



Geechee Sailing Club

41ST ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S REGATTA

MARCH 21st - 22nd, 2020

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



1. RULES

This regatta is governed by the "rules" as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.

2. ENTRIES

- Eligible boats may be entered by completing registration forms on Regatta Network.
- Eligible boats shall be Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF), 19 feet minimum.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notice to competitors will be announced at the Competitors' meeting conference call and over the VHF hailing channel 72 in advance of the start of the first race of the day. Conference call details will be sent out to the registered boat representative.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change in the sailing instructions will be announced over VHF hailing channel prior to the start of the first race of the day, except that any change in the schedule of races will be emailed to a boat representative by 9:00pm on the day before it will take effect.

5. SIGNAL MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the signal boat docked at Landings Marina and announced over the VHF hailing channel. When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replace with "not less than 60 minutes". This changes Race Signal AP.

6. SCHEDULE

Friday

7:00pm Competitors' Meeting via Conference Call
Dial (605) 313-4154 and use access code 464235.

Saturday

12:00pm Warning Signal for Race 1 - Wilmington River/Wassaw Sound

Sunday

1130am Pursuit Race - Wilmington River/Wassaw Sound/Atlantic Ocean
No Warning Signal shall be made after 3:30pm on Sunday.

7. CLASS Flags

- PHRF Class A - Spinnaker equipped boats - Yellow flag
- PHRF Class B - Non spinnaker equipped boats - Green flag
- PHRF Class C - Cruising boats - White flag
- One Design Class (J/24) - Purple flag

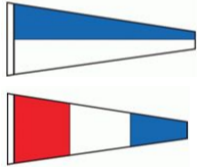
Additional Class flags may be assigned at the Competitors' Meeting and announced as a change to the SI.

8. RACING AREA

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

9. COURSES

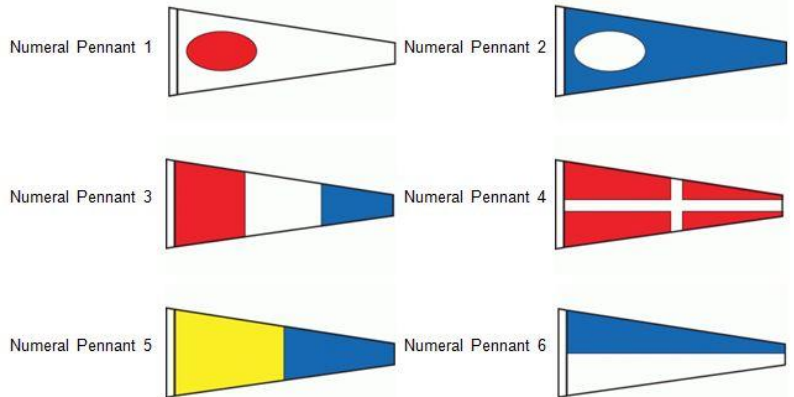
- a. Courses will be around government marks.
- b. Predefined Courses will be indicated by a numeral pennant as defined in Appendix A



Ex "6" over "3"
1-G19P-R20P-F

Course Flags

The numeric course flags are:



- c. Race Committee may set a tetrahedron to weather of the starting line. When such a mark is set, the Race Committee shall fly Numeral Pennant 6 over 2nd Course # when an additional weather mark is set. Boats shall first sail to the weather mark and then sail there rest of the 2nd course. This mark only applies at the start. It does not apply at the finish.
- d. Race Committee may also hail the course over the hailing channel prior to the Warning single for the race and post the course on the course board on the signal boat. .
- e. For the Pursuit race, the course to be sailed and the calculated start times for all boats will be posted on the event web site by 8pm on Saturday, prior to the Sunday race day.

10. MARKS

- a. Start and Finish Pins will be Orange Hippity Hops. Rounding marks, if used, will be Orange or Yellow Tetrahedrons.
- b. Government marks, other than rounding marks, shall be honored and passed on their required side.

11. THE PHRF/ONE DESIGN START

- a. As a courtesy to competitors, Race Committee may announce the starting sequence over the VHF hailing channel.
- b. Before the Warning Signal of the first race each day, boats intending to race shall check in by sailing past the stern of the Signal Boat hailing their sail number. RC may also accept check-ins over VHF hailing channel. [DP]
- c. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Signal Boat and the starting mark.

12. THE PURSUIT START

- a. This shall be a pursuit race with a reverse PHRF handicap starting order. The boat with the slowest rating shall start first and the boat with the fastest rating shall start last.
- b. The race shall use GPS time synchronization. The start times for all boats shall be based on their PHRF Time on Distance as called out on the Regatta Network Pursuit Start Sheet for Geechee Sailing Club St. Patrick's Regatta.
- c. The race committee will signal the starting sequence as follows (this changes RRS 26):
 - 11:30 Warning signal for all boats - Raise Geechee Burgee with one (1) sound
 - 11:31 Preparatory signal for the first boat to start - Signal flag "P" with one (1) sound
 - 11:34 Lower code flag "P" with a long sound
 - 11:35 Starting signal for the first boat to start - Lower Geechee Burgee with one (1) sound.Subsequent start time(s) for remaining boats - Briefly raise Geechee Burgee with one (1) sound.

- d. The race committee may attempt to broadcast a one (1) minute countdown for each starting time on the VHF Hailing Channel. Failure of the race committee to announce a start time shall not be grounds for redress.
- e. For the purposes of the definition of "racing," each boat's preparatory signal shall be four (4) minutes prior to their scheduled start.
- f. After the warning signal for the first start, boats shall stay clear of the starting area until four (4) minutes before their scheduled starting time.
- g. In the event a postponement is signaled on the water, Race Committee shall announce the revised start time for the first boat before lowering the postponement flag. It is a boat's responsibility to figure out their new start time.

13. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat and the finish mark.

14. TIME LIMITS

The time limit for the Saturday PHRF/One Design races will be four hours. Any boat finishing more than 45 minutes behind the second boat to finish in their fleet will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) and scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that did sail the course and finish the race without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5, and A11.

The Time Limit for the Pursuit Race is four hours.

15. RETIREMENT

When possible, a retiring boat shall notify Race Committee over the VHF hailing channel. [DP]

16. PROTESTS

- a. Promptly after finishing or retiring, any boat intending to protest shall notify Race Committee. This changes RRS 61.1
- b. Protest shall be delivered to the docked Race Committee signal boat within the Protest Time Limit. Protests can be photographed and then emailed/texted. The Protest Time Limit is 30 minutes after the Signal Boat docks and will be announced over the VHF hailing channel.
- c. Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt as soon as possible.
- d. Protest Notice will be announced over VHF hailing channel within 10 minutes after the Protest Time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing.
- e. RRS 66 is changed by adding this sentence: "on the last day of racing a *party* to the hearing may ask for a reopening no later than one-half hour after being informed of the decision."

17. SCORING

Saturday PHRF/One design races 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. One or more races completed shall constitute a series. A yacht's score shall be the total of all her race finishes. There will be no throw-outs.

Sunday Pursuit Race: boats will be scored according to their finish order.

18. ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

A boat which runs aground may use her engine to help free herself without improving her position as allowed by RRS 42.3(i).

19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CREW

Boats shall not have more than N people over 16 years old aboard, where N is: LOA times 0.3 minus 2, with all fractions rounded up.

20. PRIZES

There will be awards for the top three boats in each class for the Saturday PHRF/One Design fleet races as well as awards for the top three boats of the pursuit race. Additional awards may be presented at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. See rule 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 regatta.

Regatta Chair: Angela Margolit, 973-296-8011, amargolit@hotmail.com

Principal Race Officer: Joleen Rasmussen, 919-369-5784, Joleen@lrcrafts.com

APPENDIX A – COURSES

