

# 2022 Beacon Group

## A-Class World Championship

Houston Yacht Club Houston, Texas,  
USA

April 29 – May 6, 2022

The Organizing Authority is the Houston Yacht Club in conjunction with the International A-Division Catamaran Association and the United States A-Class Catamaran Association

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

These Sailing Instructions are dated 04/15/2022

[NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).  
[DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty applied from a hearing is at the discretion of the International Jury using the class World Sailing Championship Discretionary Penalty Guide.  
[SP] denotes a rule for which a breach may be subject to a standard penalty as defined in SI 16.3.

### 1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 For applicable Prescriptions of U.S. Sailing see Notice of Race (NOR) Appendix A.
- 1.3 The Class and Championship Rules of the International A-Class Catamaran Association (IACA) shall apply for the World Championships.
- 1.4 Reasonable actions by event officials to implement COVID 19 guidance, protocols or legislation, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not proper actions or omissions.

### 2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official “HYC Race Information” notice board located in the breezeway adjacent to the HYC offices. As a courtesy, notices may be posted on Regatta Network notice board <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/23425>.

### 3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than two hours before the first warning signal on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the timing of races, will be posted by 2000 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. When a signal is displayed over a class flag, it applies to that fleet only.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed with two sounds ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in the race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.

**5. RACING FORMAT**

- 5.1 The regatta will consist of a Single Series for each Fleet.
- 5.2 The Open Discipline and the Classic Discipline will race in separate fleets with different starting times.

**6. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Friday, April 29	0900 - 1700	Registration
Saturday April 30	0900 - 1000	Registration
	1030	Support Boat Briefing
	1100	Competitor's Briefing
	Not before 1300	Practice Races
	1700	Opening Ceremony
Sunday May 1	Not before 1100	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Open
	Not before 1330	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Classics
Monday May 2	Not before 1100	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Classics
	Not before 1330	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Open
Tuesday May 3	Not before 1100	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Open
	Not before 1330	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Classics
Wednesday May 4	Not before 1100	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Classics
	Not before 1330	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Open
Thursday May 5	Not before 1100	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Open
	Not before 1330	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Classics
Friday May 6	Not before 1100	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Classics
	Not before 1300	1 <sup>st</sup> warning for Open
	as soon as possible after racing	Prize Giving and Closing Ceremony

- 6.1 On Friday May 6th there will be no warning signal after 1500.
- 6.2 A total of 12 races are scheduled for each Discipline, of which a minimum of 5 races shall constitute a regatta for each Discipline.
- 6.3 No more than 3 races for each Discipline may be sailed per day.

**7. CLASS FLAGS**

- 7.1 The class flag for the Open Discipline will be WHITE with black A-Class logo
- 7.2 The class flag for the Classic Discipline will be BLUE with white A-Class logo

**8. RACING AREA**

- 8.1 Attachment B shows the location of the racing area.
- 8.2 [DP][NP] Boats not racing shall not sail in the course area being used by another Discipline.
- 8.3 [DP][NP] Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel while racing. Ship Channels are designated as obstructions.

**9. ON THE WATER CHECK IN [SP][NP]**

Prior to the warning for the first race of each 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 or bow number.

**10. THE COURSES**

- 10.1 Attachment A shows the course to be sailed, the order in which the marks are to be passed, the side on which each mark is to be left. The course will be 6 legs with a downwind finish.
- 10.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the approximate compass bearing to Mark 1.
- 10.3 There will be a gate at the leeward marks and an offset mark at the windward mark.
- 10.4 A gate may be replaced by a single mark to be left to port

**11. MARKS**

Marks 1, 2s and 2p..... Yellow tetrahedrons  
 Offset mark..... Orange ball  
 Change mark..... Orange tetrahedrons  
 Starting marks..... Race Committee vessels  
 Finishing marks..... Race Committee vessels

**12. THE START**

- 12.1 The starting line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the starting marks.
- 12.2 A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be considered as not started and will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.1.
- 12.3 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with ONE sound signal not less than 5 minutes before the warning signal is displayed.

**13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a change mark, which will be as detailed in SI 11. When a new mark is laid, the original mark will be removed as soon as possible. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

**14. THE FINISH**

The finishing line will be between staffs displaying blue flags on the finishing marks.

**15. TIME LIMITS**

- 15.1 The time limits and target times are as follows:  
 Time limit..... 90 minutes  
 Finish window..... 30 minutes  
 Target time.....45 minutes
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within the Finish Window (the time after the first boat sails the course and finishes) will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4, and A5.

**16. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 16.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns penalty is replaced by a One-Turn penalty.
- 16.2 Penalties for breaches of NOR 17 (Insurance), NOR 19 (Media Consent), and rules in the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions marked [DP], are at the discretion of the International Jury.
- 16.3 For breaches of the SIs marked [SP], the race committee or Technical Committee may apply a standard penalty without a hearing or protest the boat when they consider the standard penalty to be inappropriate (for example, in case of reiterated breaches). A boat that has been penalized with a standard penalty can neither be protested for the same incident by another boat nor can another boat request redress for this action. The penalty assessed will be an additional 3 points added to their finish position for the first race of that day. This changes RRS 60.1, 63.1 and Appendix A5.
- 16.4 Breaches of the IACA Class or Championship Rules will be at the discretion of the International Jury [DP]

**17. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 17.1 Protest forms are available at the jury desk in the HYC lobby. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 17.2 The protest time limit will be posted on the Official Notice Board. The protest time limit will be 60 minutes after the last boat of each Discipline has finished their last race of the day. The same time limit applies to protests by the Race Committee, Technical Committee and International Jury about incidents they observe in the racing area. This time limit also applies to requests for redress. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 17.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Parties and witnesses should report to the jury desk in the HYC lobby at that time. Hearings will be held in the designated jury room and may start before the scheduled time with the agreement of all parties.
- 17.4 For the purposes of RRS 64.3(b) the 'authority responsible' is the Technical Committee appointed by the Organizing Authority under RRS 89.2(c).
- 17.5 The Time limit for requests under RRS N1.4(b) is changed to 15 minutes.

**18. ARBITRATION**

Appendix T is in effect with a Post Race penalty of 20%. This changes RRS T1(b)

**19. INTERNATIONAL JURY**

See NOR 14.

**20. SCORING**

- 20.1 The low point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.
- 20.2 5 races are required to be completed to constitute the World Championships for each Discipline.
- 20.3 When 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score; when 9 races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.
- 20.4 To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat shall complete a scoring enquiry form available at the race office. Scoring enquiry forms shall be delivered to the race office. A scoring enquiry may be regarded as a request for redress.

**21. SAFETY [SP][NP]**

- 21.1 There will be a Check Out/Check In board located near the gate leading to the beach launching area. Competitors shall hang their wrist bands on a nail designated with their sail number before launching and retrieving it upon return, for each Discipline racing session.
- 21.2 Boats not leaving the shore for the day's races shall notify the Beach Captain or race committee as soon as possible.
- 21.3 Any boat that has checked in on the water per SI 9, 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 to be announced at competitor's briefing.

**22. REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT [DP]**

See NOR 7.4

**23. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS [DP]**

- 23.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with A Class Catamaran Equipment Regulations, which may include RRS 43. Event Limitation Stickers / Marks must remain in place for the duration of the event.
- 23.2 On the water or upon reaching the shore, a boat may be instructed by the Technical Committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

**24. SUPPORT BOATS [DP][NP]**

See NOR 13.

**25. OFFICIAL SUPPORT BOATS**

Official Boats will be identified as follows:

Race Committee signal boat .....	Blue R/C flag
Race Committee pin boat.....	Yellow flag with white numbers
Race Committee mark set boats .....	Yellow flag with white numbers
Safety boats .....	Blue flag with white numbers
Media boats.....	Pink flag with white numbers
Jury boat.....	J signal flag
Technical Committee boat.....	White flag with black "M"

**26. EVENT ADVERTISING [DP][NP]**

Boats shall display event advertising and bow numbers provided by the Organizing Authority. Boats shall affix the stickers in accordance with the instructions given by the Organizing Authority.

**27. CODE OF CONDUCT [DP]**

Competitors shall comply with any reasonable request from a regatta official or a member of the Organizing Authority. Boats shall follow all instructions given by the Beach Captain when leaving or returning to shore to avoid overcrowding at the launch site.

**28. TRASH DISPOSAL [DP]**

Boats shall not discharge trash into the water. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

**29. RADIO COMMUNICATION [DP]**

See NOR 16

**30. PRIZES**

The Organizing Authority will provide prizes to the first 10 boats in each Division and as detailed in the Notice of Race 15.

**31. RISK STATEMENT**

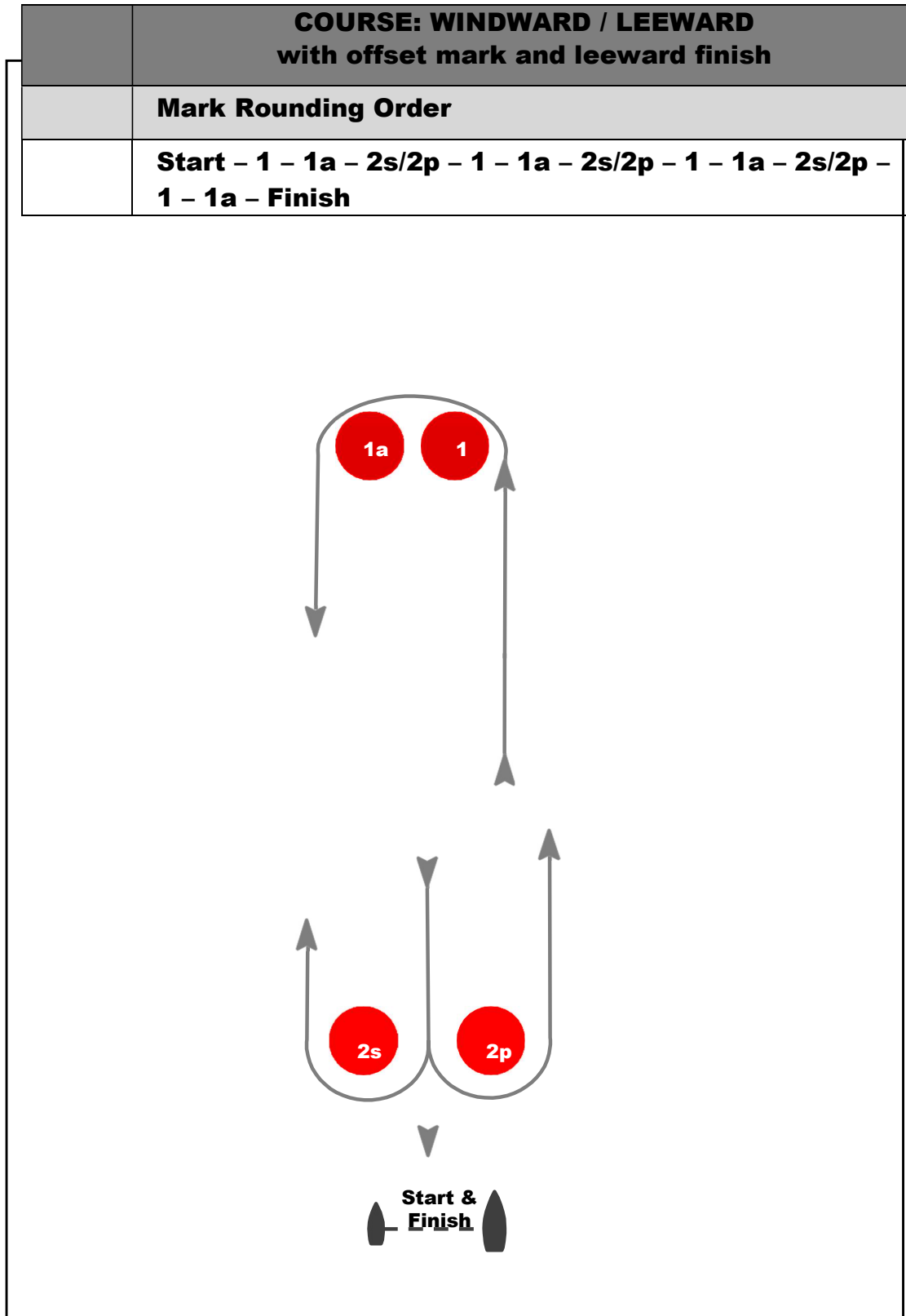
See RRS 3 and NOR 18.

**32. INSURANCE**

See NOR 17.

## Attachment A

## Course Diagram



Attachment B

Course Location

# Upper Galveston Bay

