



2025 Galveston Bay ORC Regatta

September 20-21, 2025

Galveston Bay Cruising Association

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The latest version of the following rules will also apply:
 - 1.2.1. IMS Rules
 - 1.2.2. ORC Rating Systems Rules

2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1. No restrictions on competitor advertising.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online official notice board is located at:
- 3.2. [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 16, 69, 72.
- 3.3. On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the Sis.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The regatta is open to all boats with a valid ORCi or ORC Club certificate.
- 4.2. Registration deadline is **18:00 hours on Friday, September 12, 2025** and includes:
 - 4.2.1. Regatta registration
- 4.3. Entries after the Late Registration deadline may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee with an additional fee.
- 4.4. Boats may be entered at: <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30278>

5. FEES

- 5.1. Registration: The entry fee is \$85 for all classes.

6. CREW LIMITATIONS

- 6.1. Each boat shall submit a crew list no later than **September 19, 2025 at 22:00** hours. Crew lists shall include all crew members who will be on board at the start of the first race and may be amended up to the start of the first race. After this time no addition, deletion, or substitution shall be allowed without the prior approval of the Race Committee.

7. SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept 12 th	18:00 hours	Registration Deadline
Tuesday, Sept. 16 th	18:00 hours	Classes are formed
Friday, September 19 th	19:00 hours	Skipper's Meeting at GBCA clubhouse (and virtual)
Saturday, September 20 th	10:30 hours	First Warning Signal
Saturday, September 20 th	19:00 hours (approx.)	Social – Location TBD
Sunday, September 21 st	10:30 hours	First Warning Signal
Sunday, September 21 st	14:00 hours	No warning signal after this time
Sunday, September 21 st	1600 hours (approx.)	Award Presentation at GBCA Clubhouse

7.1. Number of races

7.1.1. At least One Distance race is planned, potentially more as time allows.

7.1.2. Multiple windward/leeward races are planned as time allows.

8. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

8.1. Each boat shall have a valid ORCi or ORC Club rating certificate.

8.2. Boats may be inspected at any time.

9. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

9.1. The sailing instructions will be available after Friday, September 19th 16:00 hours on at :

<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30278>

10. VENUE

10.1. The racing area shall be in Galveston Bay, between the Houston Ship Channel, and the shoreline between Eagle Point and Morgans Point.

11. COURSES

11.1. The courses to be sailed are planned to be as follows:

11.1.1. Distance Course:

- All courses will take place around fixed and/or dropped marks in Galveston Bay. Estimated course lengths are expected to be 20-40 miles, depending on prevailing conditions.

11.1.2. Windward/Leeward style courses

- W/L style courses with lengths of 2-6 miles of length are estimated based on the prevailing conditions.

12. SCORING

- 12.1. The scoring system will be low point as stated in RRS 90.3.
- 12.2. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 12.3. A boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores.

13. SUPPORT BOATS

- 13.1. Support boats shall be marked with a GBCA burgee.

14. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 14.1. Keelboats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

15. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

- 15.1. Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keelboats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

16. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 16.1. Except in emergencies, or to avoid collision, a boat that is racing shall not communicate either by voice or data systems, information regarding wind, current, course, speed or any other information with any other boat to gain an unfair advantage.
- 16.2. AIS receivers and transceivers are encouraged. Tracking devices (e.g. SPOT, InReach) are allowed provided that the information communicated is available to all competitors and not used to gain an unfair advantage.

17. PRIZES

- 17.1. Prizes will be given as determined at Registration Deadline as follows:
 - 3 Boats First place prize
 - 6 Boats First and second place prize
 - 9 Boats First, second, and third place prize
 - One additional prize for every three boats entered.
- 17.2. Additional prizes for entries after the Early Registration Deadline shall be at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 17.3. A trophy will be presented to an overall winner based on the lowest corrected time for all races sailed.

18. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 18.1. 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.**
- 18.2. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. 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.

19. INSURANCE

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

20. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 20.1. For further information please contact Fleet Captain, Kevin Hayes at hayesrigging@aol.com or Chris May at may.chris.w@gmail.com or www.gbca.org