



# 2023 GBCA Offshore

## June 3-4, 2023

### Galveston Bay Cruising Association

#### NOTICE OF RACE

#### 1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (“RRS”) except as changed as follows:
  - 1.1.1. The time limit for boats to finish is Sunday, June 4 16:00 hours. If any boat in a class finishes within the time limit, other boats in that class that have started but do not finish within the time limit will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) equal to the number of finishing boats in the Class, plus 2, but in no case greater than the number of boats starting in that Class. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5. Failure to meet the time limit will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
  - 1.1.2. Part 2 of the RRS will be replaced with IRPCAS between sunset and sunrise.
  - 1.1.3. Boats in PHRF Non-spinnaker and in Multihull Classes may use power driven winches. This modifies RRS 52.
  - 1.1.4. Appendix V2 applies.
- 1.2. The rules of the Offshore Racing Congress Club Rule (“ORC”) for the ORC fleet.
- 1.3. The rules of the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet of Galveston Bay (“PHRF-GB,” or simply “PHRF”) for monohulls competing in PHRF classes.
- 1.4. The rules of the Texas Offshore Multihull Association (“TOMA”) for multihulls.
- 1.5. [NP] If the Race Committee receives a confirmed report from a disinterested party that a boat interfered with commercial traffic in violation of the I.R.P.C.A.S. while transiting to the race area, while *racing*, or while transiting to her mooring after *finishing*, the Race Committee may protest that boat and seek disqualification. Any competitor so disqualified may be disqualified from future TORC events.

#### 2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. The event is open to all boats of the ORC, PHRF Non-Spinnaker, Cruising boats registered with PHRF (non-spinnaker or with spinnaker), One-Design, and Multihulls registered with TOMA.
- 2.2. Boats may enter the event by registering online at [https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet\\_registration\\_form.php?regatta\\_id=26496](https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=26496).
- 2.3. Monohulls must have a hull length of at least 27 feet.
- 2.4. All handicap boats must have a current, valid rating certificate from the applicable rating authority (PHRF-GB for Monohulls; Offshore Racing Congress for ORC class; TOMA for Multihulls).
- 2.5. Division splits and class selections may be adjusted at the discretion of the race committee. A minimum of three boats constitutes a class. The race committee may, at its discretion, allow a class of two boats.

- 3. FEES:** The entry fee is \$85.00 per boat. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the race committee and with an additional late fee of \$25.00.

**4. SCHEDULE**

Wednesday, May 31 <sup>st</sup>	22:00 hours	Registration Deadline
Thursday, June 1 <sup>st</sup>	18:00 hours	Classes are formed
Thursday, June 1 <sup>st</sup>	19:00 hours	Skippers meeting at the GBCA Clubhouse
Saturday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11:00 hours	First Warning Signal
Sunday, June 4 <sup>th</sup>	16:00 hours	Time Limit Expires for all classes
Saturday, June 17 <sup>th</sup>	19:00 hours (est)	Awards presentation at Rum Race # 1 Social

4.1 Registration must be received before 22:00 Wednesday, May 31, 2023. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the race committee.

4.2 The non-mandatory Competitor’s Briefing will be held at 19:00, June 1, 2023, at the GBCA Clubhouse.

4.3 The scheduled time of the warning signal is 11:00 on Saturday, June 3, 2023.

4.4 Awards will be presented on June 17<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Rum Race #1 social at the GBCA Clubhouse.

**5. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION**

5.1. Boats may receive a request from the race committee to be inspected at any time.

**6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

6.1. The sailing instructions (SI’s) will be available after Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 16:00 hours at the GBCA Clubhouse and on the official event site on Regatta Network.

**7. COMMUNICATION**

7.1. The online official notice board is located at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/26496>

7.2. On the water, the race committee may make informative broadcasts to competitors on the VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SI’s.

7.3. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

**8. VENUE**

8.1. The racing area shall be within the Galveston jetties and in the Gulf of Mexico within 40 nautical miles of the eastern end of the Galveston jetties, Markers 5a or 6a.

**9. COURSES**

- 9.1. The racecourse will consist of 3 or more legs from the end of the Galveston jetties and will be of overall lengths of from approximately 30-40 nautical miles to approximately 80 nautical miles. The specific courses will be provided in the SI's.

## **10. SCORING AND PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 10.1. The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, applies. The penalty is 2 places.

## **11. PRIZES**

- 11.1. Prizes will be awarded in each class for the best corrected time. Additional awards may be presented at the discretion of the race committee.
- 11.2. This Regatta is one of three events of the Texas Offshore Circuit (TORC), consisting of the designated offshore regattas hosted by the Galveston Bay Cruising Association (GBCA), Houston Yacht Club (HYC) and Lakewood Yacht Club (LYC). Texas Navy Trophy.
- 11.3. Boats sailing in the ORC Class will be eligible to compete for the Texas Navy Trophy, which is the TORC championship trophy. To be eligible, the winning skipper must have participated in all three regattas. For purposes of Texas Navy Trophy scoring, the results of the HYC and LYC regattas shall count as one race and the result of the GBCA event shall count as two races. Eligible yachts will be scored against each other, and not against ineligible yachts.
- 11.4. Boats sailing in the PHRF Non-Spinnaker Class will be eligible for the S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy if they have entered all three regattas in the same class.

## **12. WAIVER**

- 12.1. 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.

## **13. INSURANCE**

- 13.1. [NP] Each participating boat shall be insured with valid, third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

## **14. FURTHER INFORMATION**

- 14.1. For further information please contact Commodore, Chris May, at 713-591-8115 or [may.chris.w@gmail.com](mailto:may.chris.w@gmail.com) , or Prior Commodore, Scott Tuma, at 281-705-3712, or [www.gbca.org](http://www.gbca.org)