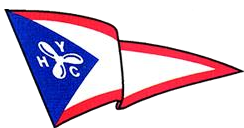


# 2023 Midwinter Regatta

February 24-26, 2023



**The Houston Yacht Club**  
3620 Miramar Drive, Shoreacres, TX 77571

(281) 471-1255

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

*The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).*

### 1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta shall be governed by the rules as defined in the 2021-2024 Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 Class rules shall also apply for One-Design classes racing as a class, except as noted herein.

### 2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 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.
- 2.2 Oral changes to the sailing instruction may be given on the water. Race Signal L will be displayed and all boats shall come within hail. Notification of the changes will be given to, and acknowledgement received from, each boat.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the breezeway adjacent to the HYC Office. Notices may also be posted at [www.regattanetwork.com/event/25783#\\_newsroom](http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/25783#_newsroom) when time permits.
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to communicate with competitors on VHF radio:
  - (a) Channel 68 for the Southern Racecourse.
  - (b) Channel 71 for the Northern Racecourse.
- 3.3 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

### 4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole at Houston Yacht Club.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

### 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

#### 5.1

Saturday, Feb 25 <sup>th</sup>	1100	First Warning Signal	
		Sunfish Class	5 races scheduled
		One-Design Classes	4 races scheduled
		PHRF Classes (Both)	3 races scheduled
Sunday, Feb 26 <sup>th</sup>	1000	First Warning Signal	
		Sunfish Class	5 races scheduled
		One-Design Classes	4 races scheduled
		PHRF, Spinnaker Class	3 races scheduled
		PHRF, Non-Spinnaker Class	2 races scheduled

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 5.2 One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that no class becomes more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is made according to SI 2.1 and SI 2.2.
- 5.3 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.4 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1430 hours.

### 6. CLASS FLAGS

Class	Warning/Start Flag	Race Area
PHRF, Non-Spin	Pink Flag	South
PHRF, Spinnaker	Green Flag	South
J-105	J-105 Class Flag: Yellow w/Blue	South
J-24	J-24 Class Flag: Lt. Blue w/Blue	South
J-22	J-22 Class Flag: Orange w/Blue	South
Ensign	Ensign Class Flag: White w/Red	North
Sunfish	Purple Flag	North

### 7. RACING AREA

The racing area is shown in Attachment A and identifies the approximate location of "Race Area South" and "Race Area North".

### 8. [NP] CHECK IN

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 number.

### 9. COURSES

- 9.1 The diagrams in Attachment C show the courses.
- 9.2 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee Signal boat will display a numeral pennant indicating the number of laps to be sailed.
- 9.3 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.
- 9.4 All marks other than the 2S gate mark shall be rounded leaving the mark to port. If a gate mark is missing, the remaining gate mark shall be rounded leaving the mark to port.

### 10. MARKS

- 10.1 For J-105 & PHRF classes, the windward mark is a yellow tetrahedron and an offset.
- 10.2 For J-24 & J-22 classes, the windward mark is an orange tetrahedron and an offset.
- 10.3 For Ensign & Sunfish classes, the windward mark is an orange tetrahedron and no offset.
- 10.4 For LA2 & LA3 courses, leeward marks are gates, designated 2P & 2S (See attachment C).
- 10.5 For L2 & L3 courses, there is a single leeward mark, designated 2 (See attachment B).

### 11. OBSTRUCTIONS

Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel while racing. Ship Channels are designated as obstructions.

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## 12. THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag from the signal boat on the starboard end and an orange mark or floating shape at the port end.
- 12.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 12.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 12.5 A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

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

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 13.2 For J/105 and PHRF classes the change mark is an orange tetrahedron.
- 13.3 For J/22 and J/24 Classes, the change mark is a yellow tetrahedron.
- 13.4 For Ensign and Sunfish classes, there will be no change of marks during a race.

## 14. THE FINISH

- 14.1 **Sunfish Class:** The Finish Line will be a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee boat and Mark S (the Starting Pin). All finishes are on the port side of the Race Committee boat.
- 14.2 **Ensign Class:** The Finish Line will be a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee boat and Mark S (the Starting Pin). All finishes are on the port side of the Race Committee boat.
- 14.3 **J/105, J/22, J/24, and PHRF Classes:** The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee boat on the starboard end and Mark-F, (Floating Green Tet) on the port end. All finishes are on the starboard side of the Race Committee boat. See attachment C.
- 14.4 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she shall report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## 15. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1 **PENALTY AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT** (*RRS Appendix V1*).  
The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: 'A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.' This changes RRS 44.1
- 15.2 **POST-RACE PENALTIES** (*RRS Appendix V2*)
  - (a) Provided that rule 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident.
  - (b) A Post-Race Penalty is a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as: 30% of the score for Did Not Finish, rounded to the nearest whole number (0.5 rounded upward). The scores of other boats shall not be changed; therefore, two boats may receive the same score. However, the penalty shall not cause the boat's score to be worse than the score for Did Not Finish. However, rule 44.1(a) applies.
  - (c) A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by delivering to the race office a written statement that she accepts the penalty and that identifies the race number and where and when the incident occurred.

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 16. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Class	Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
Sunfish	30 minutes	60 minutes	15 minutes
Ensign	30 minutes	60 minutes	15 minutes
J-22, J-24, J-105	45 minutes	90 minutes	20 minutes
PHRF (all)	45 minutes	90 minutes	30 minutes

- 16.2 If no boat in a class has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned for that class.
- 16.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat in a class sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized, or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one (1) more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.
- 16.4 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

### 17. HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1 Intent to protest shall be signaled in accordance with RRS 61.1. The protesting boat shall also notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity and be acknowledged before leaving the finish area. This changes RRS 61.1.
- 17.2 Protests shall be written on forms available at the office of the Houston Yacht Club and delivered there within sixty (60) minutes following the arrival in the harbor of the Race Committee boat for the racing line involved. This time will be posted on the "HYC Race Information" official notice board. This changes RRS Appendix S13.2.
- 17.3 The times and locations of the protest hearings, along with the names of the boats involved will be posted on the "HYC Race Information" official notice board at the entrance to the breezeway adjacent to the offices of The Houston Yacht Club no later than thirty (30) minutes after the protest time period.
- 17.4 For the purpose of meeting obligations under US Sailing prescriptions concerning redress, notification of a redress hearing shall be by posting on the official notice board for thirty (30) minutes. The requirement for written requests for attendance of the hearing will be satisfied by a signup sheet at the official protest table. No more than one person per boat may attend. No request for reopening a hearing will be accepted 30 minutes after a protest committee decision has been posted on the "HYC Race Information" official notice board. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 17.5 As a courtesy, the Protest Committee will attempt to notify the parties to a protest hearing or a redress hearing by telephone at the telephone number provided online on Regatta Network upon registration.

### 18. SCORING

- 18.1 The scoring system is in accordance with Appendix A of the RRS.
- 18.2 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta.
- 18.3 When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 18.4 Rule A5.3 applies.

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 [DP] A boat that retires from a 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 68** (all Lines). Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification from this regatta.
- 19.2 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race.

### 20. RISK STATEMENT

- 20.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.**
- 20.2 The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

### 21. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, or to contact club operations, please feel free to reach out to:

Greg Way, HYC Fleet Captain, [gregory.way@earthlink.net](mailto:gregory.way@earthlink.net)

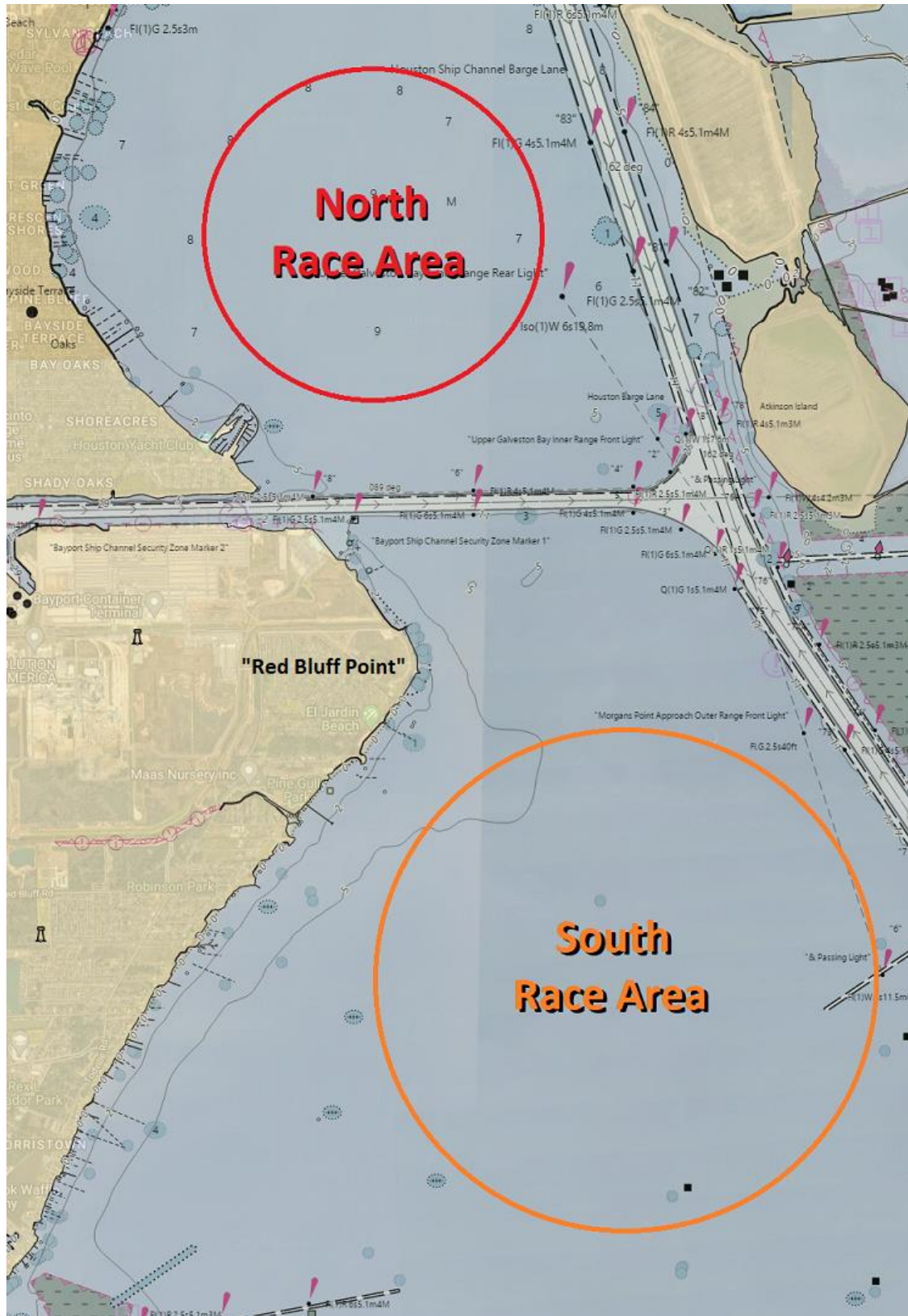
Tim Johnson, HYC Race & Regatta Chair, [tim.johnson.hyc@outlook.com](mailto:tim.johnson.hyc@outlook.com)

Sara O'Dell, HYC Communications Director, (281) 471-1255

Phillip Meeker, HYC Harbor Manager, (281) 471-1255

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

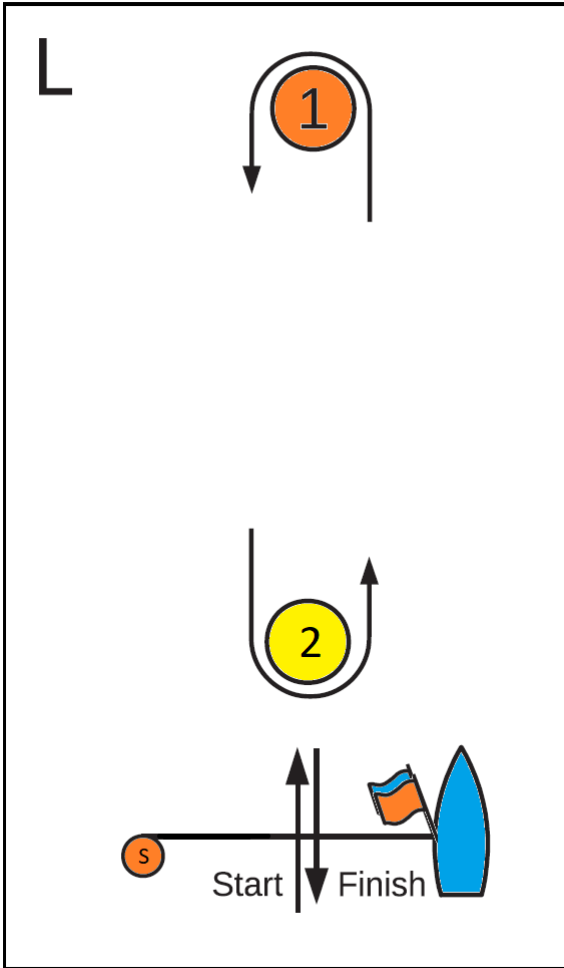
## ATTACHMENT A: RACING AREAS





# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## ATTACHMENT B: NORTH COURSES



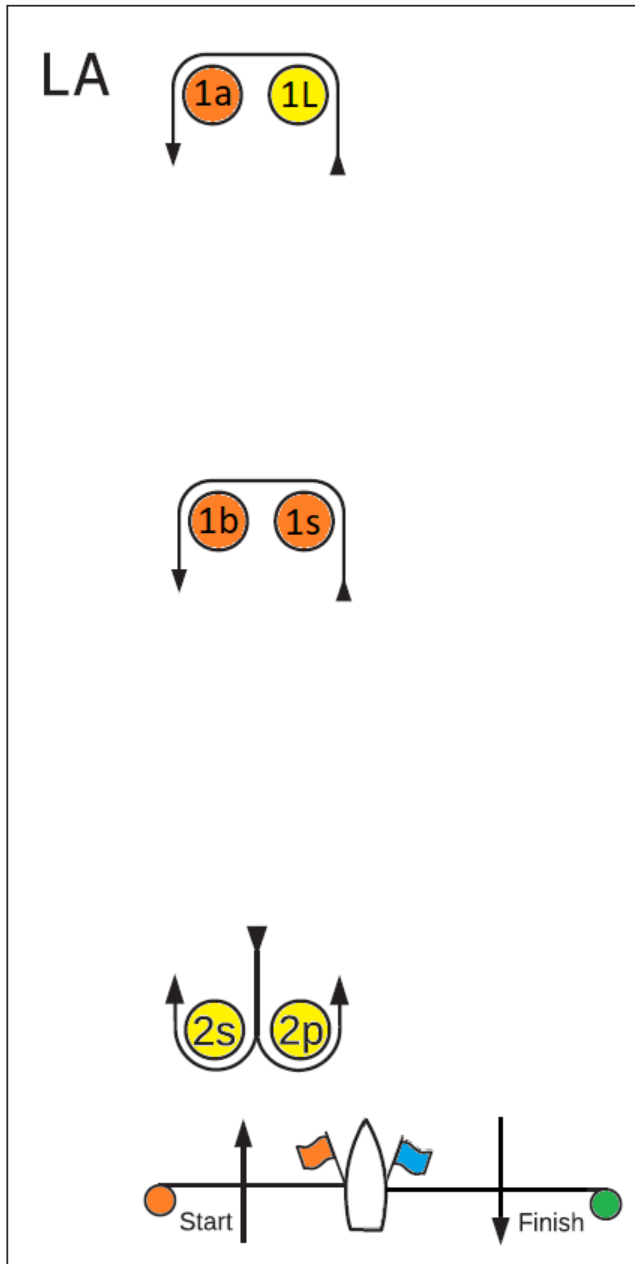
### COURSE L – Windward/Leeward, Leeward Finish

#### CLASSES: ENSIGN & SUNFISH

Course	Flag	Mark Rounding Order
L1	# 1	Start-1-Finish
L2	# 2	Start-1-2-1-Finish
L3	# 3	Start-1-2-1-2-1-Finish

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## ATTACHMENT C: SOUTH COURSES



### COURSE LA – Windward/Leeward, Leeward Finish

#### CLASSES: J-105 & PHRF (Both)

CRS	Flag	Mark Rounding Order
LA1	# 1	Start-1L-1a-Finish
LA2	# 2	Start-1L-1a-2s/2p-1L-1a-Finish
LA3	# 3	Start-1L-1a-2s/2p-1L-1a-2s/2p-1L-1a-Finish

#### CLASSES: J-22 & J-24

CRS	Flag	Mark Rounding Order
LA1	# 1	Start-1s-1b-Finish
LA2	# 2	Start-1s-1b-2s/2p-1s-1b-Finish
LA3	# 3	Start-1s-1b-2s/2p-1s-1b-2s/2p-1s-1b-Finish