



HYC Mermaid Regatta

~~May 2, 2020~~ **November 7, 2020**

Organizing Authority:

The Houston Yacht Club
(29° 34 04'N 95 00 02' W)
3620 Miramar
Shoreacres, TX 77571
281-471-1255

NOTICE OF RACE - Revised April 6, 2020

Revised Sections 3 and 4

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The sailing instructions will consist of the instructions in RRS Appendix S, Standard Sailing Instructions, and supplementary sailing instructions that will be on the official notice board "HYC Race Information" located in the breezeway adjacent to the HYC Office.
- 1.3 Racing rule(s) will be changed as follows: The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions. The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules.
 - 1.3.1 Pursuit Fleet: competitors will use a staggered time start based on their PHRF Handicap. This modifies RRS 26.
- 1.4 A women shall helm each boat with an all female crew. A non-sailing boat representative may be on board for safety purposes only and may not offer advice or provide any physical assistance during the race unless the boat or its crew are in danger. A boat representative may provide verbal helming guidance to a visually impaired helmswoman classified ABSA B1, B2 or B3 Three-Person Format.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

- 2.1 The regatta is open to Pursuit Spinnaker, Pursuit Non-Spinnaker, and HYC Club Handicap Classes.
- 2.2 A minimum of three yachts of the same design will constitute a class.
- 2.3 A class of fewer than the required number of entries will be regarded as having failed to form and may be assigned to another class.
- 2.4 Boats may enter at www.regattanetwork.com or at The Houston Yacht Club website <http://www.houstonyachtclub.com> using the on-line entry form. Registrant will be required to enter the names of skipper and crew.

3. FEES

- 3.1 Multiple Crew Class Entry Fee \$50.00
- 3.2 **Penalty for Late Registration, as of Thursday, November 5, 1900 hrs.** \$25.00
- 3.3 US Sailing members receive a \$5.00 discount.

4. SCHEDULE

- 4.1 **Tuesday, November 3 1700 hours.** HYC requires ALL dinner reservations be made by 1700. For information about reservations for significant others, read MER-mazing de-TAILS.
- 4.2 **Friday, 6 November 1900 hours** Competitors' Briefing at HYC.
- 4.3 **Saturday, 7 November**
- **0900 hours** Yoga Warm-up (location to be determined - bring your mat).
 - **1300 hours** Registration Entry Deadline and Warning Signal for all classes.
 - **Awards Ceremony approximately two hours after the committee boat enters the harbor.** In the event of a protest, the class(es) of the protesting party(ies) may be delayed and may receive awards after the protest hearing. Results for the other fleets and classes may not wait for the protest results. Anticipated time for Awards not involved in protests will be posted on the HYC Race Information once the last Race Committee Boat has entered the harbor.
 - The Regatta Chair invites the skipper, crew, and volunteers to dine as her guests at the Awards Ceremony. The in-shore Mermaid post-race party is the pre-race party for the Mermaid division of the HYC Off-shore Regatta (date to be determined).

5. MEASUREMENTS

- 5.1 Yachts racing PHRF (Pursuit) MUST have a 2020 PHRF rating certificate. Yachts without a valid PHRF certificate will be assigned a HYC Club Handicap Rating at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 5.2 The Length Overall (LOA) for Boats competing for the Perpetual Mermaid Trophy shall measure 30 feet or greater.

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 6.1 Sailing Instructions will be distributed at the Competitors' Briefing. The sailing instructions will consist of the instructions in RRS Appendix S, Standard Sailing Instructions, and supplementary sailing instructions that will be on the official notice board "HYC Race Information" located in the breezeway adjacent to the HYC Office.

7. VENUE

- 7.1 All races will be sailed in that part of Galveston Bay bounded by the Bayport Ship Channel to the north, the San Leon shoreline to the south, the Houston Ship Channel to the East, and the La Porte/Seabrook shoreline to the west.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1 The Pursuit Line will race around designated marks.
- 8.2 The course will be designated in the Sailing Instructions.

9. SCORING

- 9.1 A single race completed will constitute a series.
- 9.2 The low-point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 9.3 PHRF boats shall be scored using PHRF time-on-distance (TOD).

10. BERTHING

- 10.1 Racers may leave their boats at HYC for the week before and week after the regatta at no charge. **However, upon arrival all boat owners must complete a registration form available at the front desk and include an emergency contact number and park in the space as directed by HYC's Harbormaster (the Harbormaster may be hailed on Channel 68).**
- 10.2 Visiting competitors who are required to remain in the water during the regatta may dock alongside the visitor pier on a "first come, first served" basis, or shall contact the HYC Harbor Master for guest slip availability.
- 10.3 Limited hotel rooms are also available in the clubhouse with a reservation. Please check with the club staff for availability and rates.

11. PRIZES

- 11.1 The Perpetual Mermaid Trophy will be awarded to the winner of each class at the Awards Ceremony.
- 11.2 Other prize trophies, mermaid jewels, and crew charms will be awarded at the Awards Ceremony.

12. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 12.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely 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, prior to, during, or after the regatta.

13. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 13.1 For further information please contact the HYC Office at 281-471-1255; Mermaid Regatta Chair, Babs Bukowski BabsBukowski@gmail.com or the Principal Race Officer Madonna Breen mbreen77346@gmail.com.
- 13.2 The Mermaid Regatta is one of the five scheduled Women's Regattas that qualifies for the Galveston Bay Women's Championship Series. Please see the Notice of Series for the 2020 Galveston Bay Women's Championship Series posted on the HYC Website Race Schedule Page.