

2014 EMERALD COAST REGATTA - RACE, STAY AND PLAY



Notice of Race

As amended on 21 March 2014

Presented by

BakerHostetler

May 23/24 – May 30, 2014

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 Racing Rules of Sailing* (“R.R.S.”) except as modified by this Notice of Race, and by

b. the current Edition of the [*ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Governing Offshore Racing for Monohulls & Multihulls*](#) for **Category 2** (“ISAF Special Regulations”), except as modified by section 3.4 of 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. Cruising Canvas Fleet rules in the Without Spinnaker class of the Cruising Fleet, and by
- d. 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 Category 2 requirement is not subject to protest by another boat; this modifies R.R.S. 60.1, although as provided below, the Race Committee may protest a boat found to be in violation of the Category 2 equipment requirements during the random post-race inspection noted below. The Race Committee may also investigate a report of violation of the Category 2

requirements and may, but is not required to, file a protest based on its investigation. This modifies R.R.S. 60.2

1.3 The Sailing Instructions will provide for arbitration.

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 Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972 (“COLREGS”) and the Inland Navigation Rules Act of 1980 (“Inland Rules”). In addition, the Sailing Instructions will provide that the rules of Part 2 of the R.R.S. are replaced by the COLREGS and Inland Rules between sunset and sunrise.

1.5 The Rules will be modified to allow disqualification of any competitor interfering with commercial traffic and disqualification from future races sponsored by the organizing or hosting entities.

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 ISAF Special Regulations for a Category 2 race, 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.

3. ELIGIBILITY, EQUIPMENT, AND ENTRY

3.1 Monohull boats shall be at least 28 feet LOA as defined by the ISAF Special Regulations. 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 as defined by the ISAF Special Regulations.

3.4 Each boat shall conform to the ISAF Special Regulations, 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 2014 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 online no later than the Skippers' Meeting at:

https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=7757

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=7757&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, [Emerald Coast Regatta.com](http://EmeraldCoastRegatta.com).

The Entry Fee is \$275. US SAILING members receive a \$10 discount. After May 4, 2014 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 8, 2014, 4 PM, Lakewood Yacht Club
Safety & Navigation Seminar:	Saturday, March 22, 2014 9:00 AM, LYC Ballroom
Entry Deadline:	Sunday, May 4, 2014, 11:59 PM
Late Entry Cutoff:	Sunday, May 11, 2014 11:59 PM
Skippers' Meeting:	Friday, May 16, 6:00 PM, Lakewood Yacht Club
Cruising Fleet Starts:	Galveston, Friday, May 23 Not earlier than 2:00 PM*
PHRF Fleet Starts:	Galveston Saturday, May 24, Not earlier than 2:00 PM**
Multihull Start:	Galveston, Saturday, May 24, 2014, Not earlier than 2:00 PM
Finish Deadline:	Friday, May 30, 2014, 10 AM
Awards & Banquet:	Friday, May 30, 2014, Evening, Pensacola Yacht Club
Cancer Society Regatta:	Saturday, May 31, 2014, 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.

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

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

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 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

All boats will be subject to random 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:
https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_notice_board.php?regatta_id=7428

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

For additional information, please contact EmeraldCoastRegatta@LakewoodYachtClub.com

