



NOTICE OF RACE
2020 Thistle Great Pumpkin Regatta
October 17-18, 2020
Thistle Fleet 110
Thistle Class Association
Birmingham Sailing Club
Vincent, AL 35178



1. **Rules:** The Regatta will be governed by the "rules" as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
2. **Eligibility and Entry:** The Great Pumpkin Regatta (GPR) is open to boats and competitors meeting the eligibility requirements as described in the (TCA) rules. **(All Skippers must be dues paid TCA members; all boats must be Registered Thistles)**. Eligible participants must register in advance for the regatta by completing the on-line registration as described in this Notice of Race. To register for the regatta and dinners, visit www.greatpumpkinregatta.com for the link to the on-line registration. Or go to [Regatta Network](#). The GPR entry fee is \$30.00 or \$25.00 for members of US Sailing.
3. **Schedule: (Central Time Zone)**
 - Saturday (October 17)
 - 0930 No onsite registration
 - 1130 Virtual Skipper's Meeting (VHF Channel 68)
 - 1300 Warning Signal for Race 1. Up to 3 races will be held.
 - Sunday (October 18)
 - 0930 Warning Signal for remaining races. No race to start after 1230 CT.
4. **VHF Radios:** The Race Committee may use VHF radios to inform competitors of safety information and to hail boats that are on course side of the starting line (OCS) at the start and general information to assist in the management of the event. No transmissions will be allowed by any competitor while on the water.
5. **Sailing Instructions:** The Sailing Instructions will be available online at [Great Pumpkin Race Documents](#). These Sailing Instructions may be modified or amended.
6. **Scoring:** A total of 5 races are scheduled and all races sailed will be scored. Boats will be scored in accordance with Appendix A of the RRS as modified by the following statements. One race completed constitutes a regatta.
7. **Prizes:** The Great Pumpkin Perpetual Trophy will be presented to the winner.
8. **Insurance and Damages:** A. The Organizing Committee does not assume any responsibility of any sort regarding the participants and boats. Competitors should have their own insurance covering all risks.
9. **COVID-19 Policy:** BSC has published a Regatta COVID-19 safety plan based on the CDC and state-specific best practices and requirements. This includes frequent hand washing, social distancing, use of face coverings on shore, and other guidelines to protect the health and safety of all participants. All participants and guests are required to adhere to the safety plan while participating in regatta events. Each skipper must sign a waiver that their team is COVID free has not been exposed to anyone with COVID-19.