

2016 EMERALD COAST REGATTA - RACE, STAY AND PLAY



NOTICE OF RACE

May 27/28 – June 3, 2016

Location: Galveston, Texas to Pensacola, Florida

Organizing Authority:



Hosted by Lakewood Yacht Club, Galveston Bay Cruising Association and
Pensacola Yacht Club

Contact: EmeraldCoastRegatta@LakewoodYachtClub.com

1. RULES

1.1. The regatta will be governed by:

- a. the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (“R.R.S.”) except as modified by this Notice of Race
- b. the Safety Equipment Requirements for Ocean Races (“SER”) as published by US Sailing and as modified by this Notice of Race.
- c. the rules of the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet of Galveston Bay (“PHRF”) including:
 1. the open PHRF rules in the Spinnaker Class of the PHRF Fleet
 2. the PHRF Non-spinnaker Fleet rules in the Without Spinnaker Class of the PHRF Fleet
 3. the definitions of the Racer/Cruiser Fleet in the Spinnaker Class of the Cruising Fleet
 4. the Cruising Canvas Fleet rules in the Without Spinnaker class of the Cruising Fleet
 5. the rules of the Texas Offshore Multihull Association (“TOMA”) for Multihulls.

Collectively the rules identified above are referred to herein as the “Rules”.

- 1.2. Failure to meet a Safety Equipment Requirement not subject to protest by another boat; this modifies R.R.S. 60.1, The Race Committee may investigate a report of a yacht’s disregard of the Safety Equipment Requirements and may file a protest based on its investigation.

- 1.3. The rules will incorporate alternate procedures for dispute resolution under Appendix T, as set out in the U.S. Prescriptions to the R.R.S.
- 1.4. Competitors are reminded that, under the preamble of Part 2 of the R.R.S., when a boat sailing under the Rules meets a vessel that is not, the Rules require that she comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (“I.R.P.C.A.S.”) or government right-of-way rules. In addition, the Sailing Instructions will provide that the rules of Part 2 of the R.R.S. are replaced by the I.R.P.C.A.S. between sunset and sunrise.
- 1.5. Competitors are reminded of Rule 69 Allegations of Gross misconduct, and that any competitor interfering with commercial traffic may constitute a breach of rule 69.1(a). as such interference has the potential of bringing the sport of sailing into disrepute.
- 1.6. The Rules will be modified to allow immediate disqualification if a boat is unavailable for inspection by the Race Committee after finishing but prior to the awards, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Principal Race Officer.
- 1.7. R.R.S. 62.1(c) will be modified so that a boat may be given redress in the event of giving help in compliance with R.R.S. 1.1, even if help is to herself or her crew.
- 1.8. The Rules will be modified to allow boats racing in a cruising class to carry a sign with a number assigned by the Race Committee in lieu of a sail number conforming to Appendix G of the R.R.S.
- 1.9. The Rules will be modified to allow penalties other than disqualification.
- 1.10. All modifications to the Rules will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.11. Prior to the race start, each skipper will be required to certify that the yacht is in compliance with the Rules, including but not limited to the Safety Equipment Requirements, and that at least 1/3, but not fewer than two members of the crew have attended the Safety & Navigation Seminar at Lakewood Yacht Club as required below.

2. ADVERTISING

As a courtesy to our valued sponsors, no advertising other than by sponsors officially so designated by the Race Committee may be displayed in the Pensacola marinas without prior written permission of the Race Committee. Generic class flags or manufacturer’s flags, not personalized with a particular boat’s name or logo dominant, are considered advertising and shall not be displayed. This rule applies from the time a boat checks in to race until the boat leaves Pensacola, or Friday June 3rd 11:59:pm, whichever is earlier.

3. ELIGIBILITY, EQUIPMENT, AND ENTRY

Monohull boats shall be at least 28 feet length over all (“LOA”) defined as boat length not including pulpits, bowsprits, boomkins etc.

- 3.1. . The Race Committee may make exceptions to this rule on a case by case basis.
- 3.2. The Race Committee shall have full authority to determine the suitability of any boat for entry in any fleet, and may divide any fleet into divisions at its discretion.
- 3.3. The Multihull Fleet is open to any TOMA-rated Multihull of at least 27 feet LOA.

- 3.4. Each boat shall conform to the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements with the following exceptions:
- a. Paragraph 3.14.6(c) is modified to allow vinyl or other coating on the lifelines provided any stained coating is removed to establish that the lifelines have not corroded.
 - b. Paragraph 4.23.1 is modified to allow the use of Coast Guard approved flares in lieu of SOLAS flares so long as the type and quantity comply with the requirements of the paragraph and they are not older than the expiration date. **The use of SOLAS flares is highly recommended.**
 - c. Paragraph 6.01 is modified to require either compliance with that Rule or, alternatively, for 1/3 of the crew, but not less than two, to attend the 2016 Emerald Coast Regatta Safety & Navigation Seminar at Lakewood Yacht Club.
- 3.5. Monohulls shall have a minimum crew of four experienced and capable sailors.
- 3.6. Multihulls shall have a minimum crew of four experienced and capable sailors.
- 3.7. Entry is not complete until the Organizing Authority receives a Waiver and Release of Liability from each skipper and crew member. Skipper's waivers are submitted during the entry process. All crew waivers shall be submitted on line no later than the Skippers' Meeting at:

https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=11329

In the event of a crew member substitution or addition after the Skippers' Meeting, the new crew member must submit a Waiver and Release of Liability prior to racing for that boat's entry to remain valid. The skipper shall insure that each crew member is listed on the online listing of waivers received. A listing can be found here:

http://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registrant_list.php?regatta_id=11329&custom_report_id=70

- 3.8. Each boat shall provide the required handicap information no later than the entry deadline.
- a. Each monohull boat shall be on the current PHRF-GB valid list or provide a signed copy of her current PHRF-GB certificate.
 - b. Each multihull boat shall provide a copy of her current Texas Offshore Multihull Association (TOMA) rating certificate.
- 3.9. Rating certificates, if required, may be scanned and uploaded with your registration, or may be hand delivered to the Lakewood Yacht Club clubhouse office, or may be mailed to the attention of the Emerald Coast Regatta Committee at Lakewood Yacht Club, 2425 NASA Rd. One, Seabrook, Texas 77586 or may be sent to the attention of Emerald Coast Regatta Committee via facsimile to 281-474-3502.

3.10. All boats shall carry a tracking device to be specified by the Race Committee, enabled at all times during the race. Tracking devices will be available to rent through the Regatta Merchandise link.

4. REGISTRATION and FEES

Competitors may enter by completing the online entry form and remitting the required fees. Online registration will be available at the Regatta Website www.EmeraldCoastRegatta.com.

Or [Click Here](#) to register on line.

The Entry Fee is \$280. US SAILING members receive a \$10 discount. After May 16, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. a \$50 late entry fee will be added to late registrations and unpaid yachts.

5. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available at the Skippers' Meeting and on-line at EmeraldCoastRegatta.com.

6. VENUE

Primary berthing and event facilities will be located at Lakewood Yacht Club before the race and at Pensacola Yacht Club after the race.

7. SCHEDULE

Kick-Off Party:	Saturday February 13,2016	Lakewood Yacht Club
Safety & Navigation Seminar:	Saturday May 7, 2016	Lakewood Yacht Club
Entry Deadline:	Sunday May 8, 2016 11:59 PM	
Late Entry Cutoff:	Sunday May 15, 2016 11:59 PM	
Skippers' Meeting:	Friday May 20, 2016	Lakewood Yacht Club
Cruising Fleet Starts:	Friday May 27 not earlier than 2:00PM ¹	Galveston
PHRF Fleet Starts:	Saturday May 28, not earlier than 2:00PM ²	Galveston
Multihull Start:	Saturday May 28, not earlier than 2:00PM	Galveston
Finish Deadline:	Friday June 3, 10:00AM	Pensacola Bay
Awards & Banquet:	Friday June 3, Evening,	Pensacola Yacht Club

Racers desiring to stay over in Pensacola following the race will need to make docking arrangements and contact Pensacola Yacht Club separately.

8. THE COURSE

The race will start at Galveston, Texas and proceed seaward through the jetties and then southeast around Louisiana taking the race marks to port, always off-shore at a distance to avoid shoal waters. Once clear of Louisiana, the race will turn northeast and finish in Pensacola

¹The Cruising Fleets include a Without Spinnaker Class racing under PHRF Cruising Canvas rules, and a Spinnaker Class racing under PHRF Racer/Cruiser definitions

² The PHRF Fleets include a PHRF with Spinnaker Class and a PHRF without Spinnaker Class

Bay, or near the approaches to Pensacola Bay. The Race will be a total distance of approximately 430 nautical miles. Precise marks, roundings and distances will be provided in the Sailing Instructions.

While an effort will be made to utilize marks that can readily be found on the water during the race, Navigational Roundings of missing marks (that is, a rounding of the latitude/longitude provided in the Racing Instructions of any mark that cannot be found on the water) will be allowed in the Sailing Instructions, although racers will be required to provide the identity of the missing mark as noted in the Racing Instructions and to provide a precise latitude/longitude of the point at which they executed any navigational rounding. In the event of a dispute over whether a mark was in fact present or was missing, the Race Committee reserves the right to make the final determination whether a mark was missing. Navigational Roundings of marks found in fact to have been present and reasonably locatable on the water, will result in disqualification or penalty, if the Race Committee finds that the Navigational Rounding, as executed, resulted in a shortening of the course for the boat executing the Navigational Rounding.

9. MOTORING CLASS

A motoring class will be provided for those boats that utilize their engines during the race, other than for permitted purposes.

10. INSPECTION

Any boat may be subject to inspection following their finish. Boats found not to be in compliance will be subject to protest by the Race Committee. Inspections may include any and all Category 2 equipment as required by the Sailing Instructions, crew waivers matching the persons on board, and vessel log book entries relating to any navigational rounding.

11. SCORING

The regatta will be scored based on single number PHRF time-on-distance scoring.

12. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

VHF radios will be required and will be used extensively. In addition, each boat will be required to carry a cell phone. Satellite phones are encouraged but not required.

All skippers should be aware that commercial vessels may not be monitoring Class B AIS transmissions and thus may not see racers on their electronic plotting aids.

13. PRIZES

Trophies will be awarded to the first four places in each division with at least eight boats.

14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See R.R.S. 4, Decision to Race. The Race Organizers (including Lakewood Yacht Club, Galveston Bay Cruising Association, Pensacola Yacht Club, Bay Access, Inc., the Race Committee, the Emerald Coast Regatta Committee, the sponsors of the Emerald Coast Regatta, the Protest Committee, and/or their respective members, officers, board of directors, staff or representatives) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the personal injury or death of any competitor sustained as a result of

participation in this event, regardless of the fact that such damage may be, in whole or in part, due to negligence. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the Race Organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law, whether caused in whole or in part by negligence. Neither the adoption of Category 2 requirements, their use and modification by the Organizing Authority, nor the inspection of a boat in any way reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the skipper. It is the sole and exclusive responsibility of the skipper and crew of a boat to decide whether or not to start or continue in a sailing event.

15. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per event or the equivalent.

16. PHOTOGRAPHY

For and in consideration of participation in the regatta, each boat's skipper(s), owner(s), charterer(s), and crew extend to Lakewood Yacht Club and Bay Access and their personnel the absolute right and permission for any photography and video footage taken of persons and/or boats during the event to be published in any media worldwide for any editorial, promotional, and/or advertising purpose or to be used in press information.

17. OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD

The Official Notice Board will be online at:

http://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_notice_board.php?regatta_id=11328

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

For additional information, please contact EmeraldCoastRegatta@LakewoodYachtClub.com