



**2026 Multihull Regatta**  
March 13-15, 2026  
Organizing Authority: Gulfport Yacht Club  
Gulfport, Florida



GYC MULTI-HULL REGATTA

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**1 RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2025-2028)*.
- 1.2 The Weta Class North American (WCNA) rules will apply to all participating boats in the Weta Class. For the Weta Class, this is the Dick Hitchcock Memorial Regatta.
- 1.3 WFPHRF Rules will apply for PHRF classes.
- 1.4 RRS 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 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board(s) located on the GYC porch.

**3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted immediately following the competitors meeting on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

**4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the dock next to the boat ramp.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 30 minutes.”

**5 SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 5.1 Dates of racing:
  - Friday, March 13th
    - 1700-1900 Sailor check-in
  - Saturday, March 14th
    - 0930 Competitors Meeting
    - 1100 Warning signal for all divisions, 4 races to be attempted
    - 1700 (or after racing) Post Race refreshments and dinner.
  - Sunday, March 15th
    - 0930 Competitors Meeting
    - 1100 Warning Signal for all divisions, 3 races to be attempted
    - 1400 No warning signal after this time.
- 5.2 Number of races: Seven races are scheduled and will be attempted, with no more than four

races per day.

- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1400.
- 5.5 Flag A displayed with no sound, while boats are finishing, means "No more racing today."

## **6 CLASS FLAGS**

- 6.1 Class flags will be posted on the official notice board no later than the competitors meeting.

## **7 RACING AREAS**

- 7.1 The racing area will be South and West of the GYC beach launch area on the waters of the Boca Ciega Bay.

## **8 THE COURSES**

- 8.1 The diagrams in Attachment A show the courses.

## **9 MARKS**

- 9.1 Marks are described in Attachment A.
- 9.2 The following marks are rounding marks: yellow cylinders.
- 9.3 New marks will be orange buoys.
- 9.4 The starting and finishing marks will be an orange buoy.

## **10 THE START**

- 10.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 10.2 The starting line will be 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.
- 10.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 10.4 A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 10.5 In the event of individual recalls, the race committee will endeavor to hail OCS boats. Failure to broadcast, broadcast in a timely manner, or be heard by the OCS boats will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

## **11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 11.2 In the event the weather mark is changed, an offset mark may not be set.

## **12 THE FINISH**

- 12.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal boat and the course side of the finishing mark.

12.2 Boats that have finished shall keep well clear of all boats still racing.

### **13 PENALTY SYSTEM**

13.1 For all class(es) RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

### **14 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

14.1 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

### **15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

15.1 Protest forms are available on the official notice board. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

15.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the Race Committee Signal Boat docks.

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 GYC Clubhouse, beginning at the time posted.

15.4 Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2.

15.5 Breaches of SIs 18, 21, 22, and 25 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.

15.7 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a scoring inquiry shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the scoring inquiry has been answered. This changes RRS 61.2.

### **16 SCORING**

16.1 The scoring system is the Low Point System of RRS Appendix A.

16.2 One race is required to constitute a regatta.

16.3 (a) When fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

(b) When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

16.4 Two boats constitute a division; 5 boats constitute a designated class.

16.5 Multi-hull dinghies without a designated class will be scored in the open PHRF class.

### **17 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

17.1 [DP]Check-Out and Check-in: Prior to the warning signal of the first race of the day, each boat shall sail past the stern of the signal boat and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee. Failure to do so will result in a 20% discretionary penalty for the day.

17.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

17.3 Race Committee will be monitoring channel 72.

17.4 Each competitor must wear a personal flotation device (PFD) while on the water except when

temporarily adding or removing clothing. Failure to wear one will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification. The Y Flag will not be displayed.

## **18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 18.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 18.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **19 OFFICIAL BOATS**

- 19.1 Official boats will be marked with a GYC club flag.

## **20 SUPPORT BOATS**

- 20.1 Team leaders, coaches and other support persons shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

## **21 TRASH DISPOSAL**

- 21.1 Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats.

## **22 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 22.1 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

## **23 PRIZES**

- 23.1 Awards will be presented depending on the number of registrants in each division and designated classes.
- 23.2 The first place boat in the Weta class, single handed division, shall be awarded the Dick Hitchcock Memorial Regatta perpetual trophy to hold until the next running of this regatta.

## **24 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 24.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority and the competing classes 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.

## **25 INSURANCE**

- 25.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$100,000 per incident or the equivalent.

# Attachment A

