



## 2021 HYC Mermaid Regatta

October 9, 2021

### 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

### 1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 Racing rule(s) will be changed as follows:
  - 1.2.1 Pursuit Fleet: competitors will use a staggered time start based on their PHRF Handicap. This modifies Rule 26. The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions. The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules.
- 1.3 A woman shall helm each boat with an all female crew. A non-sailing male 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 male 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

- a. The regatta is open to Pursuit Spinnaker, Pursuit Non-Spinnaker, and HYC Club Handicap classes.
- b. Each class requires a minimum of 3 boats.
- c. A class of fewer than the required number of entries by the Registration Entry Deadline will be regarded as having failed to form and may be assigned to another class at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- d. Eligible boats may register at [www.regattanetwork.com/event/23206](http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/23206).

### 3. FEES

- 3.1 Multiple Crew Class Entry Fee \$100.00
- 3.2 **Penalty for Late Registration, as of Wednesday, October 6, 1900 hrs.** **\$25.00**
- 3.3 US Sailing members receive a \$5.00 discount.
- 3.4 Any competitor may cancel and request a 90% refund of their entry fee provided notice is given in writing by e-mail to the PRO, Madonna Breen, on or before Wednesday, October 6, 1900 hrs. at [mbreen77346@gmail.com](mailto:mbreen77346@gmail.com).

#### 4. SCHEDULE

4.1 The schedule is:

**Friday, October 8, 2021**

**1900 hours** Competitors' Briefing by Zoom video and in-person. A Zoom link will be sent by email to all registered competitors on or before October 8. There will be an on-site Competitors' Briefing.

**Saturday, October 9, 2021,**

**1100 hours** Registration Entry Deadline and Warning Signal for all classes.

**After racing** Awards Ceremony approximately two hours after the race committee boat enters the harbor. Dinner outdoors.

#### 5. MEASUREMENTS

- 5.1 All boats racing PHRF (Pursuit) shall have a current PHRF Galveston Bay rating certificate. Boats without a valid PHRF certificate at the Registration Entry Deadline 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 The Sailing Instructions, together with any amendments, will be posted on the Official Notice Board located on the Mermaid Regatta event website at [www.regattanetwork.com/event/23206](http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/23206) ("Event Website"). Sailing Instructions will be available on or after October 6, 2021.
- 6.2 Questions regarding the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions may be submitted in writing to the PRO, Madonna Breen, via email at [mbreen77346@gmail.com](mailto:mbreen77346@gmail.com) or to Yolanda Cortes Mares via email at [ymares@earthlink.net](mailto:ymares@earthlink.net).

#### 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. PENALTY SYSTEM**

9.1 Appendix V will apply.

## **10. SCORING**

10.1 A single race completed will constitute a series.

10.2 The low-point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

10.3 PHRF boats shall be scored using PHRF time-on-distance (TOD).

## **11. BERTHING**

11.1 Racers are invited to leave their boats at HYC for the week before and the week after the regatta at no charge. HOWEVER, upon arrival all boat owners must notify HYC's Harbormaster at 281-471-1255, complete any required registration forms, and include an emergency contact telephone number. Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are parked at HYC.

## **12. PRIZES**

12.1 The Perpetual Mermaid Trophy plus second and third place trophies will be awarded at the Awards Ceremony following the race.

12.2 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 information for the 2021 Galveston Bay Women's Championship Series posted on the Event Website and at [www.gbca.org](http://www.gbca.org).

## **13. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

13.1 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.

## **14. COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS**

14.1 Competitors who develop COVID-19 symptoms or a fever while racing are requested to immediately notify the PRO, Madonna Breen, in writing by e-mail at [mbreen77346@gmail.com](mailto:mbreen77346@gmail.com), excuse themselves from the regatta, and to not participate in any activities at Houston Yacht Club.

14.2 Competitors are encouraged to bring hand sanitizer for use on shore and on the water, to have any open air briefings with maximum distance between teams, and to have all social activities outdoors.

14.3 All on-shore regatta events will be held outdoors.

14.4 Non-HYC members will be permitted inside the HYC clubhouse lobby, but not in the pool.

14.5 If needed, non-HYC members are encouraged to seek lodging in the nearby cities of La Porte and Seabrook.

14.6 The Organizing Authority reserves the right to postpone or cancel the Regatta due to changing COVID-19 Pandemic health-related issues.

## **15. FURTHER INFORMATION**

15.1 For further information, please contact the HYC Office at 281-471-1255, Mermaid Regatta Co-Chairs, Yolanda Cortes Mares by e-mail at [ymares@earthink.net](mailto:ymares@earthink.net) and Sarah Hampton by e-mail at [greatgaspy@gmail.com](mailto:greatgaspy@gmail.com), or the Principal Race Officer, Madonna Breen by e-mail at [mbreen77346@gmail.com](mailto:mbreen77346@gmail.com).