

GBCA Women's Regatta



Galveston Bay

September 12, 2009

Galveston Bay Cruising Association

1500 Marina Bay Dr. Suite 1592 • Building #59B • Clear Lake Shores, TX 77565

Sailing Instructions

1 Rules

The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the current *Racing Rules of Sailing*, The Notice of Race, and these Sailing Instructions, with the following exceptions:

Sailing Instruction 8.3 modifies RRS A4
Sailing Instruction 8.4 modifies RRS 29.2
Sailing Instruction 8.5 modifies Notice of Race Paragraph 1 (Rules)
Sailing Instruction 9 modifies RRS 33
Sailing Instruction 10 modifies RRS 32
Sailing Instruction 12 modifies RRS 35
Sailing Instruction 15 modifies RRS A2
Sailing Instructions 17.2 and 17.3 modify RRS 62.1(a)

2 Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the door of the GBCA office and at <http://www.regattanetwork.com./clubs/gbca.html>.

3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the sailing instructions or notice of race will be posted before 0800 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4 Race Schedule

- 4.1 The warning gun for the first race will be no earlier than 1100. Subsequent races for each class will follow as soon as possible after the end of the previous race.
- 4.2 The class starting order for the *first* race and the class flags are shown in Appendix A.

5 Racing Area

The racing area will be between Seabrook Channel Marker No. 2 and the Houston Ship Channel, and between San Leon and Red Bluff. Boats shall not enter the Houston Ship Channel. The Houston Ship Channel is designated as an obstruction.

6. Courses and Marks

Marks will be orange and yellow tetrahedrons. The original course marks will be orange. Change of course marks will alternate between yellow and orange. *At the start, if a yellow flag is raised with the class flag the first mark for that class will be yellow.*

All courses will be WINDWARD/LEEWARD. The number of legs to be sailed will be signaled by a numeral pennant flown from the Race Committee boat prior to or with the warning signal for each class. The approximate distance to the windward mark may be displayed on a board on the committee boat. The Start/Finish pin shall also serve as the Leeward mark.

Boats shall leave all turning marks to port.

After starting, competitors will sail to and round the weather mark, and then sail to the leeward mark and repeat until reaching the last leg of the course, then sail to and cross the finish line.

A leg of the course is one of the following: sailing from the start line to the weather mark, sailing from the weather mark to the leeward mark, sailing from the leeward mark to the weather mark, sailing from the leeward mark to the weather finish line, or sailing from the weather mark to the leeward / finish line.

7. Check In

Before the warning signal of the first race, each boat shall sail past the stern of the Race Committee boat on starboard tack and hail the boat's name or sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee.

8. The Start

- 8.1 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat on the starboard end and the course side edge of the port-end starting

mark. The Race Committee may trail a float and line astern of the Race Committee boat which shall be considered as part of the starting mark.

- 8.2 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.
- 8.3 A boat shall not start later than 10 minutes after her starting signal. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS A4.
- 8.4 Any class subjected to a General Recall will start after the last scheduled start for that race. This modifies RRS 29.2
- 8.5 Each boat, for each race, shall have a woman at the helm from the preparatory signal for her class until she *finishes*. This changes Notice of Race Paragraph 1 (Rules).

9. Change of the Next Leg of the Course

If the Race Committee displays the “C” code flag with one or more class flags, the course change applies only to those classes. If the “C” code flag is flown alone, all classes will sail the changed course. This modifies RRS 33.

10. Shorten Course

If the Race Committee displays the “S” code flag with one or more class flags, the shortened course applies only to those classes. If the “S” code flag is flown alone, all classes will sail the shortened course. This modifies RRS 32.

11. The Finish

The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee boat and a nearby mark.

12. Time Limit

The time limit for all classes will be 90 minutes or 30 minutes after the first boat in that class sails the course and finishes, whichever is longer. Boats exceeding the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish. This modifies RRS 35.

13. Safety

- 13.1 A boat that retires from a race prior to finishing shall notify the Race Committee, by any means, as soon as practicable on VHF channel 68. If radio communication is unavailable, call Brian Hawboldt at 713-504-7120 and leave a message.

- 13.2 Attention is called to RRS 4: Decision to Race, “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.”

14. Protests

- 14.1 Protests shall be written on forms available at the GBCA office and delivered to that office within 2 hours after the last boat finishes the last race.
- 14.2 Finishing boats intending to file a protest shall notify, and be acknowledged by, the Race Committee prior to leaving the finish area.

15. Scoring

The Low Point system, RRS Appendix A will apply. One race constitutes a series. There will be no throw-outs. This modifies RRS A2

16. Sail Numbers

Boats shall carry USSA, class, or hull numbers on mainsails, spinnakers, and each overlapping headsail having a luff perpendicular exceeding 130% of the base of the fore triangle. These sail numbers shall correspond to the sail numbers listed on the scratch sheet, unless different numbers are approved by the Race Committee. Notification of such approval will be posted on the notice board before 0900 on the day approval is given.

17. Communication

- 17.1 Radio communication will be conducted on VHF channel 68.
- 17.2 The Race Committee will attempt to monitor and may make courtesy announcements on VHF channel 68. The failure of the Race Committee to make announcements or the manner in which announcements are made will not be grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 62.1(a).
- 17.3 In addition to signaling Individual Recalls in accordance with RRS 29.1, as a courtesy, the Race Committee will attempt to broadcast the names or sail numbers of boats that have started early. Failure to make such a broadcast, failure of a boat to receive that broadcast, a boat’s order in that broadcast, or the promptness of that broadcast will not be grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 62.1(a).
- 17.4 If a weather-related postponement ashore is required it will be announced at 1000 on VHF channel 68. Or, you may try and contact the PRO (Brian Hawboldt) at 713-504-7120.

Appendix A

Starting Order

First Race

**PHRF Spinnaker
PHRF Non-Spinnaker**

Class Flags

**PHRF Spinnaker - Purple
PHRF Non-Spinnaker – Green**