



2022 HYC Mermaid Regatta

October 15, 2022

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* (RRS) for 2021-2024, the prescriptions of US Sailing, and all other rules that govern this event. By registering for this Regatta as skipper or crew, each participant agrees to be bound by the RRS, the prescriptions of US Sailing, and all other rules that govern this event.
- 1.2 All skippers and crew are required to complete, accept, and submit the REGATTA WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY on Regatta Network before 0900 on October 15, 2022 (the "Registration Entry Deadline"). Registration is incomplete unless all forms and waivers have been completely filled out and submitted on Regatta Network or given to Regatta Chair, Yolanda Cortes Mares, either in person or by e-mail at ymares@earthlink.net.
- 1.3 Racing rule(s) will be changed as follows:
 - 1.2.1 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.
- 1.4 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

- 2.1 The regatta is open to PHRF Pursuit Spinnaker and PHRF Pursuit Non-Spinnaker.
- 2.2 Each class requires a minimum of 3 boats.
- 2.3 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.
- 2.4 Skippers of eligible boats may register at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/25227> ("Event Website") using the online entry form. Crew members may enter at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/25272>.

3 FEES

- 3.1 Multiple Crew Class Entry Fee \$100.00
- 3.2 **Penalty for Late Registration, as of Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 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 before 1900 hrs. on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 in writing by e-mail to the PRO, Madonna Breen, at mbreen77346@gmail.com. No refunds on and after 1900 hrs. on October 12, 2022.

4 SCHEDULE

4.1 The schedule is:

4.1.1 **Friday, October 14, 2022**

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 14, 2022. Competitors are encouraged to attend the on-site Competitors' Briefing.

4.1.2 **Saturday, October 15, 2022**

0900 hours Registration Entry Deadline.

1100 hours Warning Signal for all classes.

After racing Awards Ceremony approximately two hours after the race committee boat enters the harbor. If weather permits, dinner will be outdoors.

5 MEASUREMENTS

- 5.1 All boats racing shall have a current PHRF-GB rating certificate from Performance Handicap Racing Fleet of Galveston Bay, Inc. (www.phrfgb.org).
- 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 will be posted on the "HYC Race Information" board ("Official Notice Board"), located in the breezeway adjacent to the Houston Yacht Club office. As a courtesy, Sailing Instructions will also be posted on-line at the Event Website on or before 1900 hrs. on October 14, 2022.
- 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.

6.3 All notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board. As a courtesy, notices will be sent to competitors by e-mail or text message when information has been posted and will be posted on-line at the Event Website.

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 All boats will race around designated marks.

8.2 The course will be designated in the Sailing Instructions and detailed at the Competitor's Briefing.

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 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 Harbor Manager, Phillip Meeker, at 281-471-1255 or by e-mail at harbormanager@houstonyachtclub.com or on VHF Channel 68, complete a registration form, provide a copy of insurance, and include an emergency contact telephone number.

11.2 Visiting competitors' boats shall contact the HYC Harbor Manager for guest slip availability prior to arrival and shall be kept in their assigned slips during the Regatta. Docking alongside the visitor pier is on a "first come, first served" basis.

11.3 Hotel rooms are available in the HYC Clubhouse with a reservation. Please check with the HYC Club front desk for availability and rates at 281-471-1255.

11.4 Guest cards are required for all purchases by non-HYC members. An HYC Guest Card Form is available on the Event Website. To obtain a Guest card, please contact the HYC Club front desk at 281-471-1255.

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 2022 Galveston Bay Women's Championship Series posted on the Event Website and at https://gbca.org/resources/Documents/2022%20Womens%20Champ%20NOS_7.7.2022.pdf.

13 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

13.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 3, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, death, or illness sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the Regatta.

14 FURTHER INFORMATION

14.1 For further information, please contact the Mermaid Regatta Chair, Yolanda Cortes Mares, by e-mail at ymares@earthlink.net, or the Principal Race Officer, Madonna Breen, by e-mail at mbreen77346@gmail.com.