



GALVESTON YACHT CLUB SPRING TORC

April 11-12, 2026

Organizing Authority: Galveston Yacht Club

NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

The Texas Offshore Racing Circuit (“the TORC”) Series offers Galveston Bay area sailors a chance to experience offshore racing at its finest. Galveston Yacht Club is the Organizing Authority for two of the five events scheduled for the 2026 TORC. The Galveston Yacht Club Spring TORC Regatta is the first of five components of the 2026 TORC Series, sailed out of Galveston, Texas, on the beautiful blue waters of the offshore Gulf of America (formerly the Gulf of Mexico).

A boat’s Series score will be the total of the Series points she has earned in her Class in this five-event 2026 TORC Regatta Series. No score will be excluded. A shorter Rally course will also be offered.

The notation “[NP]” in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as described in the current version of *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (“RRS”) except as modified and additionally specified herein, and/or by the Sailing Instructions (“SI’s”), and specifically as changed as follows:
 - 1.1.1. The time limit for boats to finish is 1200 Sunday, 4/12, 2026. If any boat in a class finishes within the time limit, other boats in that class that have started but do not finish within the time limit will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) equal to the number of finishing boats in the Class, plus 2, but in no case greater than the number of boats starting in that Class. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5. Failure to meet the time limit will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
 - 1.1.2. Part 2 of the RRS will be replaced with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (“IRPCAS”) between the hours of sunset and sunrise.
 - 1.1.3. Boats in PHRF Non-spinnaker and in Multihull Classes may use power driven winches. This modifies RRS 52.
 - 1.1.4. RRS Appendix V2 applies.
 - 1.1.5. If a One-Design Class forms and races, and there is a conflict between Class Rules and the RRS, Class Rules shall apply
- 1.2. [NP] The US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (“SER”) for Coastal Races as may be modified for the Texas Offshore Racing Circuit (“TORC”) shall apply. This publication may be provided upon request by contacting Regatta Chair Greg Way at greg.way@aol.com.
- 1.3. The rules of the Offshore Racing Congress Club Rule (“ORC”) for the ORC fleet.
- 1.4. The rules of the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet of Galveston Bay (“PHRF-GB,” or simply “PHRF”) for monohulls competing in PHRF classes.

- 1.5. The rules of the Texas Offshore Multihull Association (“TOMA”) for multihulls.
- 1.6. The race will feature a Starting Window. Start times will be captured by the Race Committee (“RC”) as the boat crosses the starting line within the times that the window is opened. This changes Rule 26, and part 2 of the RRS is replaced by IRPCAS prior to a yacht having *started*.
- 1.7. *[NP]* If the RC receives a confirmed report from a disinterested party that a boat interfered with commercial traffic in violation of the IRPCAS while transiting to the race area, while *racing*, or while transiting to her mooring after *finishing*, the RC may protest that boat and seek disqualification. Any boat so disqualified may be disqualified from future TORC events.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. The event is open to all boats of the ORC, PHRF boats registered with PHRF (non-spinnaker or with spinnaker), One-Design keelboats, and Multihulls registered with TOMA.
- 2.2. Boats may enter the event by registering online at <http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/31005>
- 2.3. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall have completed all registration requirements and paid all entry fees.
- 2.4. All boats must have a hull length of at least 25 feet, except that qualified boats with a hull length of less than 25 may participate at the discretion of the RC.
- 2.5. All One-Design Classes must be in compliance with their Class Rules. All handicap boats must have a current, valid rating certificate from the applicable rating authority (PHRF-GB for Monohulls; Offshore Racing Congress for ORC class; TOMA for Multihulls).
- 2.6. Division splits and class selections may be adjusted at the discretion of the RC. A minimum of three boats constitutes a class. The RC may, at its discretion, allow a class of two boats.

3. FEES: The entry fee is \$125.00 per boat. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the RC.

4. VENUE: The racing area shall be within the Galveston Jetties and in the Gulf of America within 40 nautical miles of the eastern end of the Galveston Jetties. Please see **Addendum A**.

5. COURSES

- 5.1. **The GYC Spring TORC Racecourse** will consist of 2 or more legs from the end of the Galveston Jetties and returning and will be of overall lengths of from approximately 20 nautical miles to approximately 60 nautical miles. The specific courses will be provided in the SI's.
- 5.2. **The GYC Spring Rally Course** will round the Eaglescliffe Marker Buoy after starting, approximately two miles from the end of the Galveston Jetties, and will return to the starting area. All Rally participants completing the Rally Course will receive a recognition award and Regatta shirt.

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. Registration must be received before 1200 Wednesday, April 8, 2026. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the RC.

- 6.2. The non-mandatory Competitor's Briefing will be held 1900 Friday, April 10 at The Marina Bar and Grill, 715 N. Holiday Dr., Galveston TX.
- 6.3. The Start Window will open at 1100 and close at 1130 on Saturday, 4/11.
- 6.4. Competitors that have not finished by 1200 4/12 will be scored DNF.
- 6.5. Awards will be presented at 1800 on Sunday, 4/12 at The Marina Bar and Grill.
- 6.6. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** Sailing Instructions ("SI's") will be available after 1200 on Thursday, 4/9 at the Regatta Network Galveston Yacht Club Spring TORC event page <http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/31005>

7. COMMUNICATION

- 7.1. The online official notice board is located at the Regatta Network event page <http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/31005>
- 7.2. On the water, the RC may make informative broadcasts to competitors on the VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SI's.
- 7.3. 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.

8. **SCORING AND PENALTY SYSTEM:** The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, applies. The penalty will be 2 places.

9. PRIZES

- 9.1. Trophies will be awarded as follows:

More than 1 boat	–	First place
Four or more boats	–	Second place
Six or more boats	–	Third place
- 9.2. All Rally participants completing the Rally Course will receive a recognition award and a Rally shirt.
- 9.3. This Regatta is one of five events of the TORC, consisting of the designated offshore regattas hosted by the Houston Yacht Club (HYC), the Texas Corinthian Yacht Club (TCYC), and the Galveston Yacht Club (GYC) – namely the GYC Spring TORC, The HYC Quantum Offshore Regatta, the HYC Flower Gardens Regatta, the TCYC Offshore Regatta, and the GYC Fall TORC Regatta.
- 9.4. Participation in the TORC Series qualifies the competitor to be awarded the **S. Rhodes Fisher Perpetual Trophy** and the **Commodore Edwin Moore Perpetual Trophy**, according to their respective Deeds of Gift. Boats sailing in the PHRF Non-Spinnaker Class will be eligible for the **S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy**; boats sailing in the PHRF Spinnaker Class will be eligible for the **Commodore Edwin Moore Trophy**.
- 9.5. A single race is required to be completed to constitute a Series.
- 9.6. Competitors for each respective Class award must participate in each of the five named TORC Series events. Participation is defined as being registered for the event on the scheduled days of racing for that event.
- 9.7. The series shall be scored as described in Appendix A, section A2.1 of the RRS. 11.

- 10. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION:** Boats may receive a request from the RC to be inspected at any time.
- 11. WAIVER:** 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.
- 12. INSURANCE:** [NP] Each participating boat shall be insured with valid, third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.
- 13. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** please address your questions to Regatta Chair Greg Way, at greg.way@aol.com

ADDENDUM A

The racing area will be in the Gulf of America offshore of Galveston Island, to seaward of the **Houston Ship Channel Marker #11** in the offshore area generally south and east of the **Eaglescliffe Buoy**.

