

5.5 Metre North American Championship April 23-26, 2026

Texas Corinthian Yacht Club

104 Park Circle
Kemah Texas 77565

NOTICE OF RACE

POSTED 2/13/2026

All times are US Central (Daylight) Time. All fees are in US Dollars.. The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. The changes rules 60.1, 60.4(a)(2) and 61.1(a).

1 RULES

- 1.1 This Organizing Authority (OA) for this event is the Texas Corinthian Yacht Club (TCYC), in conjunction with the International 5.5 Metre Class Association.
- 1.2 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025- 2028 (RRS) and the rules of the International 5.5 Metre Class Association available [HERE](#).
- 1.3 The following US Sailing Prescriptions will apply and are shown in Addendum C: the Preamble to RRS Part 5, RRS 63.1(b), 65.1, 76.1 and Appendix R.
- 1.4 Appendix T1 – Arbitration, will apply, as modified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.5 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be posted [HERE](#) no later than April 15, 2026.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The online Official Notice Board (ONB) will be on the *Regatta Network* website, located [HERE](#). The OA intends to post all notices online. Failure to do so will not be grounds for a boat to request redress.
- 3.2 On shore, communication with competitors will be via the ONB and/or WhatsApp. A link for the WhatsApp group will be available on the ONB closer to the event.
- 3.3 [DP] On the water, all boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on US channels.
- 3.4 [DP] From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to all boats of the International 5.5 Metre Class that hold a valid Measurement Certificate.

4.2 Eligible boats must complete an entry [HERE](#), including providing a crew list, paying all required fees, completing equipment inspection and completing registration and check-in at the venue.

5 ENTRY FEES

5.1 The entry fee for the 2026 North American Championship is \$600 for entries received on or before April 3, 2026.

5.2 Late entries will be accepted until April 17, 2026 and will be subject to a late fee penalty of \$100.

5.3 The entry fee includes the following for all sailors: Beer after racing, three evening meals, daily coffee service, event shirts, and TCYC housing.

5.4 Entries are only valid when both the entry fee and entry form have been received by the OA.

5.5 If a boat withdraws its entry, all fees paid prior to April 3, 2026 are fully refundable. Entry fees paid after April 3, 2026 are refundable less a handling \$100 fee.

6 [DP][NP] ADVERTISING

6.1 Advertising is permitted in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20.

6.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

6.3 Boats may be required to display identification numbers for the duration of the event. Bow numbers will be supplied by the OA and the placement location will be specified in the Sailing Instructions.

7 SCHEDULE

7.1	Tuesday 4/21	Launch Boats	0900-1700	Seabrook Shipyard
	Wednesday 4/22	Launch & Practice	0900-1700	Seabrook Shipyard
		Competitor's Meeting	1800	Location TBA
	Thursday 4/23	1100 First warning signal		2 races scheduled
	Friday 4/24	1100 First warning signal		2 races scheduled
	Saturday 4/25	1100 First warning signal		2 races scheduled
	Sunday 4/26	1100 First warning signal		2 races scheduled
		1400		No initial warning signal after this time
		1800 Awards		Location TBA
7.2	Eight (8) races are scheduled.			
7.3	Two races are scheduled for each race day. Additional races may be sailed in order to complete the program because of weather or other reasons, as long as the series does not get more than one race ahead; However, no more than three (3) races per day.			

8 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

8.1 There will be no measurement of sails or safety equipment. However, each entry's 'person in charge' will be required to sign a form declaring that all class mandated safety equipment will be on board for the duration of the event.

8.2 The OA may inspect boats for such equipment at any time.

9 VENUE

9.1 The racing area will be approximately 1.0 nm east of the TCYC pier, on Galveston Bay.

- 9.2 Addendum A shows the plan of the regatta venue.
- 9.3 Addendum B shows the approximate location of the racing area.

10 COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be a windward-leeward configuration and described fully in the Sailing Instructions.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

12 SCORING

- 12.1 The Low Point scoring system RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 12.2 Four (4) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 12.3 When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her scores excluding her worst score. This changes RRS A2.

13 SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

- 13.1 Support/coach vessels shall register with the OA during the on-site event registration and shall comply with the OA and the RRS. The fee for all support vessels is \$100 and includes launching, hauling and dockage for the duration of the event. Additional food/beverage tickets may be purchased at the same time.
- 13.2 Coach/support persons are required to comply with local laws and shall carry a functioning VHF radio, monitor the required channel and assist the RC when asked.. The sailing instructions and/or the OA may further limit the activities of support vessels.
- 13.3 [DP] All support vessels shall be equipped with a functioning engine safety cut-off switch (kill switch) which shall remain attached to the support person, at the helm, at all times while the engine is running. Failure to comply may be misconduct and/or results in expulsion from the event.

14 BERTHING AND DIVING

- 14.1 [DP] Independent swimming/diving inside the Seabrook Shipyard harbor is not allowed.
- 14.2 All competitors are required by Seabrook Shipyard to keep the marina docks in order and provide appropriate space for others moored on the same dock. Sails and dock boxes shall be kept in the immediate vicinity of the assigned mooring place.

15 [DP] HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 15.1 All boats shall be afloat by 1700 on the day prior to the first scheduled race day.
- 15.2 Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Principal Race Officer.

16 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used in the vicinity of the dock.

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RISK STATEMENT AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

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.

All sailors must sign a liability waiver in order to participate in the event. The waiver is available online on the registration page found [HERE](#).

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[DP] ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

A Basic Principle states: "Participants are encouraged to minimize any adverse environmental impact of the sport of sailing." It is recommended that care be taken to protect the environment at all times during and after the event.

Trash may be given to any official vessel.

Single use water bottles are discouraged. Please bring a personal water bottle.

There will be water to fill your water bottles, both ashore and on the water.

Paper copies of all race documents will not be provided.

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INSURANCE

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

It is the owner's sole responsibility to ensure that the insurance is in place and is adequate prior to participating in this event. The OA will require proof of insurance either via email or on-site at registration.

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PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the top three skipper and crew. Perpetual trophies will be awarded to the top skippers for the Evolution and Classic divisions. See ADDENDUM D.

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MEDIA RIGHTS

By entering the event, competitors give the Organizing Authority the right to publish and / or broadcast in any media photos and videos taken of persons and boats during the event for the purpose of creating publicity for the event.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

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