



2023 GBCA Fall Race Series & Chili Chase

Galveston Bay
10/21, 11/4, 12/2 - 2023
Galveston Bay Cruising Association

NOTICE OF SERIES & 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;
https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/27157#_newsroom

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
- 6.3. There is no charge for the series, but to be scored for the series, entry for Chili Chase must be paid before the event.
- 6.4. There is no charge for entering the Chili portion of the event.
- 6.5. **Chili Entries**
 - There will be a separate Chili Competition open to any individual or group. Entrants are requested to provide enough Chili for sampling by 10 judges. Judges will be selected by

the GBCA Commodore or their delegate.

6.6. Chili Competition - Rules to Competitors

1. All chili entrees must be made from scratch - any evidence of packaged chili and you will be summarily disqualified and keel-hauled
2. There will be two categories for competition
 - a. **Cooked on the boat** - (no reheating) from scratch, submit photo to RC of chili cooking
 - b. **Cooked at home**
3. Chili can have beans or not - you do you
4. **Cut-off time for chili entry will be 17:00**
5. If you are entering chili, please bring to the judges table as soon as you arrive at the Clubhouse
6. The committee will collect the judging sample of your chili and will provide you an entry number
7. You then may proceed to donate your pot of chili for general consumption - please bring your own spoon/ladle for serving
8. Judging will be done by a panel of distinguished chili epicureans who will rate your chili on
 - Aroma
 - Texture
 - Color
 - Taste
9. Chili awards will be made along with the race awards at the GBCA Clubhouse

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, Fall Series #3/Chili Chase Regatta, will be a paid race.
- 7.4. To enter Chili Chase Regatta, enter online at:
https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=27157
- 7.5. The entry fee will be \$40.00. Entry fees will be refunded if the entry is withdrawn prior to the entry deadline minus a 10% administration fee. The deadline for all entries is Friday, December 1, 2023 at 1930 CST.

8. SCHEDULE

October 21 st	Standard
November 4 th	Reverse
December 2 nd	Either direction – you choose

- 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 **Sunset**. 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 PHRF rating certificate.
- 9.2. Cruising Club classes will have a valid GBCA Club Handicap rating. Cruising Club classes are also encouraged to have a valid PHRF certificate. 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:

- **ORC Spinnaker class** – Any boat with a valid ORC Club or ORCi certificate are eligible. In addition, boats in a recognized One Design configuration (ODR) or common configuration that are listed on the start time schedule included in Attachment #2 are eligible as well. If your boat or boat type are not listed, please reach out to Commodore Chris May (may.chris.w@gmail.com).
- **PHRF Spinnaker class** – All boats with a valid PHRFGB rating certificate are eligible. Any yacht without a current PHRF-GB rating shall race in the GBCA Club Handicap classes with rating guidelines applied.
- **PHRF 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 are those shown on each yacht's 2023 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. For the Cruising Club Classes, Skippers who do not have a valid Galveston Bay PHRF certificate may obtain a provisional rating from the Commodore at may.chris.w@gmail.com or 713-591-8115. 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.

10.3. GBCA Club 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 StoneLack@icloud.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.

Club Handicap 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 ORC Spinnaker class flag is **pink**
- The PHRF 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 Non-Spinnaker 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. **OBSTRUCTION AREAS**

12.3. 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.

12.4. The newly constructed San Leon Oyster Mitigation reef bounded by:

- - SLOM 1E: **N 29° 31.463' W 094° 59.115'**
- - SLOM 1A: **N 29° 32.027' W 094° 58.372'**
- - SLOM 2A: **N 29° 33.310' W 094° 56.817'**
- - SLOM 2B: **N 29° 31.845' W 094° 56.305'**

And the shoreline perpendicular to these points shall rank as an obstruction. See Attachment #3, Racing Area, for a graphic representation of the area. The above points are virtual and not physically marked.

13. COURSES

13.1.

Marks of the course: NOTE: DIFFERENT FROM RUM RACE AND ICICLE COURSES

- 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° 59.551'**
 - GBCA "J" mark: **N 29° 31.333' W 094° 55.495'**
 - GBCA "H" mark: **N 29° 33.255' W 094° 56.542'**
 - GBCA "F" mark: Houston Ship Channel High Range mark: **N 29° 34.671' W 094° 56.518'**
- In the event any of these marks are missing, boats shall round the coordinates given.**

Course Headings and Distances:

Fall Series Standard Course:

- Leg 1: #1/#2 to "H" approximately 2.61 nm bearing approximately 88°
 - Leg 2: "H" to "J" approximately 2.13 nm bearing approximately 155°
 - Leg 3: "J" to "F" approximately 3.45 nm bearing approximately 345°
 - Leg 4: "F" to "#1/#2" approximately 3.04 nm bearing approximately 240°
- Total course length is **11.23** nautical miles

Fall Series Reverse Course:

- Leg 1: #1/#2 to "F" approximately 3.04 nm bearing approximately 060°
 - Leg 2: "F" to "J" approximately 3.45 nm bearing approximately 165°
 - Leg 3: "J" to "H" approximately 2.13 nm bearing approximately 335°
 - Leg 4: "H" to #1/#2 approximately 2.61 nm bearing approximately 268°
- Total course length is **11.23** nautical miles

13.2. Starting Times

The starting times are listed in Attachment #1 and Attachment #2. 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 are based on a course length of 11.23 nautical miles and are computed so that a yacht with a rating of 285 will start (base start time) at 11:00 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.

$$S = 11.23 \times (285 - R)$$

Starting Time = base time + **S**

For ORC, each boat with a valid ORC certificate is listed in Attachment #2.

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 13.2 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 at May.Chris.W@gmail.com, 713-591-8115. 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. High point scoring will be used for series awards
- 15.2. Points will be given for the series as follows:

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

- 15.3. Series awards will be based on the highest points scored across the entire series in each class with no throw outs.

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 3, 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 GBCA at www.gbca.org

Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors!!!



ATTACHMENTS ARE SAVED AS SEPARATE DOCUMENTS.