



2024 North American Championship

and

Admiral's Cup

April 5 – 13, 2024

Pensacola Yacht Club, FL



Notice of Race & Sailing Instructions

NOTICE OF RACE & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



The Organizing Authority (OA) is Pensacola Yacht Club.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by rules as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The Equipment Rules of Sailing ([https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/EquipmentRulesofSailing20212024-\[26661\].pdf](https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/EquipmentRulesofSailing20212024-[26661].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 an approved personal flotation device (PFD) according to Class Rule C5.1, 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 In all rules governing this regatta:
Both 'athlete' and 'competitor' mean a person competing, or intending to compete, in the regatta.
- 1.8 **[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*).
- 1.9 **[NP]** denotes a rule 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 CODE OF CONDUCT [NP] [DP]

- 2.1 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.

3 ADVERTISING

- 3.1 Boats may be required to display sponsors' advertising for the duration of the event chosen and supplied by the OA.

4 ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 This event is open to all boats of A-Class catamarans conforming to the Class Rules.
- 4.2 Competitors may be a citizen of any country, must be a current member of their national A-Class Association and shall have their entry endorsed by their respective Class Association.
- 4.3 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 REGISTRATION AND FEES

- 5.1 Event documents, current entries and registration are available on-line at:
<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/27170>
- 5.2 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 5.3 On-line registration closes at noon March 27th, 2024 Central Time. Entries received after March 27, 2024, will be accepted at the sole discretion of the OA after explanation by the competitor of extenuating circumstances to be considered.





5.4 Registration fees are:

EVENT	Entry Fee		Refunds		
	Through March 15th	March 16 th to March 27 th	Before March 15th	March 16 th to March 27 th	After March 27 th
Admiral's Cup	\$190	\$225	90%	50%	None
North American Championship	\$275	\$310	90%	50%	None
Both Events	\$385	\$440	90%	50%	None

5.5 Registration fee includes Regatta T-shirt and all social events for competitors. Additional activities will be announced at registration. Specify your shirt sizes, and please pay for guest meals when registering on-line. Competitors registering after March 27th, 2024, may not receive an event shirt.

5.6 Meal plans available for family members, support persons, and guests can be purchased for \$30/person per event/dinner

6 CHANGES TO RULES

6.1 Changes to the *rules* will be posted on the ONB before 0830am on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted no later than 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

6.2 In accordance with RRS 90.2 (c), oral changes to the Sis may be made on the water. A change is in effect when the Race Committee signal vessel displays code flag L with one sound. This means come within hail of the RC Signal Vessel to receive the oral changes.

7 PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Time	Action
Thursday, April 4 th	0900 - 1700	Check-in for Admiral's Cup Measurement of boats without Certificates (by appointment Only)
Friday, April 5 th	0900 – 1700	Measurement of boats without Certificates (by appointment Only)
	1030	Competitor's Meeting
	1300	First warning signal of the day – Admiral's Cup
Saturday, April 6 th	0900 - 1700	Measurement of boats without Certificates (by appointment Only)
	1100	First warning signal of the day – Admiral's Cup
Sunday, April 7 th	1100	First warning signal of the day – Admiral's Cup
	1400	No Warning Signal after this time
	After Racing	Awards ceremony for Admiral's Cup, Competitors Meeting for North American Championship and Regatta Dinner at Pensacola Yacht Club
Monday, April 8 th	0900 – 1700	Check-in for North American Championship Measurement of boats without Certificates (by appointment Only)
Tuesday, April 9 th	1100	First warning signal of the day – North American Championship
Wednesday, April 10 th	1100	First Warning Signal of the day – North American Champ
	1800	Competitor's dinner at Pensacola Yacht Club
Thursday, April 11 th		Lay Day (<i>The RC may decide to use this day if behind the schedule</i>)
Friday, April 12 th	1100	First Warning Signal of the day – North American Champ
Saturday, April 13 th	1100	First Warning Signal of the day – North American Champ
	1400	No Warning Signal after this time
	After Racing	Awards ceremony for North American Championship





- 7.1 Seven (7) races are scheduled for Admiral's Cup. Twelve (12) races are scheduled for North American Championship. One race is required to constitute a series.
- 7.2 No more than three (3) races are scheduled each day unless the event is behind schedule or poor weather is forecasted, in which case a fourth race may be run. The OA reserves the right to modify the program due to weather conditions or other causes.

8 EQUIPMENT

- 8.1 Each boat registered for North American Championship shall produce or verify the existence of a valid measurement certificate including sails, platform, and mast, no later than Saturday, April 8th 2024.
- 8.2 A limited number of fundamental measurements may be available on an appointment basis only. Appointments can be done here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084AA9AE28A1FDC70-45242048-equipment#/>
- 8.3 Boats are subject to inspection at any time at the reasonable discretion of the Class, Race Officer, Measurer or his/her designee.
- 8.4 There is no restriction on the use of electronic compasses, GPS, and other speed or location displaying devices. (See also 25.1 of this document).
- 8.5 Boats shall display their assigned sail number.
- 8.6 Competitors may use alternate equipment for the Admiral's Cup.

9 [DP] REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

- 9.1 For North American Championship only, substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorized in writing by the Measurer or his designate before the first race or by the Race committee (Principal Race Officer or his designate) thereafter. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 9.2 Any substitution granted via SI 9.1 will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

10 VENUE AND RACE AREA

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

11 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 11.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located in the main yard at Pensacola YC.
- 11.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes.' (This changes RRS 25.2 and Race Signals)

12 CLASS FLAG

- 12.1 The class flag is a white flag with the A Class logo in black.

13 OFFICIAL VESSELS

- 13.1 Official vessels will be identified as follows:
 - Race committee signal vessel with a blue flag and white letters RC.
 - Protest Committee vessels with an INTERCO Flag J.
 - Safety vessels will display INTERCO Pennant 8.

14 COURSES

- 14.1 The diagram in Attachment A shows the courses, the course designations, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 14.2 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee Signal Vessel may display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg and shall display the Race Course to be sailed.
- 14.3 If the offset, a Leeward Gate Mark (2s or 2p) or a Windward Gate Mark (1s or 1p) is missing the remaining mark shall be left to port.





15 MARKS

- 15.1 Marks 1(1S), 1a(1P) and Leeward Gate will be orange inflatable tetrahedrons.
- 15.2 New marks used according to SI 18 will be yellow inflatable tetrahedron.
- 15.3 The starting marks will be RC vessel with an orange flag and a green inflatable tetrahedron.
- 15.4 The finishing marks will be RC Vessel with a blue flag and a red inflatable ball.

16 WIND LIMITS

- 16.1 The wind limits for a race to start or to continue are:

	For a race to start	A race may be abandoned when
Minimum	≥ 5 knots	< 5 knots
Maximum	≤ 21 knots	

- 16.2 The Race Committee:
 - 1) Shall consider the wave conditions to ensure safe sailing conditions.
 - 2) Shall consider the limits above as an average for 5 minutes.

17 THE START

- 17.1 The start line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Vessel on the starboard end and the windward side of the starting mark on the port end.
- 17.2 To alert boats that a race will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed at least one (1) minute before a warning signal is displayed.
- 17.3 The race committee may display a board at the stern of the Race Committee Signal Vessel showing the number of the OCS/UFD boats. Any improper action or omission associated with this display board is not subject to redress. *(This changes RRS 62.1(a))*
- 17.4 A boat that does not start within five (5) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *(This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2)*

18 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 18.1 If during a race the Race Committee changes the position of mark 1, mark 1a (offset mark) will no longer be a mark of the course for the remainder of that race. After rounding the new mark 1, boats will sail directly to the finish line.
- 18.2 Any adjustment of any leg of the course, while boats are racing, by moving mark(s) up to 010° in bearing and/or 0.2 nm in length will not be considered a change of course. *(This changes RRS 33)*

19 THE FINISH

- 19.1 The finishing line is between staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Signal Vessel on the starboard side and the windward side of the finishing mark on the port side.

20 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 20.1 The mark 1 time limit, race time limit, the finishing window and target times are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window	Target Time
30 mins.	90 mins.	40 mins.	35 mins.

- 20.2 If no boat has passed the first mark within the mark 1 time limit, the race shall be abandoned. *(This changes RRS 32.1)*.
- 20.3 The finishing window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the finishing window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored DNF. *(This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2)*





20.4 Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. *(This changes RRS 62.1(a)).*

21 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 21.1 RRS Appendix P, T and US Sailing Appendix V will apply.
- 21.2 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.)*

22 HEARING REQUESTS

- 22.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the ONB.
- 22.2 Hearing requests shall be delivered, within the appropriate time limit, at the following link <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfuRupOHjDCRHO6gcscNWg3UQjvw2UumKq8PZvGzArxfrG5sg/viewform> and using the email to deliver it: cesar@pycflboard.com
- 22.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the race office beginning at as soon as possible.
- 22.4 Rule 42 infringements will be posted by the Protest Committee on the ONB before the protest time limit expires.
- 22.5 Within the protest time limit, the RC shall post on the ONB the boats that are disqualified or penalized under A5. A boat so notified may only request for redress within 30 minutes after that posting. *(This changes RRS 62.2)*
- 22.6 Notices of protests by the RC or the Protest Committee will be posted on the ONB to inform boats under rule 61.1 b).

23 SCORING

- 23.1 The Open and Classic Fleets will share the same start and course. Each race will be scored as three Divisions: Open, Classic, and Overall. A minimum of five (5) boats are required to constitute a division.
- 23.2 When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 23.3 When five (5) to eight (8) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 23.4 When nine (9) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst two scores.

24 COMMUNICATION

- 24.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board Online (ONB) at https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/26371#_newsroom
- 24.2 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.
- 24.3 **[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.
- 24.4 The RC may broadcast on the designated VHF Channel:
 - a) the course, bearing and distance information before the warning signal, start times, course changes and any other information important to racing.
 - b) 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)*
- 24.5 Any failure of a boat to receive or properly interpret the information or an action of the RC acting under SI 24.4 will not be grounds for request a redress *(This Changes RRS 62.1 (a)).*

25 ELECTRONICS/GPS DEVICES

- 25.1 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 wristwatches with GPS capability. The data from any GPS device will not be used as evidence for hearing request *(This changes RRS 63.6)*





26 SAFETY AND SUPPORT PERSON / SUPPORT VESSEL REGULATIONS

- 26.1 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.
- 26.2 **[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.
- 26.3 **[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).
- 26.4 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.**
- 26.5 **[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.
- 26.6 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.
- 26.7 Under all circumstances support vessels are expected to assist any boat in danger.
- 26.8 Support boats shall display a flag or other identification symbol, as may be required by the RC.
- 26.9 **[DP] [NP]** Team leaders and other support personnel / spectator vessels shall be outside of the racing area described in 26.10 and 26.11 below 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.
- 26.10 The **racing area** is defined as a surface which borders are over 100 meters from the layline.
- 26.11 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.

27 [NP] INSURANCE

- 27.1 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.

28 PRIZES

- 28.1 Trophies will be awarded 1st thru 5th in the Open and Classic fleets for both events.
- 28.2 The perpetual North American Champion trophy will be awarded to the winner of the Overall fleet.
- 28.3 The Craig Yandow perpetual trophy will be awarded to the top Classic finisher.

29 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 29.1 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.
- 29.2 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:
 - a) 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;
 - b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
 - d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - e) 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;
 - f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.



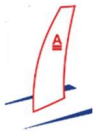


30 FOR MORE INFORMATION

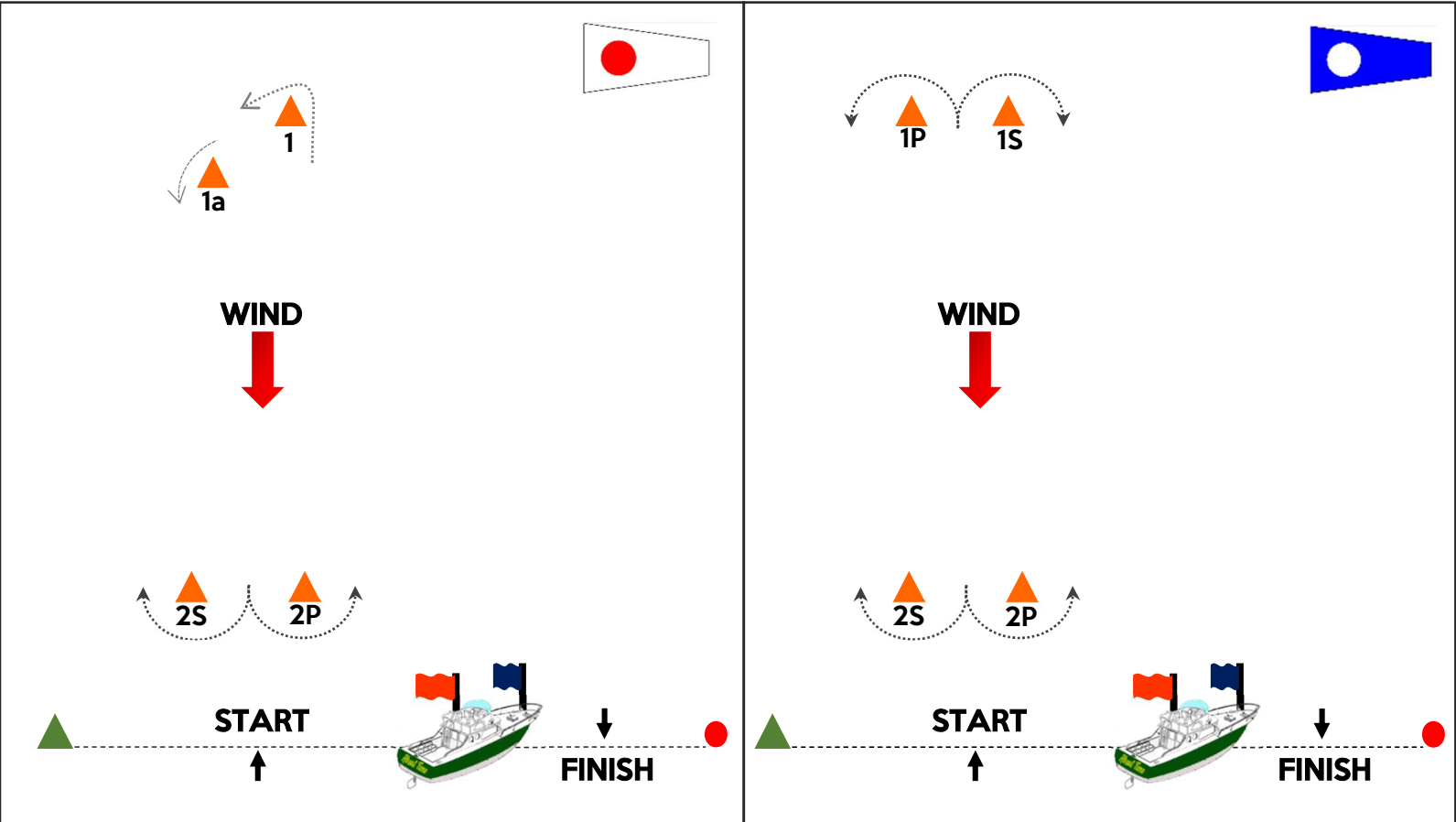
- Regatta Chair: Tom Pace tomracechair@gmail.com
- PRO Hal Smith hal_smith@mindspring.com
- A Class President Michael Christensen m.christensen14@gmail.com
- A Class Measurement: Chris Bolton CBoltonh20@cox.net

Approved by US A Class Association
Signature: Michael Christensen

Principal Race Officer
Signature: Hal Smith



Attachment A - COURSES DIAGRAMS



COURSE AND ORDER TO PASS THE MARKS		MARKS	
	Pennant 1: Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – Finish		1(1S), 1a(1P), 2S and 2P (Inflatable Orange)
	Pennant 2: Start – 1S/1P – 2S/2P – 1S/1P – Finish		Starting mark
			Finishing mark

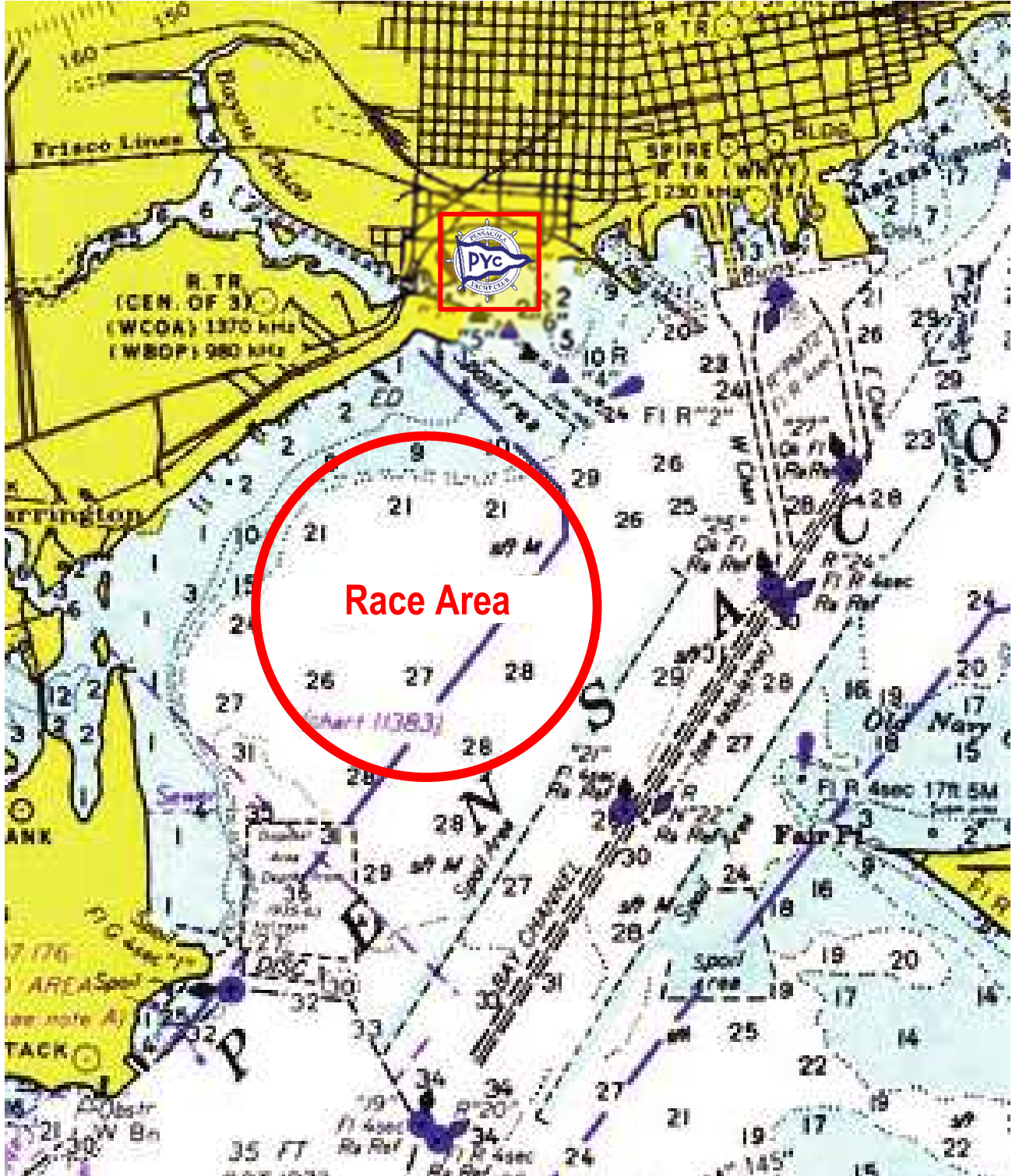
Marks are to be rounded to **PORT**, except that boats shall sail between the gate marks (2S/2P) from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark.



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Attachment B RACE AREA





Attachment C (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 – for hotels and apartments www.hometogo.com – this site searches all vacation rental sites
www.vrbo.com – vacation rental options 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 CONTAINERS

A.5.1 Containers may not be scheduled to arrive before April 1st, 2024.

A.5.2 Containers may arrive/depart any day between sunrise and sunset.

A.5.3 Containers must be removed no later than April 10th, 2024.

A.5.4 For boats shipped by container or truck, the containers/trucks will have a designated storage location in the parking lot.

A.5.5 Contact Greg Spitzer – Pensacola YC Dockmaster, dockmaster@pycfl.com – to coordinate container arrival. See contact info below.

