2023 GBCA Icicle Race Series
Galveston Bay
January 7-February 4, 2023
Galveston Bay Cruising Association

NOTICE OF RACE & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. **RULES**
   1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (2021-2024)*.
   1.2. The sailing instructions will consist of the instructions in RRS Appendix S, Standard Sailing Instructions, and any supplementary sailing instructions that will be posted on the GBCA website; www.gbca.org .

2. **CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**
   2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 08:00 on the day it will take effect.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**
   3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the GBCA website; www.GBCA.org

4. **RADIO COMMUNICATION**
   4.1. Boats are encouraged to use RaceQs during the regatta, and a regatta replay will be available at the post-race social. AIS receivers and transceivers are also allowed.

5. **ADVERTISING**
   5.1. No restrictions on competitor advertising.

6. **ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**
   6.1. The regatta is open to all boats.
   6.2. Expected classes include Racing Spinnaker, Racer/Cruiser Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker, GBCA Club Handicap (non-spinnaker), GBCA Club Handicap Spinnaker, Shorthanded, and Multihull

7. **FEES**
   7.1. There is no registration fee for entry. However, **membership in GBCA is kindly requested**.
   7.2. Yachts must be owned by a GBCA senior member in good standing to be eligible for series awards.
   7.3. To defray series costs, Icicle Series #5/Judge Smails Regatta, will be a paid race. Those that choose to enter will pay an entry fee of $50.

8. **SCHEDULE**

January 7	Standard
January 14	Reverse
January 21	Standard
January 28	Reverse
February 4	Standard

8.1. Socials will be held at the GBCA clubhouse following each race, unless otherwise posted at the GBCA office and/or social media outlets by 8:00am the day of the race. The GBCA office is located at 1500 Marina Bay Dr., Building 113B, Clear Lake Shores, TX 77565.

8.2. Time limit – The race ends at **4:00pm**. Any boat that has not finished by this time will not be scored.

9. **MEASUREMENT**

9.1. Each handicap monohull boat, except for Cruising Club Classes, shall have a valid rating certificate.

9.2. Cruising Club classes will have a valid GBCA Club Handicap rating. Information on obtaining a rating can be found at: https://gbca.org/CruisingClass **As it is the basis for their rating, all competitors in the Cruising Club classes are strongly encouraged to obtain a valid PHRF rating certificate.**

9.3. Multihulls shall have a valid TOMA rating

- Smaller multihulls shall be rated under SCHRS.

10. **CLASSES AND HANDICAPS**

10.1. The Classes are defined as follows:

- **Racing Spinnaker class –** Any boat that has either of symmetrical or asymmetrical (tacked on bow or any length sprit) cut and a Sail Area to Displacement ratio (SA/D) greater than 19.0. This handicap will be assigned by PHRF-GB. Eligibility if further defined at http://www.phrfgb.com/racer-cruiser-definitions

- **Racer/Cruiser Spinnaker class –** Any boat that has either of symmetrical or asymmetrical (tacked on bow or any length sprit) cut and a Sail Area to Displacement ratio (SA/D) less than or equal to 19.0. This handicap will be assigned by PHRF-GB. Eligibility if further defined at http://www.phrfgb.com/racer-cruiser-definitions. Any yacht without a current PHRF-GB rating shall race in the GBCA Club Handicap classes with rating guidelines applied.

- **Non-Spinnaker class –** The boat may not fly a spinnaker but may pole the jib or genoa out using a whisker pole. This handicap will be assigned by PHRF-GB. Yachts in this class shall use their PHRF-GB assigned non-spinnaker rating. Any yacht without a current PHRF-GB rating shall race in the GBCA Club handicap classes with rating guidelines applied.

- **GBCA Shorthanded** class will sail in accordance with the GBCA Shorthanded rules and will not subdivide. This handicap will be assigned by PHRF-GB.

- **GBCA Club Handicap Non-Spinnaker** class is intended for those owning cruising boats and/or novice racers. Boats that are raced by prominent racers or that are known to be racing class boats may be assigned a more conservative handicap (lower/faster) than the established PHRF rating by the Fleet Captain or their designee. This class shall be non-spinnaker.
- **GBCA Club Handicap Spinnaker** class is intended for those owning cruising boats and/or novice racers with a spinnaker, asymmetric or symmetrical and to be a steppingstone between the GBCA Club Handicap Non-Spinnaker class and the PHRF Spinnaker class. Boats that are raced by prominent racers or that are known to be racing class boats may be assigned a more conservative handicap (lower/faster) than the established PHRF rating by the class coordinator or the GBCA Board. Any new boat entering this class will initially start with a PHRF handicap, or a PHRF handicap assigned by the Fleet Captain or their designee.
- **Multihull shall** use their TOMA assigned rating. Boats without an established handicap, shall have one assigned by Race Chairman or Fleet Captain.

10.2.   PHRF Handicaps and SA/D (Sail Area to Displacement ratio) are those shown on each yacht's 2021 PHRF-GB rating certificate. Yachts may not take adjustments for different headsail sizes on a per race basis. Yachts may elect to race in any class on a per race basis. Points earned in one class will not be transferred to another. Skippers who do not have a valid Galveston Bay PHRF certificate may obtain a provisional rating by emailing may.chris.w@gmail.com. Skippers are urged to obtain a PHRF-GB certificate (www.PHRFGB.com) as provisional ratings tend to be more conservative (lower/faster) than a valid PHRF-GB certificate and are intended only for first time racers or those new to the area.

A yacht that qualifies as Racer/Cruiser may race in the Racing Spinnaker Class with the Fleet Captain's approval from a written request.

10.3.   GBCA Club Handicap Handicap Registration: Yachts intending to participate in the GBCA Club Handicap class no longer need to register beforehand. If you have a valid Cruising Club Rating, you just need to participate in the race and submit your time like all other classes. This will add/update your boat into the scoring database. See Finishing below. If you do not have a Cruising Club rating, contact Fleet Captain at may.chris.w@gmail.com . Skippers are urged to obtain a PHRF certificate [phrfgb@gmail.com], as provisional ratings tend to be more conservative (faster) than a valid PHRF-GB certificate and are intended only for first time racers or those new to the area.

Ratings will be adjusted based on fleet performance after each race.

View the current club ratings and recent changes to ratings based on prior performance - http://racing.gbca.org/club.html

11. CLASS FLAGS

11.1.   Yachts racing in the Fall Series shall **clearly display** their class flag(s) from the backstay or other prominent **visible position on the stern of the yacht throughout the race**.

- The Racing Spinnaker class flag is **pink**
- The Racer/Cruiser Spinnaker class flag is **white.**
- The Non-spinnaker class flag is **dark**.
- The Shorthanded class will display a **white** flag over a **dark** flag.
- The GBCA Club Handicap class flag is **bright orange**.
- The GBCA Club Handicap Spinnaker class flag is **green**
- Multihulls do not have a class flag.

12. RACING AREA

12.1.   The racing area shall be in Galveston Bay, between the Houston Ship Channel, the Bayport Ship Channel and the shoreline between Eagle Point and Red Bluff.

12.2.   **BOATS SHALL NOT ENTER THE HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL. THE HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL SHALL RANK AS AN OBSTRUCTION. BOATS THAT ENTER THE HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED WITH FUTURE PARTICIPATION UNDER REVIEW BY GBCA BOARD.**

13. COURSES

13.1.   **Marks of the course:**

- The Start/Finish line will be between Clear Lake Entrance Marker #1 and Marker # 2, located in Galveston Bay.
- Clear Lake Entrance Marker #2 - **N 29°33.164' W 094° 551'**

- GBCA "H" mark - **N 29° 33.255'   W 094° 56.542'**

- GBCA "E" mark: Houston Ship Channel Low Range mark - **N 29° 35.787'   W 094° 56.935'**

In the event any of these marks are missing, boats shall round the coordinates given.

13.2   **Course Headings and Distances:**

- Standard Course:
  - Leg 1: #1/#2 to "H" approximately 2.62 nm bearing approximately 83°
  - Leg 2: "H" to "E" approximately 2.56 nm bearing approximately 348°
  - Leg 3: "E" to "#1/#2" approximately 3.5 nm bearing approximately 216°
- Reverse Course:
  - Leg 1: #1/#2 to "E" at approximately 3.5 nm bearing approximately 36°
  - Leg 2: "E" to "H" at approximately 2.56 nm bearing approximately 168°
  - Leg 3: "H" to "#1/#2" at approximately 2.62 nm bearing approximately 263°

The total course length is **8.67** nautical miles

13.2.   **Starting Times**

The starting times are listed in Attachment #1. Participating yachts may obtain the correct time on any WWV frequency or by calling 1-303-499-7111, or from a GPS. The start times in Attachment #1 & #2 are based on a course length of 8.67 nautical miles and are computed so that a yacht with a rating of 285 will start (base start time) at 11:30 hours. If you do not find your rating in Attachment #1, you may compute your start time as follows:

For PHRF: Let **R** be the yacht's PHRF or GBCA Club Handicap rating and **S** be the starting time adjustment in seconds.
S = 8.67 x (285-**R**)
Starting Time = base time + **S**

13.3.   **Finishing**

All skippers who would like to be scored for series results will submit their start and finish times to **http://racing.gbca.org/**

The first yacht in each class to cross the finish line will be the winner of the class and be required to record the next TWO places in her class by legibly recording the boat name and or sail numbers. When uploading your yacht's time, you should include the next two places in the appropriate fields. We do not need times for the next two boats, just the places.

Pro-Tip: When submitting the form, if you include your email, it will "prefill" the form the next time you open it. You will only need to update the finish time. Times submitted shall be CST, (UTC-6, see IV. Starting Times).

Please use military time, i.e.: 18:42:00. AM/PM is not allowed on the form.

We expect discrepancies to the actual start and finish times, and we will do our best to mitigate and differences due to "fat fingering" or incorrect input. It is not required that you keep a record of your race (via GPS tracks or photographic with timestamp), but in the case of a conflict, those with supporting data will certainly be more persuasive. If you find a discrepancy, please contact Fleet Captain at stonelack@icloud.com. If there is evidence of incorrect results, changes will be made after the awards to correct the overall standing, but the results at the time of awards will be final for race trophies (we will not hand out additional rum for those late to enter results, etc.).

There will be a computer available at the clubhouse to complete the form. You have 24 hours from the start of the race to upload your results. You may modify the results (using the same link) at any time before awards. Again, these will only be accepted if the site is not functioning. When submitting your results, you will find "boat ahead" and "boat behind". While optional, these help with mitigating incorrect input times. It is most helpful to use

boats within your fleet as references, but any boat is helpful.

The race ends at **sunset**. Any boat that has not finished by this time will not be scored.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1.   The Two-Turns penalty is in effect for all violations of the rules. This changes RRS 44.1.

14.2.   The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, will not apply.

14.3.   There is no formal system for protest. However, a boat may be disqualified without a hearing for serious violations of the Rules or these sailing instructions by the Fleet Captain, Regatta Chairman, and/or GBCA Board. This changes RRS 60 & 61.

15. SCORING

15.1.   Trophies will be awarded as follows by class: 3 boats with recorded finish – 1 award, 6 boats with recorded finish – 2 awards, 9 boats with recorded finish – 3 awards

15.2.   High point scoring will be used for series awards

15.3.   Points will be given for the series as follows:

Place	Points
1st	8
2nd	7
3rd	6
4th	5
5th	4
6th	3
7th	2
8th	1

15.4.   Series awards will be based on the highest points scored across the entire series in each class.

16. PRIZES

16.1.   **Per race prizes:** Prizes will be given as follows:

- 3 Boats with recorded finish   First place prize
- 6 Boats with recorded finish   First and second place prize
- 9 Boats with recorded finish   First, second, and third place prize
- One additional prize for every three boats entered.

16.2.   **Series awards**: Prizes will be given as follows

- Average of 3 boats with a recorded finish: First place prize
- Average of 6 boats with a recorded finish: Second place prize
- Average of 9 boats with a recorded finish: Third place prize

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

17.1.   **Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to** Race. The organizing authority, volunteers, or sponsors shall not bear any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

18. INSURANCE

18.1.   Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of $300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

19.1.   For further information please contact Fleet Captain, Stone Lack at stonelack@icloud.com or www.gbca.org

Thank you to our 2022 Sponsors!!!!

PHRF	Start time	PHRF	Start time	PHRF	Start time	PHRF	Start time	PHRF	Start time	PHRF	Start time
285	11:30:00 AM	238	11:36:47 AM	191	11:43:35 AM	144	11:50:22 AM	97	11:57:10 AM	50	12:03:57 PM
284	11:30:09 AM	237	11:36:56 AM	190	11:43:44 AM	143	11:50:31 AM	96	11:57:19 AM	49	12:04:06 PM
283	11:30:17 AM	236	11:37:05 AM	189	11:43:52 AM	142	11:50:40 AM	95	11:57:27 AM	48	12:04:15 PM
282	11:30:26 AM	235	11:37:14 AM	188	11:44:01 AM	141	11:50:48 AM	94	11:57:36 AM	47	12:04:23 PM
281	11:30:35 AM	234	11:37:22 AM	187	11:44:10 AM	140	11:50:57 AM	93	11:57:45 AM	46	12:04:32 PM
280	11:30:43 AM	233	11:37:31 AM	186	11:44:18 AM	139	11:51:06 AM	92	11:57:53 AM	45	12:04:41 PM
279	11:30:52 AM	232	11:37:40 AM	185	11:44:27 AM	138	11:51:14 AM	91	11:58:02 AM	44	12:04:49 PM
278	11:31:01 AM	231	11:37:48 AM	184	11:44:36 AM	137	11:51:23 AM	90	11:58:11 AM	43	12:04:58 PM
277	11:31:09 AM	230	11:37:57 AM	183	11:44:44 AM	136	11:51:32 AM	89	11:58:19 AM	42	12:05:07 PM
276	11:31:18 AM	229	11:38:06 AM	182	11:44:53 AM	135	11:51:41 AM	88	11:58:28 AM	41	12:05:15 PM
275	11:31:27 AM	228	11:38:14 AM	181	11:45:02 AM	134	11:51:49 AM	87	11:58:37 AM	40	12:05:24 PM
274	11:31:35 AM	227	11:38:23 AM	180	11:45:10 AM	133	11:51:58 AM	86	11:58:45 AM	39	12:05:33 PM
273	11:31:44 AM	226	11:38:32 AM	179	11:45:19 AM	132	11:52:07 AM	85	11:58:54 AM	38	12:05:41 PM
272	11:31:53 AM	225	11:38:40 AM	178	11:45:28 AM	131	11:52:15 AM	84	11:59:03 AM	37	12:05:50 PM
271	11:32:01 AM	224	11:38:49 AM	177	11:45:36 AM	130	11:52:24 AM	83	11:59:11 AM	36	12:05:59 PM
270	11:32:10 AM	223	11:38:58 AM	176	11:45:45 AM	129	11:52:33 AM	82	11:59:20 AM	35	12:06:08 PM
269	11:32:19 AM	222	11:39:06 AM	175	11:45:54 AM	128	11:52:41 AM	81	11:59:29 AM	34	12:06:16 PM
268	11:32:27 AM	221	11:39:15 AM	174	11:46:02 AM	127	11:52:50 AM	80	11:59:37 AM	33	12:06:25 PM
267	11:32:36 AM	220	11:39:24 AM	173	11:46:11 AM	126	11:52:59 AM	79	11:59:46 AM	32	12:06:34 PM
266	11:32:45 AM	219	11:39:32 AM	172	11:46:20 AM	125	11:53:07 AM	78	11:59:55 AM	31	12:06:42 PM
265	11:32:53 AM	218	11:39:41 AM	171	11:46:28 AM	124	11:53:16 AM	77	12:00:03 PM	30	12:06:51 PM
264	11:33:02 AM	217	11:39:50 AM	170	11:46:37 AM	123	11:53:25 AM	76	12:00:12 PM	29	12:07:00 PM
263	11:33:11 AM	216	11:39:58 AM	169	11:46:46 AM	122	11:53:33 AM	75	12:00:21 PM	28	12:07:08 PM
262	11:33:19 AM	215	11:40:07 AM	168	11:46:54 AM	121	11:53:42 AM	74	12:00:29 PM	27	12:07:17 PM
261	11:33:28 AM	214	11:40:16 AM	167	11:47:03 AM	120	11:53:51 AM	73	12:00:38 PM	26	12:07:26 PM
260	11:33:37 AM	213	11:40:24 AM	166	11:47:12 AM	119	11:53:59 AM	72	12:00:47 PM	25	12:07:34 PM
259	11:33:45 AM	212	11:40:33 AM	165	11:47:20 AM	118	11:54:08 AM	71	12:00:55 PM	24	12:07:43 PM
258	11:33:54 AM	211	11:40:42 AM	164	11:47:29 AM	117	11:54:17 AM	70	12:01:04 PM	23	12:07:52 PM
257	11:34:03 AM	210	11:40:50 AM	163	11:47:38 AM	116	11:54:25 AM	69	12:01:13 PM	22	12:08:00 PM
256	11:34:11 AM	209	11:40:59 AM	162	11:47:46 AM	115	11:54:34 AM	68	12:01:21 PM	21	12:08:09 PM
255	11:34:20 AM	208	11:41:08 AM	161	11:47:55 AM	114	11:54:43 AM	67	12:01:30 PM	20	12:08:18 PM
254	11:34:29 AM	207	11:41:16 AM	160	11:48:04 AM	113	11:54:51 AM	66	12:01:39 PM	19	12:08:26 PM
253	11:34:37 AM	206	11:41:25 AM	159	11:48:12 AM	112	11:55:00 AM	65	12:01:47 PM	18	12:08:35 PM
252	11:34:46 AM	205	11:41:34 AM	158	11:48:21 AM	111	11:55:09 AM	64	12:01:56 PM	17	12:08:44 PM
251	11:34:55 AM	204	11:41:42 AM	157	11:48:30 AM	110	11:55:17 AM	63	12:02:05 PM	16	12:08:52 PM
250	11:35:03 AM	203	11:41:51 AM	156	11:48:38 AM	109	11:55:26 AM	62	12:02:13 PM	15	12:09:01 PM
249	11:35:12 AM	202	11:42:00 AM	155	11:48:47 AM	108	11:55:35 AM	61	12:02:22 PM	14	12:09:10 PM
248	11:35:21 AM	201	11:42:08 AM	154	11:48:56 AM	107	11:55:43 AM	60	12:02:31 PM	13	12:09:18 PM
247	11:35:29 AM	200	11:42:17 AM	153	11:49:04 AM	106	11:55:52 AM	59	12:02:39 PM	12	12:09:27 PM
246	11:35:38 AM	199	11:42:26 AM	152	11:49:13 AM	105	11:56:01 AM	58	12:02:48 PM	11	12:09:36 PM
245	11:35:47 AM	198	11:42:34 AM	151	11:49:22 AM	104	11:56:09 AM	57	12:02:57 PM	10	12:09:44 PM
244	11:35:55 AM	197	11:42:43 AM	150	11:49:30 AM	103	11:56:18 AM	56	12:03:05 PM	9	12:09:53 PM
243	11:36:04 AM	196	11:42:52 AM	149	11:49:39 AM	102	11:56:27 AM	55	12:03:14 PM	8	12:10:02 PM
242	11:36:13 AM	195	11:43:00 AM	148	11:49:48 AM	101	11:56:35 AM	54	12:03:23 PM	7	12:10:10 PM
241	11:36:21 AM	194	11:43:09 AM	147	11:49:56 AM	100	11:56:44 AM	53	12:03:31 PM	6	12:10:19 PM
240	11:36:30 AM	193	11:43:18 AM	146	11:50:05 AM	99	11:56:53 AM	52	12:03:40 PM	5	12:10:28 PM
239	11:36:39 AM	192	11:43:26 AM	145	11:50:14 AM	98	11:57:01 AM	51	12:03:49 PM	4	12:10:36 PM

Attachment 2

This area is provided as a convenient place to record finish time, boat ahead, and boat behind until it can be uploaded electronically.

Race: _____   Date: _____

Start Time: _:_____:_____   Finish Time: :_____:_____

Boat Ahead: _____   Sail #: _____

Boat Behind: _____   Sail #: _____

2nd Boat Behind: _____   Sail #: _____