

Women's Regatta Weekend

June 22 and 23, 2024

Organizing Authority: HYC Women's Sailing Association
Shoreacres, Texas

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Catherine Spiller Regatta
Fairfax Moody Regatta

1. RULES

This event will be governed by the Rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

2. ENTRIES

2.1 Competitors may enter the Regatta by registering on-line at <http://www.regattanetwork.com/>.

2.2 Entrants must meet all ownership, class membership and yacht measurement requirements, and must have completed registration and paid all fees with the regatta organizing authority before becoming official competitors.

2.3 Competitors in PHRF classes must have a current PHRFGB certificate.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official Race Information Notice Board located in the breezeway adjacent to the offices of the Houston Yacht Club.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to these sailing instructions shall be posted before 0900 hours on the day it will take effect. Any change to the Schedule of Races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.

5. IDENTIFICATION

Each boat shall comply with the requirements of Appendix G and her class rules with respect to class insignia and numbers unless the Principal Race Officer for the line involved grants an exception before her start. This modifies RRS 77.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

6.1 All signals made ashore shall be displayed from the signal staff on the lawn of the Houston Yacht Club.

6.2 Signal Flag "AP" (Answering Pennant) with two sound signals (one when lowered) means "The race is postponed". The warning signal will be made not less than 45 minutes after the "AP" is lowered.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Saturday, June 22 – Catherine Spiller Regatta Distance Course

- 11:00 am Warning Signal for first race
- One additional race, weather/time permitting will be announced by VHF Channel 68.
- 6:00 pm Fairfax Moody regatta competitor’s briefing and Awards ceremony at the Porthole

Sunday, June 23 – Fairfax Moody Regatta W/L Course

- 11:00 am Warning Signal for first race
- Up to 2 additional races to follow
 - No race will be started after 2:00 pm
 - Awards ceremony at the Porthole approx. 1 hour after RC enters the harbor.

8. RACE AREA

- 8.1 All classes will sail around drop or fixed marks in the area bounded by Morgan’s Point on the north, the Bayport Channel on the south, the Houston Ship Channel on the east and the La Porte/Shoreacres shore line on the west.
- 8.2 The Distance Course layout is shown in Appendix D:
- Mark #1, is the “The Judges Stand” located at approximately 29°37.367’N, 94°59.726’W
 - Mark #2, is the “High Range” located at approximately 29°37.790’N, 94°58.214’W
 - Mark #3, a large yellow tetrahedron located at approximately 29°39.833’N, 94°58.919’W
 - Mark #4, a large yellow tetrahedron located at approximately 29°38.839’N, 95°00.114’W
- 8.3 Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel. Ship Channels are designated as obstructions.

9. THE COURSES and MARKS

- 9.1 **The default course for Distance course is a six leg course.** Leg 1 will be from the start/finish line to one of the four corners of the quadrilateral. Legs 2, 3, 4, 5 will be the four sides of the quadrilateral traveling counter clockwise. Leg 6 will be the return to the start/finish line. All marks shall be left to port.
- 9.2 **The Distance course may sail an eight leg course (with display of white flag).** The eight leg course will include the same 6 legs as SI 9.1 and add a leg from Mark 4 to Mark 2 and a leg from Mark 2 back to Mark 4. These legs are inserted when the boats come to Mark 4 for the first time.
- 9.3 No later than the 5 minutes before the warning signal, the committee boat shall display a number pennant to signal the corner of the quadrilateral that ends leg one for the Distance Course Line and a White Flag if the longer eight leg course is to sailed.
- 9.4 **The Windward/Leeward course will sail a 4 leg course leaving marks to port.** The windward mark will be a yellow tetrahedron. The starting pin will be the leeward mark.

10. CLASSES AND STARTING ORDER

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| PHRF Spinnaker | Pink Flag |
| PHRF Non-Spinnaker | Yellow Flag |

11. THE START

- 11.1 The Windward/Leeward and Distance courses starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag from the signal boat on the starboard end and a mark or floating shape at the port end.
- 11.2 Both courses will use Rule 26 starts.
- 11.3 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.
- 11.4 A boat shall start no later than 10 minutes after her assigned starting time.
- 11.5 The Race Committee may elect to trail a line (not to exceed 30') attached to a floating object, behind the Race Committee boat. The floating object and its line shall be considered to be part of the Race Committee boat and hitting the floating object or running over the line shall be treated as hitting the Race Committee boat.

12. RECALLS

RC intends to hail the sail numbers of OCS boats after her starting time. As a courtesy, the RC may use VHF radios or a loud-hailer to hail over-early starters. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, an untimely hail of OCS boats, failure to hail any boats, and the order of the boats in the hail shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes rules RRS 41 and RRS 62.1

13. CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK

- 13.1. To change the position of the next mark, the race committee will lay a new *mark* (or move the finishing line) and remove the original *mark* as soon as practicable. The change will be signaled before the leading boat in a class has begun the leg, although the new *mark* may not yet be in position.
- 13.2 The Class flag will be displayed with the Code Flag C to indicate the class for which the change is being made. If there is no class flag the change is made for all classes. This is in addition to the displaying of Code Flag "C" and making repetitive sound signals. This modifies *rule 33*.
- 13.3 The new mark will be an orange tetrahedron. When in a subsequent change a new *mark* is replaced, it will be replaced by an original *mark*.

14. THE FINISH

The Windward/leeward and Distance courses Finish Line will be between a staff displaying orange flag on the race committee boat on the port end and a mark or floating shape on the starboard end. This changes RRS Race Signals.

15. TIME LIMIT

The Windward/Leeward Line time limit is **90 minutes for the first boat to finish**. The Distance Course Line time limit is **210 minutes for the first boat to finish**. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes (the finishing window) after the first boat in its class sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). The points awarded for boats scored TLE will be the whole number (rounding 0.5 upward) equal to the number of boats starting the race minus 50% of the number of boats scored TLE. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A11.

16. PENALTIES AND PROTESTS

- 16.1 A boat intending to protest another boat shall notify the race committee immediately after finishing and before leaving the racing area by sailing past the race committee signal vessel and hailing their intent. The protesting boat shall identify the other boat and receive acknowledgment from the race committee before leaving the racing area. Boats that do not finish shall report their intent to protest to any race committee vessel at the first possible opportunity. This adds to RRS 61.1(a).
- 16.2. Protests, Scoring Inquiries, Requests for Redress, and Requests to Reopen a hearing shall be written on forms available in the lobby of the HYC Clubhouse and delivered to a Judge there within the time limit stated in these Sailing Instructions.
- 16.3 For each line or fleet, the protest time limit is sixty minutes (60) after the race committee signal vessel enters the Houston Yacht Club harbor. This time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 16.4 A request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered in writing no later than thirty minutes (30) after the decision was posted on the official notice board.
- 16.5 Requests to reopen a hearing shall be delivered in writing no later than thirty minutes (30) after the decision was posted on the official notice board. This changes RRS 66.2(a) (2).
- 16.6 Scoring inquiries shall be delivered in writing within the protest time limit or thirty minutes (30) after the provisional results are posted on the official notice board, whichever is later. Scoring inquiries shall first be referred to the PRO, Billy Richnow.
- 16.7 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. The times and locations of the protest hearings and hearings to request redress, along with the names of the boats involved, will be posted on the official notice board within thirty minutes (30) after the end of the protest time limit. Hearings may be held with some Judges appearing by Zoom in the protest room, the location of which will be identified on the official notice board, beginning at the time posted. Parties and witnesses shall appear in person at all hearings.

17. SCORING

The Low-Point Scoring system of Appendix A shall apply. One race shall be completed to constitute an event. No scores will be excluded. This changes Rule A2.

18. SAFETY

- 18.1 Prior to the warning signal on each day of racing, each boat shall check-in with, and be recognized by, the Race Committee (R/C) Signal Boat displaying the code Flag "L," by passing close astern, on starboard tack and hailing her sail number.
- 18.2 Any boat that has checked in, and then withdraws before finishing the race, shall notify the Race Committee on the water, or, if that is not possible, the Houston Yacht Club office by telephone: **281-471-1255**, or **VHF Channel 68**. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification from the event.
- 18.3 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See *Rule 3, Decision to Race*. The organizing Authority will not accept liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in connection with or prior to or after the regatta.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

19.1 A yacht shall neither make radio transmissions while racing, nor receive special radio communications not available to all yachts. This does not apply to situations that threaten safety of life and/or property.

19.2 The Race Committee will attempt to monitor **VHF channel 68**.

20. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the NOR.

