Marker #73, 0.23 nm NNW of the old low range.</i>
H	N 29° 33.255' W 094° 56.542'	<i>A platform located in Galveston bay, approximately 1.3 nm WSW of the Houston Ship Channel marker #65.</i>
J	N 29° 31.353' W 094° 54.424'	<i>A platform located approximately 1.0 nm west of the north end of Red Fish Island.</i>

Saturday Race 1 - Icicle Reverse Course: Start between Clear Lake Channel Markers #1 and #2 and sail to "E" Mark leaving it to starboard. Sail from Mark "E" to Mark "H" leaving it to starboard. Sail from Mark "H" to Clear Lake Channel Marker #1 and finish between Clear Lake Channel Markers #1 and #2.

Saturday Race 2 - Icicle Standard Course: Start between Clear Lake Channel Markers #1 and #2 and sail to "H" Mark leaving it to port. Sail from Mark "H" to Mark "E" leaving it to port. Sail from Mark "E" to Clear Lake Channel Marker #2 and finish between Clear Lake Channel Markers #1 and #2.

Sunday Race 3 - Rum Standard Course: Start between Clear Lake Channel Markers #1 and #2 and sail to "J" Mark leaving it to port. Sail from Mark "J" to Mark "E" leaving it to port. Sail from Mark "E" to the finish between Clear Lake Channel Markers #1 and #2.

7. Check In

- 7.1 Before the warning signal of the first race,
- 7.1a Boats racing in the PHRF and OD classes for W/L courses, shall sail past the stern of the Race Committee boat on starboard tack and hail the boat's name or sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee.
- 7.1b Boats racing in the Cruising Class distance course, may check in via radio on VHF channel 69.

8. The Start

- 8.1 The starting line:
- 8.1a for W/L courses, the starting line shall be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat on the starboard end and the course side edge of the port end starting mark. The Race Committee may trail a float and line astern of the Race Committee boat which shall be considered as part of the starting mark.
- 8.1b for Cruising Class distance courses, the starting line shall be between Clear Lake Channel Markers #1 & #2 and shall be crossed in the direction toward the first mark, from West to East. An RC boat will be on station to monitor starts and over-early.
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 Any class subjected to a General Recall may be restarted after the last scheduled start for that race. This modifies RRS 29.2.

9. Change of the Next Leg of the Course

- 9.1 If the Race Committee displays the "C" code flag with one or more class flags, the course change applies only to those classes.
- 9.2 If the "C" code flag is flown alone, all classes will sail the changed course. This modifies RRS 33.

10. Shorten Course

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

11. The Finish

- 11.1 For W/L courses, the finish line will be:
- 11.1a for a leeward finish, between the staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee signal boat on the starboard end and the course side edge of the port end finish mark; side opposite the Race Committee signal boat from the starting line.
- 11.1b for a windward finish, between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee mark set boat on the starboard end and the course side edge of the nearby port end mark, set 0.1 nm beyond the windward mark of that class's course.

- 11.2 For the Cruising Class, the finish shall be between Clear Lake Channel Markers #1 & #2 and shall be crossed from the direction from the last mark, from East to West. An RC boat will be on station to record finishes.

12. Time Limit

- 12.1 The time limit for classes not using fixed marks shall be ninety minutes or thirty minutes after the first boat properly sails the course and finishes, whichever is longer.
- 12.2 The time limit for classes using fixed mark distance course shall be three hours from the start of the lowest rated PHRF boat entered.
- 12.3 Boats exceeding the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish. This modifies RRS 35.

13. Safety

- 13.1 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.
- 13.2 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."

14. Protests and Requests for Redress

The protest and redress procedures for this regatta will utilize basic elements of the new RRS Appendix T, a US Sailing Prescription. These rules are intended to improve compliance with the Basic Principle, Sportsmanship and the Rules. For this regatta we will use Section B, Post Race Penalties, and Section C, Expedited Hearings, some parts of which are included in the following description.

14.1 INFORMING THE RACE COMMITTEE

- 14.1a A boat intending to protest or request redress based on an incident in the racing area that she is involved in or sees shall, at the first reasonable opportunity after she *finishes, inform the race committee at the finishing line of her intent to protest or request redress via Channel 69*. When applicable, the identity of the protested boat and approximate location of the incident shall be included.
- 14.1b A list of the notifications will be posted as soon as it is available. Competitors should check the posted list as soon as possible.
- 14.2 Protestors and Protestees are requested to promptly go to the GBCA Clubhouse Office and either wait for resolution or leave a reliable contact number or location where they may be found. We may hold a hearing as soon as the parties are available.
- 14.3 Protests shall be written on forms available at the GBCA office and delivered to that office within 2 hours after the last boat finishes the last race.
- 14.4 **PENALTIES TAKEN AFTER A RACE** After a race, a boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 while *racing* may take a Post-Race Penalty for that incident. The penalty shall be a Scoring Penalty, calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rules 44.1(a) and (b) apply. A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by informing the race committee in writing (forms to be provided) and identifying the race number and when and where the incident occurred.
- 14.5 Post-Race Penalties:
- 14.6a Prior to the Protest time limit, a boat may accept a 20 % penalty
- 14.6b After the Protest time limit and before any hearing begins, a boat may accept a 30% Penalty
- 14.7 Notices of scheduled hearing times and locations will be posted within thirty (30) minutes of the expiration of the protest time limit. Notice of a protest by the Race Committee will be posted on the official notice board.

- 14.8 CHANGES IN HEARING PROCEDURES This rule applies to all hearings except hearings under rule 69 or where damage or injury occurs.
- 14.8a If the protest committee is able to assemble the parties to a hearing before the protest or redress time limit, it may begin the hearing and may waive the requirements of rule 61.2 or 62.2.
- 14.8b Rule 63.5 is changed to: 'At the beginning of the hearing, if there is no objection, the protest or request is valid and the hearing shall be continued. If an objection is made, the protest committee shall take any evidence . . . [no further change].'
- 14.8c Insert a new sentence after the third sentence of rule 63.6: 'However, the committee may limit the number of witnesses and the time during which parties may present evidence and ask questions.'
- 14.8d The first sentence of rule 65.2 is changed to: 'A party to the hearing is entitled to receive the above information in writing, provided she asks the protest committee for it no later than thirty minutes after being informed of the decision or coming ashore following the last race of the day, whichever is later.'
- 14.8e The US Sailing prescriptions to rules 60, 63.2 and 63.4 are deleted.
- 14.8f The third sentence of rule 66 is changed to: 'A party to the hearing may not ask for a reopening.'
- 14.9 The Protest Committee shall assign a penalty other than disqualification if it determines that a breach of a rule by a boat in a cruising class was not the result of a conscious disregard for the rules, and the breach did not prejudice another boat. The Protest Committee shall craft an appropriate penalty or may decide that no penalty is necessary.

15. Scoring

The Low Point system, RRS Appendix A will apply. One race constitutes a series. There will be no throw-outs. This modifies RRS A2

16. 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 are approved by the Race Committee.

17. 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 1000 on VHF Channel 69.

Appendix A

2013 Spring Regatta Starting Order / Class Flags

W/L Fleet		Flag
PHRF Spin	-	Purple
Viper	-	Yellow
PHRF Non Spin	-	Blue

Distance Course		Pursuit Start
GBCA Cruising Class	-	(no flags)

Appendix B

Saturday

Race 1 will start according to the schedule below.

Race 2 will start at the top of the hour following the return of all racers. (i.e. 11:00:00 becomes 13:00:00 in the schedule below)

ICICLE COURSE PHRF START TIMES											
PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time
284	11:00:00	239	11:06:30	194	11:13:00	149	11:19:30	104	11:26:01	59	11:32:31
283	11:00:09	238	11:06:39	193	11:13:09	148	11:19:39	103	11:26:09	58	11:32:39
282	11:00:17	237	11:06:47	192	11:13:18	147	11:19:48	102	11:26:18	57	11:32:48
281	11:00:26	236	11:06:56	191	11:13:26	146	11:19:56	101	11:26:27	56	11:32:57
280	11:00:35	235	11:07:05	190	11:13:35	145	11:20:05	100	11:26:35	55	11:33:05
279	11:00:43	234	11:07:14	189	11:13:44	144	11:20:14	99	11:26:44	54	11:33:14
278	11:00:52	233	11:07:22	188	11:13:52	143	11:20:22	98	11:26:53	53	11:33:23
277	11:01:01	232	11:07:31	187	11:14:01	142	11:20:31	97	11:27:01	52	11:33:31
276	11:01:09	231	11:07:40	186	11:14:10	141	11:20:40	96	11:27:10	51	11:33:40
275	11:01:18	230	11:07:48	185	11:14:18	140	11:20:48	95	11:27:19	50	11:33:49
274	11:01:27	229	11:07:57	184	11:14:27	139	11:20:57	94	11:27:27	49	11:33:57
273	11:01:35	228	11:08:06	183	11:14:36	138	11:21:06	93	11:27:36	48	11:34:06
272	11:01:44	227	11:08:14	182	11:14:44	137	11:21:14	92	11:27:45	47	11:34:15
271	11:01:53	226	11:08:23	181	11:14:53	136	11:21:23	91	11:27:53	46	11:34:23
270	11:02:01	225	11:08:32	180	11:15:02	135	11:21:32	90	11:28:02	45	11:34:32
269	11:02:10	224	11:08:40	179	11:15:10	134	11:21:41	89	11:28:11	44	11:34:41
268	11:02:19	223	11:08:49	178	11:15:19	133	11:21:49	88	11:28:19	43	11:34:49
267	11:02:27	222	11:08:58	177	11:15:28	132	11:21:58	87	11:28:28	42	11:34:58
266	11:02:36	221	11:09:06	176	11:15:36	131	11:22:07	86	11:28:37	41	11:35:07
265	11:02:45	220	11:09:15	175	11:15:45	130	11:22:15	85	11:28:45	40	11:35:15
264	11:02:53	219	11:09:24	174	11:15:54	129	11:22:24	84	11:28:54	39	11:35:24
263	11:03:02	218	11:09:32	173	11:16:02	128	11:22:33	83	11:29:03	38	11:35:33
262	11:03:11	217	11:09:41	172	11:16:11	127	11:22:41	82	11:29:11	37	11:35:41
261	11:03:19	216	11:09:50	171	11:16:20	126	11:22:50	81	11:29:20	36	11:35:50
260	11:03:28	215	11:09:58	170	11:16:28	125	11:22:59	80	11:29:29	35	11:35:59
259	11:03:37	214	11:10:07	169	11:16:37	124	11:23:07	79	11:29:37	34	11:36:08
258	11:03:45	213	11:10:16	168	11:16:46	123	11:23:16	78	11:29:46	33	11:36:16
257	11:03:54	212	11:10:24	167	11:16:54	122	11:23:25	77	11:29:55	32	11:36:25
256	11:04:03	211	11:10:33	166	11:17:03	121	11:23:33	76	11:30:03	31	11:36:34
255	11:04:11	210	11:10:42	165	11:17:12	120	11:23:42	75	11:30:12	30	11:36:42
254	11:04:20	209	11:10:50	164	11:17:20	119	11:23:51	74	11:30:21	29	11:36:51
253	11:04:29	208	11:10:59	163	11:17:29	118	11:23:59	73	11:30:29	28	11:37:00

252	11:04:37	207	11:11:08	162	11:17:38	117	11:24:08	72	11:30:38	27	11:37:08
251	11:04:46	206	11:11:16	161	11:17:46	116	11:24:17	71	11:30:47	26	11:37:17
250	11:04:55	205	11:11:25	160	11:17:55	115	11:24:25	70	11:30:55	25	11:37:26
249	11:05:03	204	11:11:34	159	11:18:04	114	11:24:34	69	11:31:04	24	11:37:34
248	11:05:12	203	11:11:42	158	11:18:12	113	11:24:43	68	11:31:13	23	11:37:43
247	11:05:21	202	11:11:51	157	11:18:21	112	11:24:51	67	11:31:21	22	11:37:52
246	11:05:29	201	11:12:00	156	11:18:30	111	11:25:00	66	11:31:30	21	11:38:00
245	11:05:38	200	11:12:08	155	11:18:38	110	11:25:09	65	11:31:39	20	11:38:09
244	11:05:47	199	11:12:17	154	11:18:47	109	11:25:17	64	11:31:47	19	11:38:18
243	11:05:55	198	11:12:26	153	11:18:56	108	11:25:26	63	11:31:56	18	11:38:26
242	11:06:04	197	11:12:34	152	11:19:04	107	11:25:35	62	11:32:05	17	11:38:35
241	11:06:13	196	11:12:43	151	11:19:13	106	11:25:43	61	11:32:13	16	11:38:44
240	11:06:21	195	11:12:52	150	11:19:22	105	11:25:52	60	11:32:22	15	11:38:52

Sunday

Race 3 will start according to the schedule below.

RUM RACE COURSE PHRF START TIMES											
PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time	PHRF	Start Time
284	11:00:00	239	11:09:59	194	11:19:57	149	11:29:56	104	11:39:54	59	11:49:53
283	11:00:13	238	11:10:12	193	11:20:10	148	11:30:09	103	11:40:07	58	11:50:06
282	11:00:27	237	11:10:25	192	11:20:24	147	11:30:22	102	11:40:21	57	11:50:19
281	11:00:40	236	11:10:38	191	11:20:37	146	11:30:35	101	11:40:34	56	11:50:32
280	11:00:53	235	11:10:52	190	11:20:50	145	11:30:49	100	11:40:47	55	11:50:46
279	11:01:07	234	11:11:05	189	11:21:04	144	11:31:02	99	11:41:01	54	11:50:59
278	11:01:20	233	11:11:18	188	11:21:17	143	11:31:15	98	11:41:14	53	11:51:12
277	11:01:33	232	11:11:32	187	11:21:30	142	11:31:29	97	11:41:27	52	11:51:26
276	11:01:46	231	11:11:45	186	11:21:43	141	11:31:42	96	11:41:40	51	11:51:39
275	11:02:00	230	11:11:58	185	11:21:57	140	11:31:55	95	11:41:54	50	11:51:52
274	11:02:13	229	11:12:12	184	11:22:10	139	11:32:09	94	11:42:07	49	11:52:06
273	11:02:26	228	11:12:25	183	11:22:23	138	11:32:22	93	11:42:20	48	11:52:19
272	11:02:40	227	11:12:38	182	11:22:37	137	11:32:35	92	11:42:34	47	11:52:32
271	11:02:53	226	11:12:51	181	11:22:50	136	11:32:48	91	11:42:47	46	11:52:45
270	11:03:06	225	11:13:05	180	11:23:03	135	11:33:02	90	11:43:00	45	11:52:59
269	11:03:20	224	11:13:18	179	11:23:17	134	11:33:15	89	11:43:14	44	11:53:12
268	11:03:33	223	11:13:31	178	11:23:30	133	11:33:28	88	11:43:27	43	11:53:25
267	11:03:46	222	11:13:45	177	11:23:43	132	11:33:42	87	11:43:40	42	11:53:39
266	11:03:59	221	11:13:58	176	11:23:56	131	11:33:55	86	11:43:53	41	11:53:52
265	11:04:13	220	11:14:11	175	11:24:10	130	11:34:08	85	11:44:07	40	11:54:05
264	11:04:26	219	11:14:25	174	11:24:23	129	11:34:22	84	11:44:20	39	11:54:19

263	11:04:39	218	11:14:38	173	11:24:36	128	11:34:35	83	11:44:33	38	11:54:32
262	11:04:53	217	11:14:51	172	11:24:50	127	11:34:48	82	11:44:47	37	11:54:45
261	11:05:06	216	11:15:04	171	11:25:03	126	11:35:01	81	11:45:00	36	11:54:58
260	11:05:19	215	11:15:18	170	11:25:16	125	11:35:15	80	11:45:13	35	11:55:12
259	11:05:33	214	11:15:31	169	11:25:30	124	11:35:28	79	11:45:27	34	11:55:25
258	11:05:46	213	11:15:44	168	11:25:43	123	11:35:41	78	11:45:40	33	11:55:38
257	11:05:59	212	11:15:58	167	11:25:56	122	11:35:55	77	11:45:53	32	11:55:52
256	11:06:12	211	11:16:11	166	11:26:09	121	11:36:08	76	11:46:06	31	11:56:05
255	11:06:26	210	11:16:24	165	11:26:23	120	11:36:21	75	11:46:20	30	11:56:18
254	11:06:39	209	11:16:38	164	11:26:36	119	11:36:35	74	11:46:33	29	11:56:32
253	11:06:52	208	11:16:51	163	11:26:49	118	11:36:48	73	11:46:46	28	11:56:45
252	11:07:06	207	11:17:04	162	11:27:03	117	11:37:01	72	11:47:00	27	11:56:58
251	11:07:19	206	11:17:17	161	11:27:16	116	11:37:14	71	11:47:13	26	11:57:11
250	11:07:32	205	11:17:31	160	11:27:29	115	11:37:28	70	11:47:26	25	11:57:25
249	11:07:46	204	11:17:44	159	11:27:43	114	11:37:41	69	11:47:40	24	11:57:38
248	11:07:59	203	11:17:57	158	11:27:56	113	11:37:54	68	11:47:53	23	11:57:51
247	11:08:12	202	11:18:11	157	11:28:09	112	11:38:08	67	11:48:06	22	11:58:05
246	11:08:25	201	11:18:24	156	11:28:22	111	11:38:21	66	11:48:19	21	11:58:18
245	11:08:39	200	11:18:37	155	11:28:36	110	11:38:34	65	11:48:33	20	11:58:31
244	11:08:52	199	11:18:51	154	11:28:49	109	11:38:48	64	11:48:46	19	11:58:45
243	11:09:05	198	11:19:04	153	11:29:02	108	11:39:01	63	11:48:59	18	11:58:58
242	11:09:19	197	11:19:17	152	11:29:16	107	11:39:14	62	11:49:13	17	11:59:11
241	11:09:32	196	11:19:30	151	11:29:29	106	11:39:27	61	11:49:26	16	11:59:24
240	11:09:45	195	11:19:44	150	11:29:42	105	11:39:41	60	11:49:39	15	11:59:38

