



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Gulf Coast Sailing Club's Southwest Florida Regatta Saturday, March 29th – Sunday, 30th, 2008

1. Rules

- 1.1 The Regatta will be governed by US SAILING's Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The Organizing Authority is the Gulf Coast Sailing Club (GCSC) of Naples Florida.
- 1.3 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located at the registration desk 1345 5th Ave. S, Naples, FL.
- 1.4 Any changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board before 8am on the day they take affect, except that any changes to the schedule of races will be posted by 8pm on the day before they take effect. For the convenience of sailors such announcements will be made via VHF Radio on channel 72 at 08:30am. Lack of knowledge of the revision shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).
- 1.5 There will be no signals made ashore, however, the RC Signals Boat may make courtesy announcements via VHF Radio on channel 72 at 8:30am concerning its intentions relating to the days racing. Failure of a competitor to hear such announcements shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).
- 1.6 The following RRS Rules are amended by these instructions; 31.2 (standoff mark); 32.2(shortened course); 33(a) and (b) (changing the next leg of the course);35 (establishes time limits); 60.1(b) (redress), 62.1(a) (redress), Appendix A (scoring), and *finish* definition.

2. Classes, start sequence and class flags

- 2.1 The following sequence is for the races .

CLASS FLAG NUMERICAL PENNANT	CLASS	BACKSTAY STREAMER
No. 1	`A` - Melges 24	None
No. 2	`B` - PHRF Non Spinnaker	Green
No. 3	`C` -PHRF Spinnaker (PHRF 106 or less)	Red
No. 6	"F"- Multi Hull	Pink
No. 4	`D` -PHRF Spinnaker (PHRF 107 or greater)	Yellow
No. 5	`E` - True Cruising	Blue

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2.2 It is anticipated that Classes `C` and `D` will start together thus their warning signal would include both Pennants `3` and `4`.

It is also anticipated that Classes `B` and `F` will start together thus their warning signal would include both Pennants `2` and `6`.

2.3 Warning Signal class flags shall be the international numerical pennants.

2.4 Classes may be further divided or starts combined depending upon the number of entries received. Should classes be further divided or starts combined, there will be an announcement at the skippers meeting and appropriate amendments posted on the Official Notice Board.

2.5 To avoid undue delay in starting subsequent races, classes that have finished the first race may be started before all classes have completed the preceding race. Should this occur, a broadcast will be made on VHF # 72 identifying the starting class. Failure of a competitor to hear such an announcement shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

3. Racing Area and Warning Times

3.1 Races will take place in the Gulf of Mexico in the vicinity of the Naples Fishing Pier.

3.2 The race committee will attempt to run two or three races on Saturday and one or two races on Sunday.

3.3 The first Warning Signal on Saturday will be made at 9:55am. The first Warning Signal on Sunday will be made at 10:55am. No Warning Signal will be made after 2pm on Sunday.

3.4 Signal flag "R" at the finish line indicates that another race will be attempted.

3.5 The Warning Signal for subsequent races shall be made as soon as possible after the last boat in the finishing class has finished the race.

4. Courses

4.1 The courses are described in Addendum "A" of these Sailing Instructions.

The course for Class "A" will be "A"- "G"- "A"- "F"

The course for Class `B` will be "B"- "C"- "G" (rounding upwind through the gate) "B"- "F"

The course for Class "C" will be "A"- "G"- "B"- "F"

The course for Class "D" will be "B"- "G"- "B"- "F"

The course for Class "E" will be "B"- "C"- "G" (rounding upwind through the gate) "B"- "F"

The course for Class "F" will be "A"- "G"- "A"- "F"

There will be an offset mark to port of the weather marks. The offset mark and the weather mark shall be rounded to port.

When there is a gate at the leeward end of a leg followed by a windward leg, boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark.

The gates are not a part of the course when sailing from Marks `A` or `B` to `F`.

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- 4.2 The approximate bearing and distance to the first mark will be posted on the RC Signals Boat.
5. **Marks.** Marks will be yellow or orange inflatables.
- 5.1 The start line shall be between an orange flag on the RC Signals Boat and either an orange or yellow inflatable. The RC Signals Boat will be at the starboard end of the line.
- 5.2 The finish line shall be between an orange flag on the RC Signals Boat and either an orange or yellow inflatable. The RC Signals Boat will be at the port end of the line.
- 5.3 To change the next leg of the course that begins at a rounding mark, the race committee will signal all boats before they begin the leg using code flag 'C' with repetitive sounds and move the original mark(or finish line) to a new position. No further indication will be made. This amends RRS 33(a) and 33(b).
- 5.4 If the Race Committee decides to shorten the course to one round Code flag "S" will be displayed at Mark "A" and "B" with two sounds and boats should proceed directly to the finish line. The gates will no longer be part of the course. This amends RRS 32.2.
6. **Check-in.** Signal flag "L" will be displayed on the RC Signal Boat approximately 45 minutes before the Warning Signal of the first race each day and removed approximately five minutes before the Warning Signal. All boats must check-in ON THE STARBOARD SIDE of the RC Signal Boat during this time, stating the yacht's name, class, sail number, and the number of crewmembers on board.
7. **Start.** Races will be started using RRS 26. The Warning Signal (Class Numerical Pennants) for each succeeding start will be made at or after the Starting Signal for the preceding start.
 - 7.1 The RC Signals Boat **may** make a series of sound signals approximately 1 minute prior to a Warning Signal.
 - 7.2 The RC Signals Boat may make courtesy announcements concerning its intentions and the courses to be sailed. Failure of the RC to make such announcements or failure of a competitor to hear such announcements shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).
 - 7.3 Boats who's Warning Signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.
 - 7.4 Any floating object attached to the Race Committee boat at the start or finish shall be regarded as part of the mark. Boats shall not pass between it and the RC boat.
8. **Recalls.** The RC Signals Boat will attempt to hail the sail numbers or boat names of those boats that are on the course side of the starting line at the starting signal with a hailer (megaphone) and/or VHF Channel #72. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification and the timing and order of such hails shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 60.1(b) or 62.1(a).

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9. Time Limits.

CLASS	Time Limit	Mark "A" or "B" Time Limit	Time limit after first boat finishes	Race target time
All	120	30 minutes	30 minutes	75 minutes

- 9.1** The time limit for the first boat to finish in each class will be two hours. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This amends RRS 35 & A4.1, and RRS definition for *finish*.
- 9.2** The Race Committee may assign a finish position to the last finisher(s) in a non PHRF class provided that the position(s) can be determined in a reasonable manner. A boat(s) whose finishing position has been so established shall be notified by VHF #72 and/or by direct contact by a committee boat. When another race is to be run, the assigned finish boat(s) are to return immediately to the starting area. This amends RRS 35 & A4.1, and RRS definition for *finish*.
- 9.3** Boats withdrawing from a race after their Starting Signal must notify the RC Signals Boat on VHF 72 as soon as possible after their withdrawal.
- 9.4 The desirable range of sustained wind strength is 5-20 knots.

10. Protests.

- 10.1** Protesting boats must notify any race committee boat after the race, but before leaving the racing area of the name/sail number of the boat being protested. This may be done on VHF 72.
- 10.2** Any boat that does a penalty turn shall report this to the Race Committee as soon as possible after finishing, providing the sail number of the boat for who she did the turns. This may be done on VHF 72.
- 10.3** For the Melges 24's Rules 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.
- 10.4 The 720 degree turns penalty in RRS 44.1 and 44.2 are changed as follows: a) a boat which is flying a spinnaker need only to complete one turn, including one tack and one gybe, if the spinnaker is flown again immediately after the penalty. Otherwise RRS 44.1 and 44.2 apply.
- 10.5** Protest forms are available in the skippers package or at the Registration Desk.
- 10.6** Completed Protest forms must be delivered to a member of either the organizing, race or protest committees at the registration desk within the protest time limit, which is one hour (1) after the RC Signals Boat has docked. The docking time will be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 10.6** Notices will be posted within 30 minutes after the expiration of the protest time to inform competitors of the hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Protest hearings will commence as soon as possible at a designated location. Sail numbers of protestors, protestees, and witnesses, the location of the hearings and the time of the first hearing will be announced by VHF broadcast on Channel 72. This will constitute official notice to all protested parties as required by RRS 63.2.

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11. Scoring.

11.1 This regatta is a SW Florida 2007-8 BOTY event. Corrected times shall be calculated based on the boat's time on distance WFPHRF rating or assigned rating.

11.2 One race can constitute a regatta and no score will be excluded.

12. Safety.

12.1 The responsibility for insuring that a boat complies with RRS 1 is vested solely with the boat owner/operator. The GCSC assumes no responsibility in this regard.

12.2 Boats must be equipped to both transmit and receive on Marine VHF Channels and receive Marine Weather broadcasts. Race announcements will be made on Marine VHF Channel 72.

12.3 A boat retiring from a race shall notify the Race Committee Signal Boat before leaving the course, or, when that is not possible, as soon as possible after arriving ashore.

13. Gross Misconduct. Boat owner and/or operators are responsible for the conduct of themselves and their crew, both on and off the water. This is in addition to the sanctions imposed under RRS 69.

14. Trophies/Awards. Trophies will be awarded as per the Notice of Race.

15. Disclaimer of Liability. Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk (Rule 4). The Organizing Authority, it's Race Committee, it's Officers, it's Members and its Employees will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after this regatta.

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ADDENDUM "A"

CLASS	COURSE
A	Start - "A"- "G"- "A"- "F"
B	Start - "B"- "C"- "G" (rounding upwind through the gate) "B"- "F"
C	Start - "A"- "G"- "B"- "F"
D	Start - "B"- "G"- "B"- "F"
E	Start - "B"- "C"- "G" (rounding upwind through the gate) "B"- "F"
F	Start - "A"- "G"- "A"- "F"

