

# NOTICE of RACE



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**2023 U.S. Multihull Championship  
for the Hobie Alter Cup  
October 4 – 8, 2023  
*Pensacola Yacht Club, FL***





The Organizing Authority (OA) is US Sailing in affiliation with Pensacola Yacht Club.

## 1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by rules as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), [US Sailing's Championship Conditions](#), the [U.S. Multihull Championship Conditions](#) and the [US Sailing Regulations](#).
- 1.2 All US Sailing prescriptions will apply. The full text of the US Sailing prescriptions are at: <https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2021-2024-US-Prescriptions-Final.pdf>
- 1.3 RRS 49.1 is changed to: 'The crew shall use no device designed to position their body outboard other than a trapeze, unballasted retractable seat or hiking strap.
- 1.4 In RRS 90.3(e) the expression "24 hours" is changed to "30 minutes"
- 1.5 **[NP][DP]** RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4 are changed as follows:
  - 1.5.1 The first sentence of RRS 40.1 is deleted and replaced by: "Each competitor shall wear a USCG approved personal flotation device (PFD), or a personal flotation device that conforms to regulations of their own country, properly secured at all times while on the water except when temporarily adding or removing clothing."
  - 1.5.2 Add to the preamble of Part 4, after 'racing': "...except rule 40.1 as amended by NoR 1.5.1"
- 1.6 The first three sentences of RRS 61.1(a) are changed to 'A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. When her protest will concern an incident in the racing area that she was involved in or saw she shall hail 'Protest'. She shall inform the Race Committee at the finishing line immediately after finishing of the boat(s) being protested or as soon as practicable after she retires.'
- 1.7 **[NP][DP]** Competitors and support persons shall promptly comply with any reasonable request or instructions from the Regatta officials, including the officials in charge of the boat parking, beach master and the harbor/channel traffic.
- 1.8 In all rules governing this regatta:  
Both 'athlete' and 'competitor' mean a person competing, or intending to compete, in the regatta.
- 1.9 **[SP]** denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the Race Committee or Technical Committee without a hearing (*This changes RRS A5.1*).
- 1.10 **[NP]** denotes a rules that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat and for which the Protest Committee may refuse to hold a hearing. (*This changes RRS 60.1(a) and 63.1*).

## 2 ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Advertising will conform to World Sailing Regulation 20 and the Class Rules.
- 2.2 Boats may be required to display sponsors' advertising for the duration of the event chosen and supplied by the OA.

## 3 ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 This event is open to all A-Class catamarans conforming to the Non-Foiling Classic Division International A-Class Catamaran Class Rules.
- 3.2 Competitors may be a citizen of any country and must be a current member of their national A-Class Association.
- 3.3 Since this is the US Multihull Championship (USMHC) competitors shall be current members of US Sailing or their Member National Authority for the duration of the event and shall meet the eligibility requirements of the United States Multihull Championship Conditions. Foreign national competitors who meet the eligibility requirements are welcome to participate; however, he/she will not be eligible to win the title or perpetual trophy. He/she will be eligible to receive event Medals for finishing first, second or third place. The title and perpetual trophy for the USMHC are reserved for a competitor with US Citizenship and or legal US alien status.

## 4 REGISTRATION AND FEES

- 4.1 A minimum of 15 boats must be registered with entry fee paid by September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Otherwise, the OA has the option to cancel or reduce the length of the regatta. If the event is cancelled by the OA, all paid entries will be fully refunded.
- 4.2 Event documents, current entries and registration are available on-line at:  
<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/championships/2023-u-s-multihull-championship>



- 4.3 Registration fees are:  
 Early Registration: \$300 up to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
 Regular Registration: \$350 July 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023  
 Late Registration: \$400 September 1<sup>st</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- 4.4 Cancellation fee is \$50 before September 1<sup>st</sup>; \$100 thereafter. No cancellation/refund after September 15<sup>th</sup>, except as provided in 4.1.
- 4.5 Registration fee includes Regatta T-shirt, the opening ceremony dinner, Saturday dinner, and awards ceremony with hors d'oeuvres. Additional activities will be announced at registration. Specify your shirt sizes, and please pay for guest meals when registering on-line. Competitors registering after September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, may not receive an event shirt.
- 4.6 Meal plans available for family members, support persons, and guests can be purchased for \$30/person per event/dinner (Thurs. and/or Sat.).
- 4.7 On-line registration closes at noon Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Central Time.
- 4.8 As a condition of entry, each competitor shall sign a liability waiver. The fully executed Liability Waiver Form shall be filled and submitted at registration prior to racing. The Liability Waiver Form can be found at:  
<https://form.jotform.com/211036206221134>

## 5 PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Time	Action
<b>Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup></b>	1200 - 1700	Check-in & Measurements
<b>Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup></b>	0915	Competitor's Meeting
	1100	First warning signal of the day
	After Racing	Opening Dinner sponsored by NAASA
<b>Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup></b>	1100	First warning signal of the day
	After Racing	Beer & debrief
<b>Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup></b>	1100	First warning signal of the day
	After Racing	Regatta Dinner at Pensacola Yacht Club
<b>Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup></b>	1100	First warning signal of the day
	1500	No warning signal after this time
	After Racing	Awards Ceremony & Hors D'oeuvres

- 5.1 This championship will have four (4) days of racing with the objective of three (3) to four (4) races per day.
- 5.2 The OA reserves the right to modify the program due to weather conditions or other causes.

## 6 BOATS AND CHARTERS

- 6.1 This event is a Bring-Your-Own Boat regatta to be sailed in Non-Foiling Classic A Class catamarans.
- 6.2 The Organizing Authority will have no role or responsibility regarding chartered boats.
- 6.3 Charter boats will be coordinated by Bill Vining. For charter boat information contact: Bill Vining at [wjving@yahoo.com](mailto:wjving@yahoo.com).
- 6.4 It will be the responsibility of the lessee and the boat owner to work out all charter boat costs, insurance and logistics.

## 7 VENUE AND RACE AREA

- 7.1 The venue host address: Pensacola Yacht Club, 1897 Cypress St., Pensacola, FL 32502.
- 7.2 The location of the racing area is on Pensacola Bay, Southeast of the entrance to Bayou Chico. See Attachment B.



## 8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 8.1 The Official Sailing Instructions will be available posted on the official Notice Board online by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

## 9 MEASUREMENT

- 9.1 Boats will not be weighed as part of check-in but must be certified and carry compensation weights based on their required measurement certificate.
- 9.2 Competitors are responsible for ensuring their equipment is Classic class legal. During the competition, any boat may be subject to inspection by a designated technical official. After each day of competition, the top three boats for the day are subject to being weighed.
- 9.3 No primary measurements will be made at the event unless previously arranged with an official A Class measurer. If primary measurement assistance is needed, please contact Chris Bolton, USACA Chief Measurer, for information regarding measurement for this event at [infousacat@gmail.com](mailto:infousacat@gmail.com) at least one month before the regatta.
- 9.4 Only one sail is allowed for this regatta.

## 10 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 10.1 RRS Appendix P, T and US Sailing Appendix V will apply.
- 10.2 Unless the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. *(This changes RRS 44.2.)*

## 11 SCORING

- 11.1 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 11.2 When six (6) to eleven (11) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 11.3 When twelve (12) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst two scores.
- 11.4 Three (3) races must be completed to constitute a Championship.

## 12 SUPPORT BOATS

- 12.1 This event is a Grade 3 event as defined in US Sailing's Support Vessel Guidelines at: <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/resources/coaching-and-support-boat-policy/>
- 12.2 No private/team coaching is allowed.
- 12.3 Support boats are allowed but must be outside of the racing area.

## 13 [NP][DP][SP] LIFE JACKETS/PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (PFD) AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

- 13.1 US competitors shall wear a US Coast Guard (USCG) approved Life Jacket/PFD that is 100% dependent on foam for flotation and the appropriate size for the sailor. No modifications of the Life Jacket/PFD are permitted.
- 13.2 Competitors from outside the U.S. may wear a Life Jacket/PFD approved by their nations' certification authority to the extent permitted by international treaty and International A Class rules. No modifications of the Life Jacket/PFD are permitted.
- 13.3 The Life Jacket/PFD must be worn outside of all clothing except that a thin shirt may be worn over the PFD to prevent snagging.

## 14 PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

- 14.1 US Sailing Regulation 10.03 Prohibited Substances will apply.
- 14.2 For adult US Sailing championship events, no competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water: marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law.

## 15 COMMUNICATION

- 15.1 It is recommended (but not required) that all boats have a hand-held VHF radio on board to receive communication from the Race Committee and to communicate in emergency situations.



- 15.2 **[DP]** From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency or as required by a rule, a boat shall not make voice nor data transmissions and shall not receive voice nor data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 15.3 The RC may broadcast on the designated VHF Channel:
- the course, bearing and distance information before the warning signal, start times, course changes and any other information important to racing.
  - Individual recalls and boats penalized under RRS 30.2 or RRS 30.3 using bow/sail numbers. *(This changes RRS 29.1, 30.2 and 30.3)*
- 15.4 Any failure of a boat to receive or properly interpret the information or an action of the RC acting under NoR 15.3 will not be grounds for request a redress *(This Changes RRS 62.1 (a))*.

## 16 ELECTRONICS/GPS DEVICES

- 16.1 GPS tracking devices or other electronic instruments that utilize data to determine position, speed or distance to start line are permitted per A-Class rules. This includes wrist watches with GPS capability.

## 17 SAFETY AND SUPPORT PERSON / SUPPORT VESSEL REGULATIONS

- 17.1 A towing line minimum 15 meters (48 feet) long and 6 mm (1/4 inch) diameter is required to be onboard while on the water.
- 17.2 **[DP]** Before the first warning signal of each day, all boats shall sail past the stern of the RC Signal Vessel on starboard tack and check in by hailing their sail/bow number. They shall continue to do so until their sail/bow number is verbally acknowledged by the RC.
- 17.3 **[DP] [NP] [SP]** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC before leaving the course area or immediately after arriving ashore via radio contact from PYC (Regatta Director or PYC staff).
- 17.4 Each support vessel shall have a working VHF radio and monitor the radio, an anchor suitable for anchoring in the waiting area, a basic first aid kit and **a kill-cord attached to the driver at all times while on the water.**
- 17.5 **[SP]** No drones are allowed closer than 500 meters from racing areas from the Warning Signal for a race and after the last boat has finished the race. As a penalty for breaching this rule the protest committee may impose a discretionary penalty to all boats associated with the owner / operator of the drone. This *rule* does not apply to the OA drones.
- 17.6 Support persons and Support Vessels shall register with the race office during registration times. They shall declare which boat or boats to which they are attached. Support persons and support vessels shall declare proof of insurance and provide photo ID of the driver. Vessels shall comply with local laws and regulations regarding their operation.
- 17.7 Under all circumstances support vessels are expected to assist any boat in danger.
- 17.8 Support boats shall display a flag, or other identification symbol, as may be required by the RC.
- 17.9 **[DP] [NP]** Team leaders and other support personnel / spectator vessels shall be outside of the racing area described in the Sailing Instructions from the Preparatory Signal until the last boat finishes the race or the RC displays a postponement, general recall or abandonment signal, unless they are helping a boat in danger. Breaking this rule will be penalized by the Protest Committee.
- 17.10 The **racing area** is defined as a surface which borders are over 100 meters from the layline.
- 17.11 The **starting area** is a rectangle with its borders 100 meters to windward and leeward and 100 meters to pin ends of the starting line.

## 18 [NP] INSURANCE

- 18.1 Each participating boat shall have current third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of not less than \$300,000 USD. Proof of insurance must be presented at registration.

## 19 PRIZES

- 19.1 US Sailing medals will be awarded to the first, second and third highest eligible competitors registered for the USMHC regardless of nationality.
- 19.2 The highest-ranking US competitor registered for the USMHC will be named the 2023 United States Multihull Champion and have their names placed on the perpetual Hobie Alter Trophy.



## 20 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 20.1 Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The OA 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.
- 20.2 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor and the responsible adult agree and acknowledges that:
- They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
  - They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
  - They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
  - Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
  - The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
  - The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

## 21 FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Regatta Chair: Susan McKinnon 850 450 0703 [susanmckinnon@me.com](mailto:susanmckinnon@me.com)
- PRO Hal Smith [hal\\_smith@mindspring.com](mailto:hal_smith@mindspring.com)
- A Class President Bob Webbon [bobwebbon@aol.com](mailto:bobwebbon@aol.com)
- US Sailing Multihull Chair: John Nekus 312 656 1689 [johnnekus@gmail.com](mailto:johnnekus@gmail.com)
- US Sailing: Nancy Mazzulli 401 342 7961 [nancymazzulli@ussailing.org](mailto:nancymazzulli@ussailing.org)
- A Class Measurement: Chris Bolton [CBoltonh20@cox.net](mailto:CBoltonh20@cox.net)



# Attachment A

## *(Not part of the NoR)*

### General Information

#### A.1 CAMPING

A.1.1 There is tent camping available at this venue. Prior approval from the Organizing Authority is required. Other local campgrounds can be found at the following link: <https://www.visitpensacola.com/places-to-stay/campgrounds-and-rv-parks/>

#### A.2 HOTELS

A.2.1 There are no hotels within walking distance of the venue.

A.2.2 Use any of the following accommodation search sites or others to find suitable lodging to fit your budget:  
[www.expedia.com](http://www.expedia.com) – for hotels and apartments [www.hometogo.com](http://www.hometogo.com) – this site searches all vacation rental sites  
[www.vrbo.com](http://www.vrbo.com) – vacation rental options [www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com) - vacation rental options

#### A.3 NEAREST AIRPORT

A.3.1 Pensacola International Airport is the closest major airport and is located 7 miles from the venue.

#### A.4 PARKING

A.4.1. Parking is available on site next to the boat launch ramps and storage fields.

#### A.5 BOAT ARRIVAL AND BEACH ACCESS

A.5.1 Boats may not arrive at Pensacola Yacht Club before October 1st and must be removed by October 9th.

#### A.6 CONTAINERS

A.6.1 Containers may not be scheduled to arrive before September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

A.6.2 Containers may arrive/depart any day between sunrise and sunset.

A.6.3 Containers must be removed no later than October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

A.6.4 For boats shipped by container or truck, the containers/trucks will have a designated storage location in the parking lot.

A.6.5 Contact Greg Spitzer – Pensacola YC Dockmaster, [dockmaster@pycfl.com](mailto:dockmaster@pycfl.com) – to coordinate container arrival. See contact info below.



# Attachment B RACE AREA

