



2026 Hillsborough Bay Race

Davis Island Yacht Club Boat of the Year Event

Davis Island Yacht Club, Tampa, Florida

March 14th, 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

“Come Hell or high water” was the phrase used by our first regatta chair, Brian Malone. This distance race is held in Hillsborough Bay, but don’t assume it is just an afternoon cruise. Test your navigation skills and plan to race even if the weather pipes up. This time of year is prone to fronts. In the internet age, most race decisions are made at the bar watching radar. You can plan to race this one to hone your heavy weather skills, so don’t shy away if there is a blow. Allowing for wind and tides, we will attempt to keep the course inside Hillsborough Bay.

1 RULES

The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* including Appendix V2 (Post-race Penalties) and the DIYC 2025-2026 Boat of the Year Notice of Series (https://diyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-2026_DIYC_BOTY_NoSeries.pdf). (Please read.).

2 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1 The regatta is open to all boats with a valid WFPHRF certificate, or a temporary rating assigned by the DIYC Club Measurer.
- 2.2 Expected Divisions are Spinnaker (A/B), Racer-Cruiser, Cruising, and Multihull.
- 2.3 Under West Florida PHRF rules, this is a Category 4 event.
- 2.4 Cruising spinnakers are permitted for the Cruising Division. All Cruising boats intending to use a cruising spinnaker must declare so by email to sailingsecetary@diyc.org at least two days prior to the event.
- 2.5 Boats shall enter on-line at the Racing/Regattas page at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/31054>. Entries close at 1900 on March 13. Late entries may be accepted at the sole discretion of the Organizing Authority.

3 FEES

All boats: \$75.25 (\$70.00 plus 7.5% sales tax), which includes a free keg on tap with Irish-themed music.

4 SCHEDULE

0830-1030	Check-in
1100	Warning signal – Racer-Cruiser and Multihull
To follow	Cruising
To follow	Spinnaker A/B
After racing	Music and Awards at DIYC, Pub Grub available for purchase

5 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available on the DIYC website.

6 VENUE AND COURSE

- 6.1 The average depth of Hillsborough Bay is between 7 and 9 feet. Due to weather and tides the average depth may vary. The RC will make every effort to select marks in sufficient water for all boats to round. It is the obligation of the Competitor to be aware of their location and to sail in sufficient depth. Lack of water will not be grounds for Redress.
- 6.2 One race is scheduled, up to 25 miles.

7 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 7.1 All Divisions will use the Scoring Penalty of RRS 44.3.
- 7.2 The 30% Penalty Taken After a Race of RRS V2 will apply.

8 SCORING

All Divisions will be scored TOD using West Florida PHRF RLC ratings.

9 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in each Division for first place, if 1-3 boats; top two, if 4-5 boats; top three, if 6 or more boats.

10 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or injury, illness, or disease to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

DOCKAGE

For dockage at DIYC before or after the event, please contact DIYC Dockmaster Chris Toro at dockmaster@diyc.org or 727-222-7561 for slip reservations.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Regatta Chair:	Jon Procter	jon.r.procter@gmail.com
Principal Race Officer:	Paul Leonard	paul.e.leonard@gmail.com