



# 2025

## GYA OPENING REGATTA



Optimist and O´pen Skiff

Pensacola Yacht Club

May 3 – 4, 2025

Sailing Instructions

The Organizing Authority (OA) is Pensacola Yacht Club in cooperation with the Gulf Yachting Association (GYA)

## 1. RULES

- The Regatta will be governed by the rules stated in the NoR and,
- 1.1 RRS 90.3 (e) will apply and the expression "24 hours" is changed to "30 minutes".
  - 1.2 **[NP][DP]** RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4 are changed as follows:
    - 1.2.1 The first sentence of RRS 40.1 is deleted and replaced by: "Each competitor and Support Person shall wear an 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."
    - 1.2.2 Add to the preamble of Part 4, after 'racing': "...except rule 40.1 as amended by NoR 1.5.1"
  - 1.3 Addition to RRS 60.2 (a):
    - (3) "if the protestor is a boat, she shall inform the Race Committee at the finishing line immediately after finishing, or to a Committee as soon as practicable after she retires, of the boat(s) being protested".
  - 1.4 In all rules governing this regatta:
 

Both 'athlete' and 'competitor' mean a person competing, or intending to compete, in the regatta.
  - 1.5 **[SP]** denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the Race Committee or Technical Committee without a hearing. The penalty for breaking rules marked as [SP] will be 25% of entries applied to the closest race to the moment of the incident. *(This changes RRS A5.1).*
  - 1.6 **[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, and 63.2 (a)).*

## 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 **[NP] [DP]**

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

## 4. CHANGES TO RULES

- 4.1 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.

## 5. PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Time	Action
Friday, May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	1630 – 1800	On-site Registration
Saturday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	0830 – 1030	On-site Registration
	1130	Competitor's meeting and Opening Ceremony
	1300	First warning signal of the day
Sunday, May 4 <sup>th</sup>	1025	First warning signal of the day
	1430	No Warning Signal after this time
	After Racing	Awards ceremony

- 5.1 Eight (8) races are scheduled, and one (1) race is required to constitute the Regatta.
- 5.2 No more than four (4) races are scheduled each day unless the event is behind schedule or poor weather is forecasted, in which case a third race may be started. The OA reserves the right to modify the program due to weather conditions or other causes.

## 6. REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT [DP]

- 6.1 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorized in writing by the Technical Committee or his/her designee before the first race of the day or by the Race committee (Principal Race Officer or his designate) thereafter. Requests for substitution shall be made at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 6.2 Any substitution granted via NoR 6.1 will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

## 7. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

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

## 8. CLASS FLAG

- 8.1 The class flag is a white flag with the Optimist logo on white background for Optimist Class and "O" INTERCO flag for O'pen Skiff Class.

## 9. OFFICIAL VESSELS

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

## 10. COURSES AND OBSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1 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.
- 10.2 [DP][NP] Except when starting or finishing, a boat shall not sail between the start/finish marks.

## 11. MARKS

- 11.1 Marks 1 and 2 will be orange inflatable tetrahedrons.
- 11.2 New marks used according to RRS 33 will be yellow inflatable tetrahedron.
- 11.3 The starting marks will be RC vessel with an orange flag and a red inflatable ball.
- 11.4 The finishing marks will be RC Vessel with a blue flag and a red inflatable ball.

## 12. THE START

- 12.1 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Vessel on the starboard end and a red inflatable ball on the port end.
- 12.2 Short consecutive sounds from the RC Vessel mean: "The Race Committee is ready for a starting procedure"
- 12.3 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 61.1(a)*)
- 12.4 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*)

## 13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 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*)

## 14. THE FINISH

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

## 15. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

15.1 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
40 mins	120 mins.	16 mins	35- 40 mins.

- 15.2 If no boat has passed the first mark within the mark 1 time limit, the race shall be abandoned. *(This changes RRS 32.1).*
- 15.3 The finishing window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course. Boats failing to sail the course 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)*
- 15.4 Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. *(This changes RRS 61.1 (a)).*

## 16 HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 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](mailto:cesar@pycflboard.com)
- 15.3 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.
- 15.4 Rule 42 infringements will be posted by the Protest Committee on the ONB before the protest time limit expires.
- 15.5 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 61.2 (b) (3))*
- 15.6 Notices of protests by the RC or the International Jury will be posted on the ONB to inform boats under rule 60.2 (a) (2).
- 15.7 To request correction of an alleged error in a posted race or series results, a boat may complete a scoring enquiry form through the website of the regatta. If the boat is not satisfied with the result of the Scoring Enquiry, she may, then, Request for Redress.

## 17 SAFETY AND SUPPORT PERSON / SUPPORT VESSEL REGULATIONS

- 17.1 **[DP] [NP] [SP]** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC before leaving the course area.
- 17.2 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, whistle, tow rope (minimum 20 mt and 8mm diameter), knife and **a kill-cord attached to the driver at all times while on the water.**
- 17.3 **[DP]** 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 International Jury 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.
- 17.4 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.
- 17.5 Under all circumstances support vessels are expected to assist any boat in danger.
- 17.6 Support boats shall display a flag or other identification symbol, as may be required by the RC.
- 17.7 **[DP] [NP]** Team leaders and other support personnel / spectator vessels shall be outside of the racing area described in 17.8 and 17.9 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.
- 17.8 The **racing area** is defined as a surface which borders are over 100 meters from the layline.
- 17.9 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 PRIZES**

18.1 Overall prizes shall be awarded at the discretion of the OA.

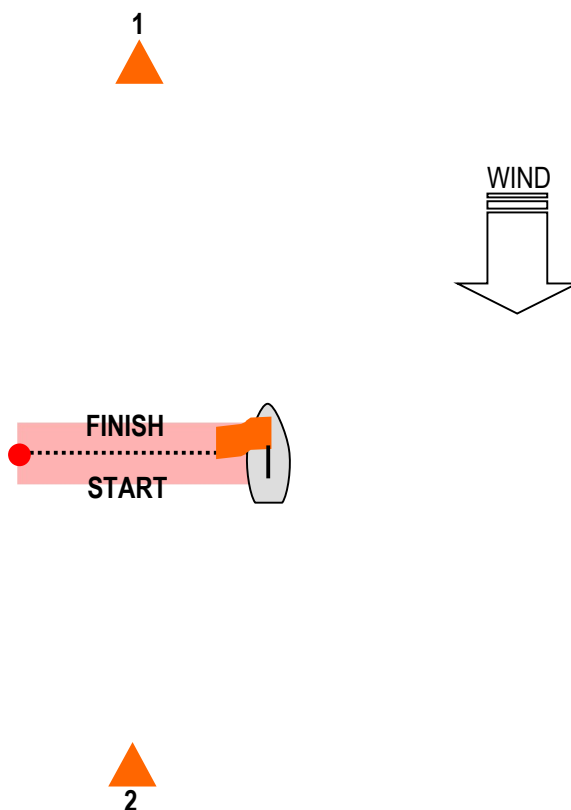
## **19 MEDIA RIGHTS**




19.1 Upon registration to the event, competitors agree that photos and videos may be taken of their person and used as part of the organizing authority's public relations activities, e.g. via websites, newsletters, print and tv media and social networks. In addition, competitors or their guardians grant the organizing authority without compensation the unlimited right to use images, photographs, television, and radio material produced of them during the event.

## **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:
- 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.

# Attachment A - COURSES DIAGRAMS



COURSE AND ORDER TO PASS THE MARKS	MARKS
Start – 1 – 2 – 1 – Finish	 1 and 2  Start and Finishing mark
Marks are to be rounded to <b>PORT</b> .  <b>OBSTRUCTION.</b> Except when starting or finishing, boats shall not sail between the start/finish marks. See SI 10.2	