



2025 GBCA Classic Canvas Regatta

May 31, 2025

Organizing Authority: Galveston Bay Cruising Association
Clear Lake Shores, TX USA

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
- 1.2 The notation “[DP]” in a rule in these Sailing Instructions means that the penalty for a breach of a rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 1.3 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: “(2) If it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or”

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, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.2 Changes to a sailing instruction may be made on the water by contacting the specific class(s) affected by VHF notifying of the change.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Regatta Network event Notice Board; https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/29533#_newsroom
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 69.
- 3.3 The following communications may be made by the race committee on VHF.
 - Race Course to be sailed
 - First mark bearing and distance
 - General Race Committee intentions
- 3.4 [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 are not available to all boats.

- 3.5 The use of a tracking program (like RaceQs or Yellowbrick) may be used for post-race evaluation only.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.
- 4.2 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment provided by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed via the Regatta Network event Notice Board; https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/29533#_newsroom
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signal AP.
- 5.3 In the event of signals made ashore, the Race Committee *may* also notify participants via SMS text message to the number provided at registration.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 Schedule

Date	Time	Event
Friday, May 30 th	19:00	Competitors briefing, GBCA Clubhouse. (Online link to also be provided)
Saturday, May 31 st	11:00	First Warning signal
Saturday, May 31 st	Est 16:00	Immediately following racing, social and awards at the GBCA clubhouse

- 6.2 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.

7 CLASS FLAGS

7.1 The class flags are as follows:

PHRF-Spin	Red
Cruising Club Spin	Green
Cruising Club	Purple

8 RACING AREA

- 8.1 SI Addendum #1 shows the location of the racing area.

9 COURSES

- 9.1 No later than the warning signal, the race committee will designate the course, and it may also display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.
- 9.2 The diagram(s) in SI Addendum #1 show(s) the course(s), including the approximate bearings, the order in which marks are to be passed, approximate distance, and the side on which each mark is to be left. The addendum may include additional courses.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 The following Mark is an Orange Tetrahedron.
- Start/Finish (approx.)- .25 SSE of CL Marker #1 – (Est) 29° 33.080'N 94° 58.778'W
- 10.2 The following fixed marks may be used:
- South Boat Cut - #8 - 29° 32.417'N 94° 55.080'W
 - GBCA "H" - Flat-top Platform - 29° 33.255'N 94° 56.542'W
 - GBCA "E" - Low Range Tower - 29° 35.787'N 94° 56.935'W
- 10.3 In the event a Mark is missing, a boat shall round the respective GPS coordinates.

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1 The following area is designated as an obstruction: The Houston Ship Channel. Reference is made to NOAA Electronic Navigational Chart US5TX54M, Upper Galveston Bay-Houston Ship Channel-Dollar Pt. to Atkinson (1/29/2021). BOATS SHALL NOT ENTER THE HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL. BOATS THAT ENTER THE HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED WITH FUTURE PARTICIPATION PLACED UNDER REVIEW BY GBCA BOARD.

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 is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 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 may 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 request for redress. This changes RRS 61.
- 12.5 A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the RC vessel and the course side of a nearby finishing mark.
- 13.2 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. It is recommended you take a photograph of GPS time and coordinates to support.

14 TIME LIMIT

- 14.1 Any boat failing to finish any race within 3 hours from starting shall be scored DNF (Did Not Finish) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

15 HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes. This time will be placed on the official notice board.
- 15.2 Any boats planning on filing a hearing request shall notify the Race Committee via VHF radio prior to leaving the finish area.
- 15.3 Paper hearing request forms are available from the GBCA clubhouse, however electronic filings using the US Sailing app are preferred by the protest committee. Please forward all filings to may.chris.w@gmail.com.
- 15.4 Notices of protests and the hearing schedule will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the close of the deadline for filing protests. Notices and schedules will be posted using the Regatta Network official notice board at: https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/29533#_newsroom
- 15.5 Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee, or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2(d).
- 15.6 Breaches of Sailing Instructions 3.3, 6.2, 18, and 19 will not be grounds for a protest or request for redress by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.

16 SCORING

- 16.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta.
- 16.2 PHRF, and Cruising Club Handicap classes will be scored using Time on

Time with the following conversion formula: $TCF = 650 / (550 + x)$, where x equals PHRF or Cruising Club Handicap.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 Prior to the first warning signal, each boat is required to check in by passing the stern of the respective race committee vessel on starboard tack or via respective VHF channel.
- 17.2 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity by VHF or cell phone.
- 17.3 Contacts for Race Committee: Kevin Hayes 281-960-4329

18 OFFICIAL VESSELS

- 18.1 Official vessels will be identified with either the traditional race committee flag (red, fouled anchor on a blue field with red letters "R" and "C"), or GBCA burgee.

19 TRASH DISPOSAL

- 19.1 Trash shall be properly disposed of when a vessel returns to shore.

20 PRIZES

- 20.1 Prizes will be given for 1st through 3rd places in each class based on number of entries as follows:
 - 3 entries – 1st Place
 - 6 entries – 1st, 2nd Place
 - 9+ entries – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place, etc.

21 RISK STATEMENT

- 21.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* 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.**

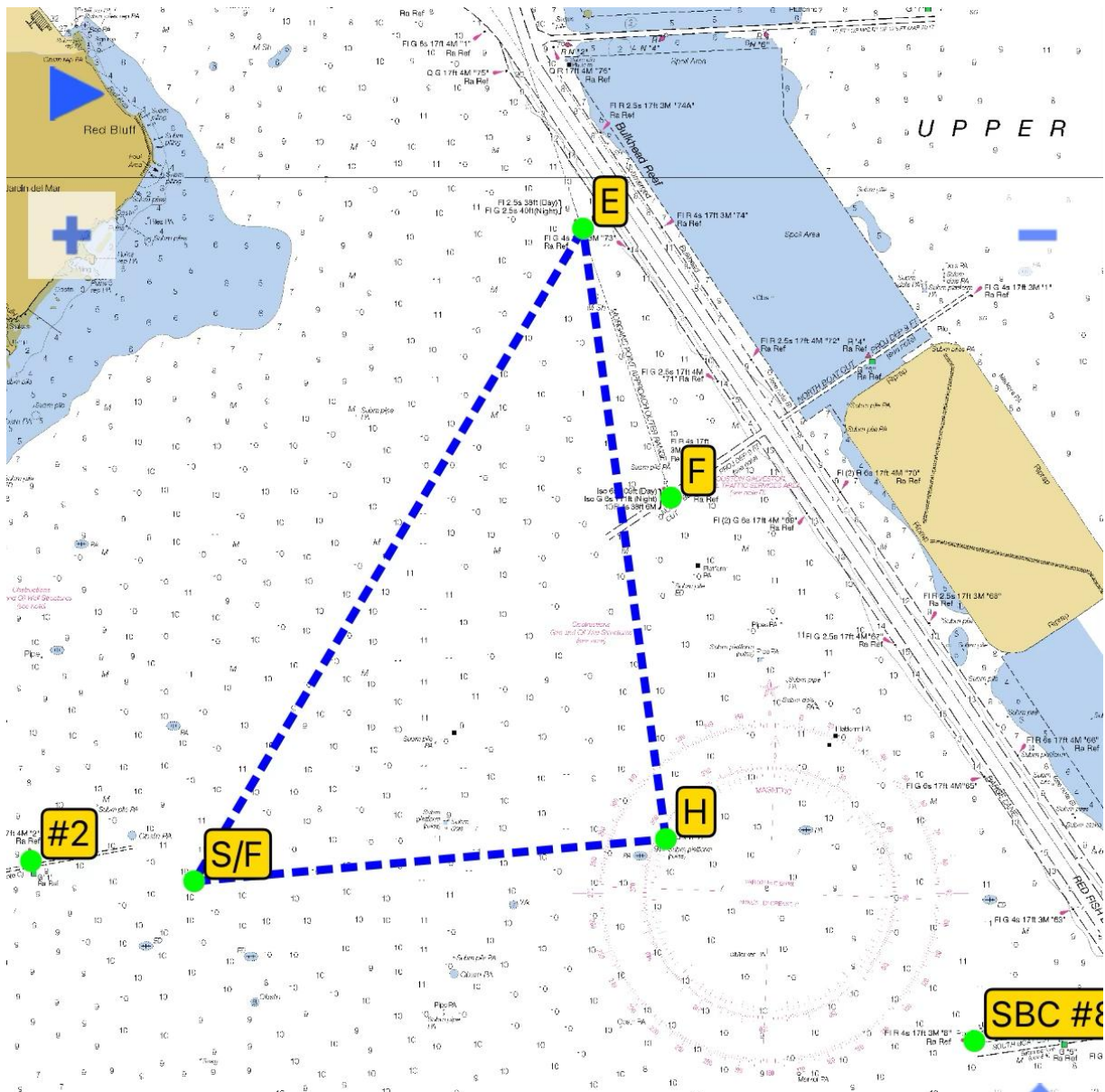
22 INSURANCE

- 22.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

Courses

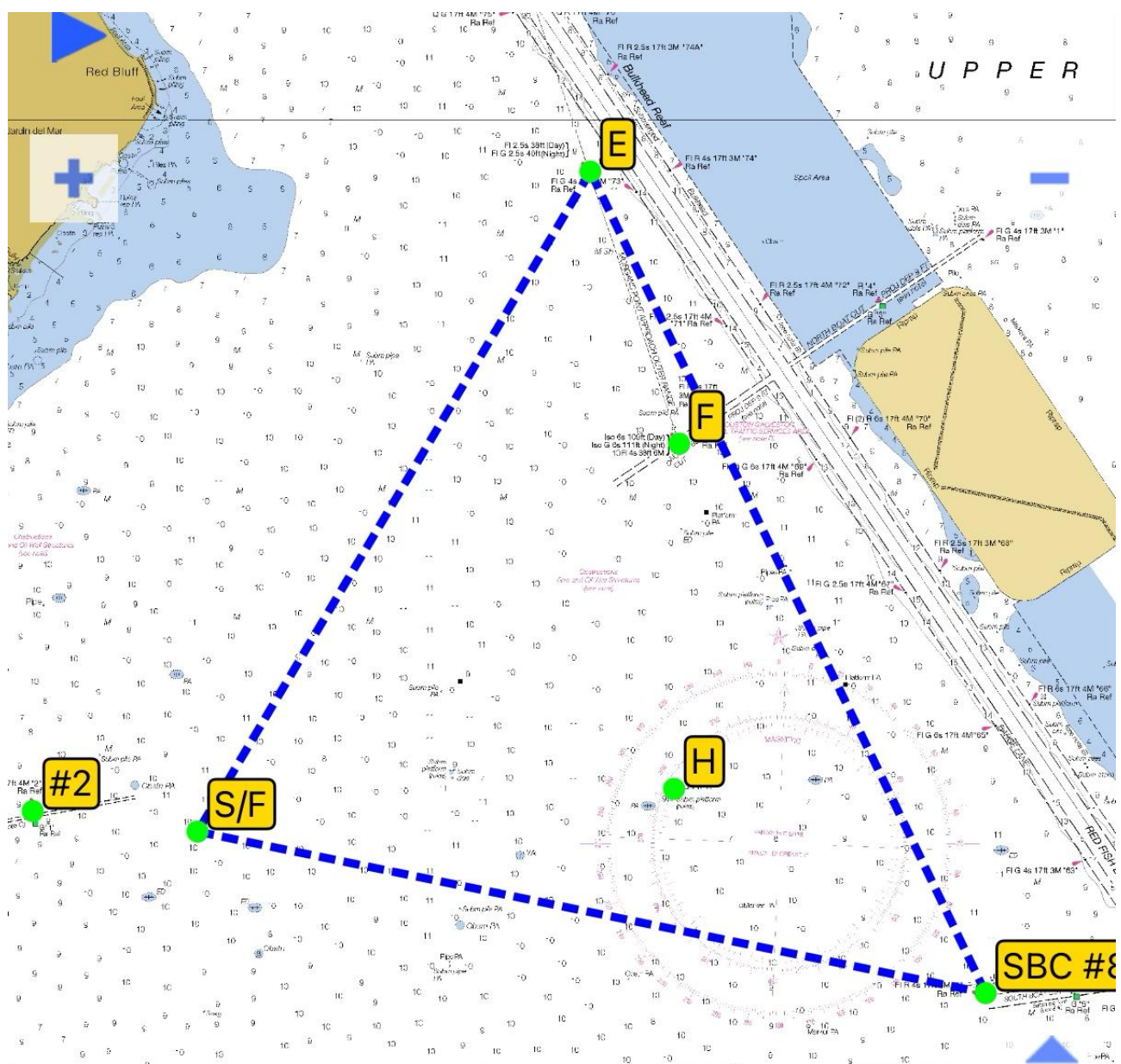
Course 1

<u>Mark</u>	<u>Est .Bearing</u>	<u>Distance (nm)</u>	<u>Leave Mark to:</u>
Start			
H	085	1.95	Port
E	352	2.55	Port
Start/Finish	211	<u>3.15</u>	
	Total Dist.	7.65nm	



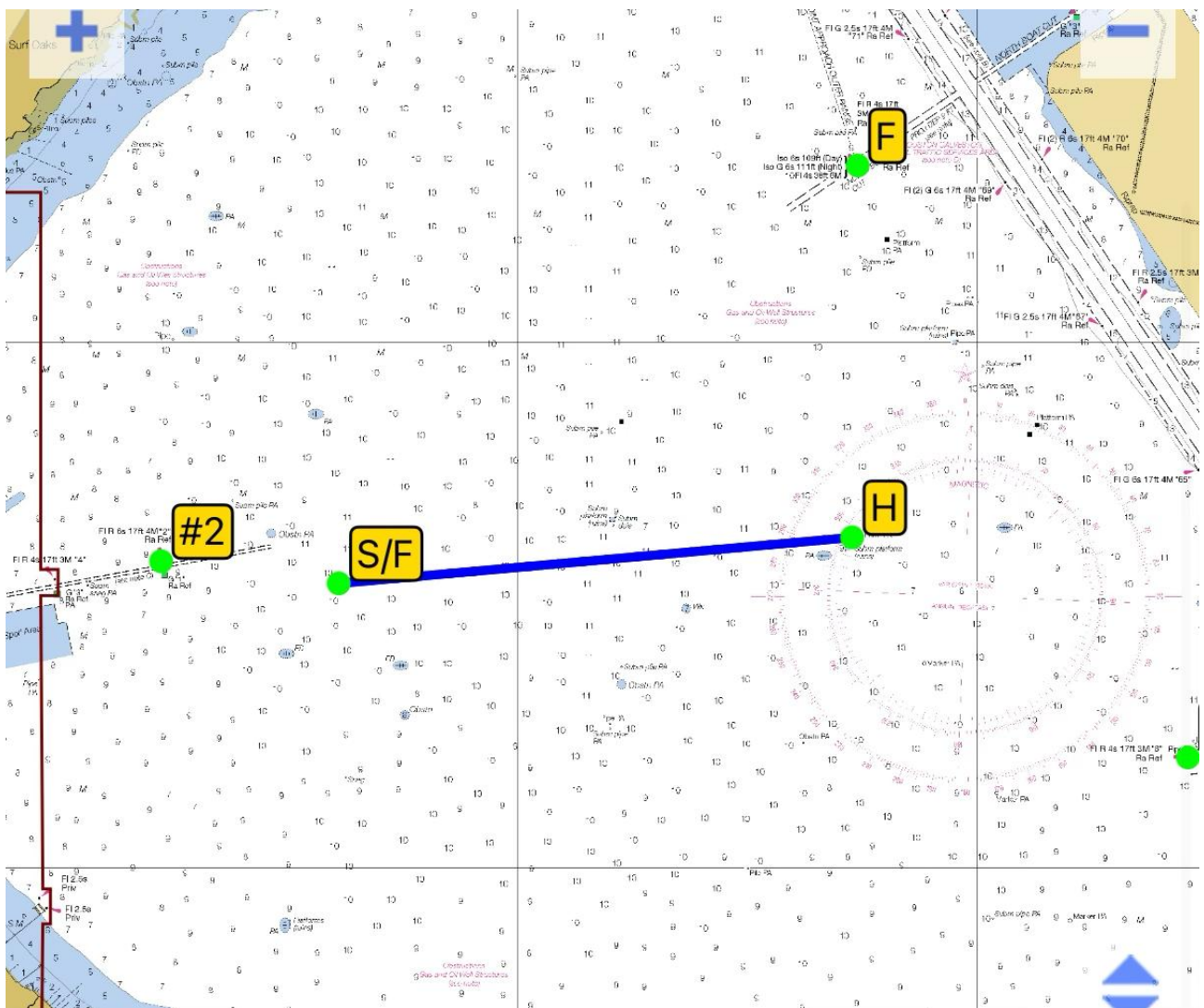
Course 2

Mark	Est .Bearing	Distance (nm)	Leave Mark to:
Start			
SBC #8	102	3.28	Port
E	334	3.74	Port
Finish	211	<u>3.15</u>	
	Total Dist.	10.17nm	



Course 3

Mark	Est .Bearing	Distance (nm)	Leave Mark to:
Start			
H	085	1.95	Port
Start/Finish	265	1.95	Port
H	085	1.95	Port
Finish	265	1.95	
	Total Dist.	7.81nm	



Course 4

Mark	Est .Bearing	Distance (nm)	Leave Mark to:
Start			
SBC #8	102	3.28	Port
Finish	282	3.28	
	Total Dist.	6.57nm	

