

HYC Mid-Winter Regatta February 22, 2020

Organizing Authority: The Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, Texas

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official "HYC Race Information" notice board located in the breezeway adjacent to the offices of The Houston Yacht Club.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0800 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore shall be displayed from the signal staff on the lawn of The Houston Yacht Club.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in the race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.
- 4.3 Signal flags may be flown either alone or over one or more numeral pennants. Individual lines will be designated by following pennants:
- 4.3.1 When flag AP over "1" pennant is displayed, the signal applies to the Windward/Leeward Line.
 - 4.3.2 When flag AP over "2" pennant is displayed, the signal applies to the Pursuit Line.
 - 4.3.3 When flag AP over "3" pennant is displayed, the signal applies to the Dinghy Line. A colored flag beneath "3" identifies the class affected.
 - 4.3.4 If no Numeral Pennant is displayed, the signal pertains to all lines. This changes RRS Race Signals.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 Races will be sailed according to the schedule in the Notice of Race. All times are GPS times.
- 5.2 Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means "No more racing today".

6. CLASS FLAGS

- | | | |
|-----|-----------|----------------------|
| 6.1 | Lightning | Lightning Class Flag |
| | Ensign | Ensign Class Flag |
| | J/105 | Yellow Flag |
| | J/24 | Green Flag |
| | J/22 | Red Flag |

Optimist Green	Green Flag
Optimist RWB	Red Flag
Laser 4.7	Blue Flag

7. RACING AREA

- 7.1 All classes will sail around designated marks in the area bounded by Morgan’s Point on the north, the Bayport Ship Channel on the south, the Houston Ship Channel on the east and the La Porte/Shoreacres shoreline on the west. The racing area is shown in Attachment A.
- 7.2 Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel while racing. Ship Channels are designated as obstructions.

8. CHECK IN

- 8.1 Prior to the warning for the first race of the day, each boat shall check-in with, and be recognized by, the Race Committee (R/C) Signal Boat displaying the code Flag "L," by passing close astern, on starboard tack and hailing her sail number.
- 8.2 Pursuit Course PHRF racers must additionally hail their PHRF rating and spinnaker, or non-spinnaker class to complete their entry. Pursuit Course Boats checked in less 5 minutes before the Warning/Preparatory signal may receive a 20% scoring penalty without a hearing. Boats not checked-in will be scored DNC without a hearing. This modifies RRS Appendix A5.

9. THE COURSES

9.1 The Windward/Leeward Line

No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee Signal boat will display a numeral pennant indicating the number of legs to be sailed. All marks shall be rounded leaving the mark to port. See Attachment C.

9.2 The Pursuit Line

9.2.1 Attachment B shows the courses and the order in which the marks are rounded.

9.2.2 No later than the warning/preparatory signal, the Race Committee Signal Boat will display a numeral pennant indicating the course to be sailed (See Attachment B).

9.3 The Dinghy Line

The course will be either: Triangle (T) or Windward/Leeward (WL) as shown in Attachment D. A number following will designate the number of laps. No later than the Warning Signal, the race committee Signal boat will display the course designation on a course board near the stern.

10. MARKS

10.1 The Windward/Leeward Line

10.1.1 The windward mark will be a yellow tetrahedron and an offset.

10.1.3 The leeward mark will be a yellow tetrahedron.

10.1.2 New marks as provided in instruction 13 will be orange tetrahedrons.

10.2 The Pursuit Line

The Pursuit Line mark layout is shown in Attachment A.

- Mark #1, is the “The Judges Stand” located at approximately: **29° 37.367’N, 94° 59.726’W**
- Mark #2, is the “High Range” located at approximately: **29° 37.790’N, 94° 58.214’W**

- Mark #3, a large YELLOW tetrahedron located at approximately: **29° 39.833'N, 94° 58.919'W**
- Mark #4, a large YELLOW tetrahedron located at approximately: **29° 38.839'N, 95° 00.114'W**

10.3 The Dinghy Line

- 10.3.1 All marks will be YELLOW balls.
- 10.3.2 The starting line pin is a floating shape.

11. THE START

11.1 The Windward/Leeward Line and Dinghy Line

- 11.1.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26.
- 11.1.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the port side of the Signal boat on the starboard end and a mark or floating shape at the port end.

11.2 The Pursuit Line

- 11.2.1 The **Pursuit Line** will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the starboard side of the Signal boat and the course side of the starting mark.
- 11.2.2 The **Pursuit Line start** is staggered, based on the boat PHRF handicap. The Warning/Preparatory signal, as well as the starting times for all competitors will be provided at the competitor's briefing.
- 11.2.3 The Warning/Preparatory signal is the display of the orange line flag.

11.3 Any boat whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of any boat whose preparatory signal has been made.

11.4 A boat shall start no later than 10 minutes after her assigned starting time.

11.5 The Race Committee may elect to trail a line (not to exceed 30') attached to a floating object, behind the Signal boat or elect to attach a buoy to the boat's anchor marking the anchor and the anchor rode (of up to approximately 50'). The floating object and its line shall be considered to be part of the Signal boat and hitting the floating object or running over the line shall be treated as hitting the Signal boat.

12. RECALLS

12.1 Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.

12.2 As a courtesy, the Race Committee will attempt to hail boats "On Course Side" (OCS) as soon as possible after the start. The Race Committee may use VHF radios or loud hailer.

12.3 The failure of electronic equipment, failure to hear a hail, order of hail, or delay in hailing will not be grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 62.1(a).

12.4 The Pursuit Line

12.4.1 Code flag X will be displayed for a short period of time and such length of time shall be at the discretion of the Race Committee, for the Pursuit Line. This changes RRS 29. The length of time that Code flag X is displayed will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

12.4.2 Pursuit Line start times are GPS time, which governs. All boats will be responsible for determining their exact start time, and no start times will be announced or signaled from the Race Committee boat. The Race Committee will monitor start times of each boat. OCS boats have the option of returning to the start line and restarting, or shall take the penalty as shown in the table below. The penalty will be assessed at scoring. This changes RRS 29.1 and Appendix A.

0 to 10 sec early	penalty of 30 seconds
10 to 30 sec early	penalty of 1 minute
30 to 1 min early	penalty of 3 minutes
1 min to 2 min	penalty of 10 minutes
More than 2 min	Did Not Start

13. CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK

13.1 The Dinghy Line

The Race Committee boat may relocate any mark to square the course. No change will be signaled but the change will be complete before the first competitor is on that new leg. This changes RRS 33.

13.2 The Windward/Leeward Line

To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (described in Section 10.1) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.

14. SHORTENED COURSE

14.1 The Windward/Leeward Line and Dinghy Line

Rule 32 is in effect. If the course is shortened, the Race Committee Signal Boat will be in the original starting position and will not relocate to the opposite side of the finish mark.

14.2 The Pursuit Line

The Race Committee may shorten the course at one of the marks described in Section 10.2 of these Sailing Instructions.

15. THE FINISH

15.1 The Windward/Leeward and Dinghy Lines

The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying orange flag on a race committee boat on the port end and a mark or floating shape on the starboard end.

15.2 The Pursuit Line

The Finish Line will be on the opposite side of a committee boat with a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat on the starboard end and a mark or floating shape on the port end. The Race Committee will record the order of finish.

15.3 The Dinghy Lines

The Finish Line will be the same line as the start line.

16. TIME LIMITS

16.1 Unless posted on the HYC Race Information Board, the Windward/Leeward time limit is **120 minutes** and the Pursuit Line time limit is **210 minutes**, and the Dinghy Line time limit is **60 minutes**.

16.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes (the finishing window) after the first boat in its class sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) equal to the number of finishing boats plus 2. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A11.

17. PENALTIES

17.1 Appendix V is in effect.

18. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

18.1 Intent to protest shall be signaled in accordance with RRS 61.1. The protesting boat shall also notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity and be acknowledged before leaving the finish area. This changes RRS 61.1.

18.2 Protests shall be written on forms available at the office of the Houston Yacht Club and delivered there within sixty (60) minutes following the arrival in the harbor of the Race Committee boat for the racing line involved. This time will be posted on the "HYC Race Information" official notice board.

18.4 The times and locations of the protest hearings, along with the names of the boats involved will be posted on the "HYC Race Information" official notice board at the entrance to the breezeway adjacent to the offices of The Houston Yacht Club no later than thirty (30) minutes after the protest time period.

18.5 For the purpose of meeting obligations under US Sailing prescriptions concerning redress, notification of a redress hearing shall be by posting on the official notice board for thirty (30) minutes. The requirement for written requests for attendance of the hearing will be satisfied by a signup sheet at the official protest table. No more than one person per boat may attend. **No request for reopening a hearing will be accepted after 6 p.m. Saturday, February 22nd 2020.** This changes RRS 62.2.

19. SCORING

19.1 The Low-Point Scoring system of Appendix A shall apply.

19.2 One race shall be completed to constitute a series.

19.3 No scores will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.

20. SAFETY

20.1 Any boat that has checked in, and then withdraws before finishing the race, shall notify the Race Committee on the water, or, if that is not possible, The Houston Yacht Club office by telephone: **281-471-1255**, or **VHF Channel 68 (if Windward Leeward or Pursuit Line)**, or **VHF Channel 69 (if Dinghy Line)**. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification from this regatta.

20.2 Boats shall not discharge trash into the water. The penalty for violating RRS 55 will be a 20% Scoring Penalty. This changes RRS 55.

20.3 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race.

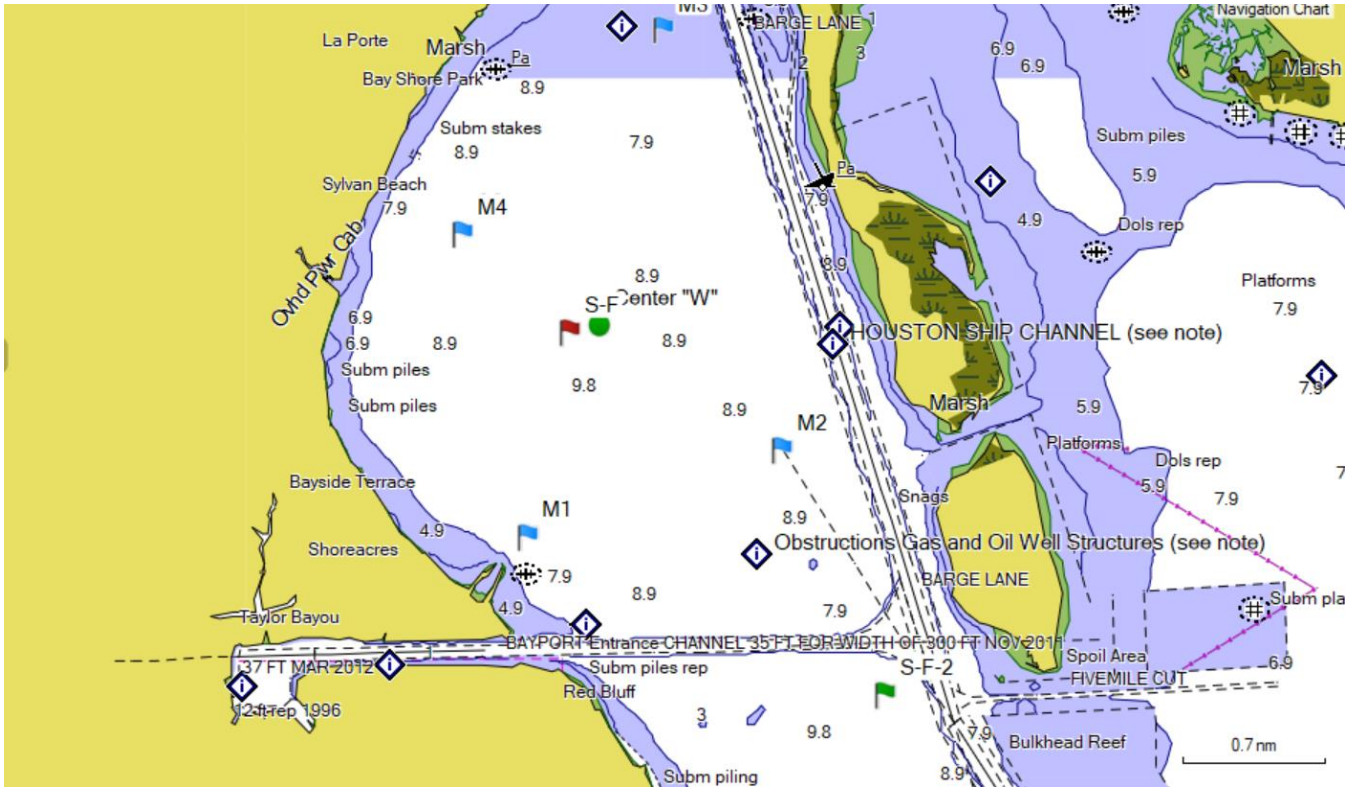
21. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

21.1 Except in an emergency that threatens the safety or life and/or property, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

21.2 The Race Committee will attempt to monitor **VHF Channel 68 for the Windward/Leeward and Pursuit Lines and VHF Channel 69 for the Dinghy Line**; and may use VHF radio to hail premature starters and the abandonment of races.

21.3 The Race Committee may attempt to report visual signals displayed, and other pertinent information over VHF for the races. This information is provided as a courtesy to the competitors and does not in any way alter their responsibility to observe the RC's visual signals which govern the conduct of the race. Errors or omission involving such courtesy broadcasts shall not be grounds for redress.

ATTACHMENT A: RACING AREA



ATTACHMENT B

PURSUIT LINE COURSES

Course #1

Start to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Finish Total of 8.4 miles

Course #2

Start to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Finish Total of 8.4 miles

Course #3

Start to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Finish Total of 8.4 miles

Course #4

Start to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Finish Total of 8.4 miles

Course #5

Start to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 4 Leave on Port
Mark 4 to Mark 2 Leave on Port
Mark 2 to Mark 3 Leave on Port
Mark 3 to Mark 1 Leave on Port
Mark 1 to Finish Total of 12.5 miles

ATTACHMENT C - WINDWARD/LEEWARD LINE

