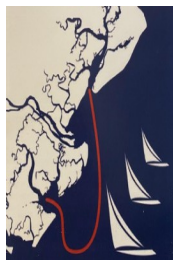
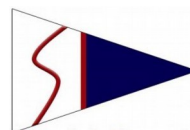


LOW COUNTRY HOOK 2021 OCEAN RACE



17-18 September 2021
Skidaway Island Boating Club and
The Yacht Club of Hilton Head
Present The Low Country Hook Ocean Race
Hilton Head Island to Skidaway Island



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

(Version 09-15-2021)

1. RULES

1.1 The race will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1 The race is open to monohull sailboats with a minimum length of 22 ft. and a maximum of 51 ft. All eligible boats must have a PHRF rating, have auxiliary power, VHF radio and be manned by an eligible captain and crew.

2.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing the registration form available at
<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/21706>

together with the required fee before the start of the race.

2.3 There will be separate classes for J-24, Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker, and Cruising boats. The Race Committee may assign or reassign boats to classes based on PHRF ratings and on number of boats registered in a particular class.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notice to competitors will be announced at the Competitors' meeting and over the VHF hailing channel in advance of the start of the race. The VHF hailing channel will be 71. Notices may also be emailed to registrants.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Changes to the sailing instructions will be announced at the Competitors' meeting and announced over the VHF hailing channel prior to the first warning signal.

4.2 Any schedule change will be emailed to registrants by 8:00 pm on the day before the race.

5. CHANGES MADE ON THE WATER

Oral changes may be made on the water by hailing over the VHF hailing channel prior to the start of the race.

6. SCHEDULE

6.1 Friday, 17 September 6:00 pm, Zoom Competitors' meeting (link will be sent to registrants)

6.2 Saturday, 18 September at 9:55 am, Warning Signal for the first class will be given. Consideration of late arrivals due to wind and tide may alter the time of a class warning signal. Any changes will be announced over the VHF hailing channel.

6.3 Race Committee may announce the intended Order of Starts at the Competitors' meeting. The actual Order of Starts may be announced over VHF hailing channel prior to the warning signal.

7. RACING AREA

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

8. THE COURSE

- Start – Near G7 Calibogue Sound (honor Calibogue Sound Channel Markers after start)
- Mark – R2 to Port Calibogue Sound
- Mark – G5 to Starboard Tybee Roads (Tybee Roads Channel Markers do not need to be honored to avoid shipping traffic)
- Mark – R2W to Starboard Wassaw Sound (honor Ocean, Wassaw Sound & Wilmington River Channel Markers)
- Finish – North end of Landings Harbor Pier & Inflatable Mark (perpendicular to Pier)

9. THE START

9.1 The race committee may announce upcoming signals over VHF hailing channel.

9.2 [DP] Before the warning signal, boats intending to race shall check-in by sailing past the stern of the signal boat on starboard tack hailing their sail number or boat name if no sail number.

Race Committee may accept check-ins over the VHF hailing channel.

9.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and an inflatable buoy located near G7 at the entrance to Calibogue Sound.

9.4 [DP] Any boat starting later than 10 minutes after its starting signal shall notify Race Committee of their intention to race using the VHF hailing channel or calling/texting the PRO (Joleen Rasmussen) (919) 369-5784. The boat must pass Marker G7 if the signal boat has left the area.

9.5 Class Flags J-24 – Purple Flag bearing J24 emblem; Spinnaker – Yellow; Non-Spinnaker – Green; Cruising – White. Additional or alternative Class flags may be assigned at the Competitors' Meeting and announced as a change to the SI.

10. THE FINISH

10.1 The finish line will be line between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Landings Harbor Pier, and an inflatable buoy directly across the river. In the absence of a buoy, the finish line will be perpendicular to the Landings Harbor Pier (approximate compass bearing 66 degrees.) 10.2 [DP] All boats shall record their times at R2W.

10.3 In that event that Race Committee shortens course, the finish line will be at R2W in accordance to RRS 34 US Sailing Prescription. Shortened Course shall be announced over the VHF hailing channel. This changes RRS 32.1.

10.3 The time limit to finish will be 6:00 pm.

10.4 Boats not finished by 8:00pm shall be scored based on their position on the water at 8pm.

10.5 Race Committee may offer boats their finish position on the water prior to the time in 10.4.

12. RETIREMENT

[DP]A boat which retires from the race shall notify the signal boat over the VHF hailing channel as soon as reasonably possible.

13. PROTESTS

13.1 A boat intending to protest must inform Race Committee via the VHF hailing channel at the first reasonable opportunity after racing. This adds to RRS 61.1a.

13.2 Protests shall be emailed to the Protest Committee (daveangell@bellsouth.net) within 45 minutes of the last boat to finish in their class. Use of the US Sailing Form is encouraged.

13.3 Protests shall be heard as soon as practicable in the approximate order received. In-person protests will be at an open area at Landing Harbor and participants must wear face coverings and respect social distancing. Virtual Protests may also be used.

14. SCORING AND PRIZES

14.1 Hook Ocean Race 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 $650/(550+\text{PHRF handicap})$. .

14.2 Race results will be posted on Regatta Network.

14.3 Trophies will be awarded to the top three finisher of each class. A trophy will also be presented to the first overall based on lowest corrected time. Trophies will be shipped to winners, as necessary.

15. SAFETY

15.1 [DP] All boats shall monitor the VHF hailing channel.

15.2 All boats shall be sailed by at least 2 persons. The maximum number of crew is N people, where N is: $(\text{LOA} \times .3) - 2$, with all fractions rounded up.

15.3 The US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements for category Nearshore are recommended.

16. Risk Statement & DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

16.1 Rule RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

16.2 Competitors participate in the race entirely at their own risk. 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 race.

17. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance sufficient to cover liability for loss, damage, injury or death.