

Boquerón CARIBBEAN RUM

50th Year Ruff Riders

August 30 – September 1, 2024

Texas City Dike Yacht Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

The regatta shall be governed by the “Rules” as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2021-2024); the individual class rules of the classes sailing (except as any are altered by these sailing instructions); RRS Appendix S, the Notice of Race, and by these Sailing Instructions.

2. SAFETY

- 2.1. GENERAL: Notwithstanding anything in these Sailing Instructions, it is the personal responsibility of each competitor to sail safely and to wear a life jacket, or Personal Flotation Device (PFD), or other personal buoyancy device being USCG approved and adequate protective clothing as conditions warrant. If wind, wave, or water conditions make you doubtful of your ability to handle the conditions, it is recommended to retire from the race.
- 2.2. ELECTRICAL POWER LINES - AVOID!!! Before raising the mast, and ALWAYS while sailing, check for and avoid low overhead electrical power lines. When launching from shore, docking, or landing, check for and avoid low overhead power lines. If you see a power line, AVOID IT! A MAST COMING IN CONTACT OR EVEN NEAR AN ELECTRICAL POWER LINE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO PEOPLE ON OR TOUCHING THE BOAT!

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. Each competitor shall complete an entry form.
- 3.2. SAIL NUMBERS: Sail numbers shall match the entry form and be readable from both sides of the sail.
- 3.3. Due to regatta insurance requirements, this is a Hobie Class Association North America (HCANA) sanctioned event and at least one crew person per boat is required to be a member of the HCANA. Temporary event membership is available for \$30 at <https://hcana.hobieclass.com/join/>

4. RATINGS:

- 4.1.1. The ratings will be taken from the [SCHRS](#) Ratings tables. (Latest published by SCHRS).
- 4.1.2. When any modification to a boat has been made, the boat owner shall submit all required documentation to the race committee for a provisional rating. All documentation must be provided prior to the day of the regatta start. The SCHRS ratings calculator will be used to determine a provision rating for the regatta. A boat that starts without an assigned rating will not be scored for any races
- 4.1.3. If a boat does not have a published rating, the owner shall advise the Technical Committee in writing. The Technical Committee shall assign a rating based on the information supplied by the owner of said boat to be entered into the SCHRS rating calculator. It is the responsibility of the owner to secure a rating from the Technical Committee. A boat that starts without an assigned rating will not be scored for any races.
- 4.1.4. Any appeal to the posted rating shall be submitted in writing to the Technical Committee prior to the start of racing on Sunday. The Technical Committee shall review and approve/disapprove any rating change request prior to the first posted race results. NO revisions to the rating will be made after this time.

5. CHANGES IN THE SAILING INSTRUCTION / NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 5.1. LOCATION: The location of the Official Regatta Notice Board will be digitally on [Regatta Network](#).
- 5.2. CHANGES: Changes in the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board one hour before the first race on the day the change takes effect. Schedule changes will be posted by 8:00 p.m. the previous day.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES AND EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Where
Friday, August 30	1700 hours	Welcome Party/Skipper's Meeting	Padre Island Brewing Company
Saturday, August 31	0900 hours	Warning Signal first start	SI 7
Saturday August 31	TBD	Fleet arrives at mid-point	Hobie Hilton
Saturday, August 31	1900 hours	Ground Crew party	Lobo Del Mar
Sunday, September 1	0900 hours	Warning Signal first start	Hobie Hilton
Sunday, September 1	TBD	Fleet finishes	Doc's Seafood & Steaks
Sunday, September 1	1 hour after last finisher	Awards Party/Social Event	Doc's Seafood & Steaks:

7. DESCRIPTION OF MARKS

7.1. MARKS: The description of the marks to be used, including starting and finishing marks, are listed below:

Mark of Course	Latitude	Longitude	Description
Start Area	26°8.609' N	97°10.608 W	Padre Island Convention Center
ICW #61	26°8.275 N	97°13.729 W	Harlingen-Port Isabel day beacon – green
Saturday Finish	26°59.810'N	97°26.941'W	Hobie Hilton
Sunday Start	26°59.810'N	97°26.941'W	Hobie Hilton
Finish Line – Stb. side	27°38.001'N	97°14.401'W	Starboard side of finish line. Doc's Seafood & Steaks: 27°38.001'N, 97°14.401'W
Finish Line – Port side	27°38.005'N	97°14.493'W	Port side of finish line – Structure across channel – see Sunday Finish Line and Landing Area document

8. RACE STARTS AND STARTING SEQUENCE

8.1. CLASSES: Class Flags will be announced at the Competitor's Briefing.

8.1.1. Non-Spinnaker

8.1.2. Spinnaker

8.1.3. Trimarans

8.2. STARTING SIGNALS: The starting signals shall be in accordance with RRS 26.

8.3. RACE SEQUENCE: There shall be two starts:

8.3.1. Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker

8.3.2. Trimarans

8.4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:

8.4.1. When signals are made ashore, they shall conform to RRS "Race Signals" and their location ashore will be announced at the initial Competitor's Briefing and posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board.

- 8.4.2. "Postponement" (Answering Pennant "AP") with 2 sound signals (one when lowered) means the race is postponed. The Warning Signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after "AP" is lowered.
- 8.5. Catamarans whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all catamarans whose preparatory signal has been made.
- 8.6. A catamaran shall not start later than 10 minutes after her starting signal.

9. THE COURSE

- 9.1. Start style shall either be le mans or between buoys and will be defined at Skipper's Meeting
- 9.2. Sail to ICW #61 and round to starboard.
- 9.2.1. Approximately 2.8nm @ 83 degrees.
- 9.3. Finish at approximate location of Saturday Finish per SI 6.1.
- 9.3.1. Approximately 54nm.
- 9.4. Sunday start shall be from Saturday finish location.
- 9.4.1. Approximately 40nm.
- 9.5. Finish at Finish Line per SI 6.1.

10. STARTING

- 10.1. For the le mans style of start, all crew shall hold the boat in knee deep water until their start signal is sounded.
- 10.2. Trimarans may start floating and between start marks.
- 10.3. OCS penalty shall be defined as the following:
- 10.3.1. A boat will be considered OCS if any of its crew is on board their boat within the last minute of the starting sequence.
- 10.3.2. If a team is OCS between (5) five minutes and their start, the time penalty shall be (10) **ten minutes**.
- 10.3.3. Any team OCS more than (5) five minutes to their start shall be scored **DSQ** for that race.

11. FINISHING

- 11.1. **Saturday finish at Hobie Hilton** – Approximately near ICW Marker #9 and defined in SI 6.1.
- 11.1.1. Each finisher shall beach their boat just to the north of the existing finished/beached boat.
- 11.1.2. A boat shall be considered finished when their bows touch the beach at the water's edge and/or a crew steps off the boat in knee deep water.
- 11.1.3. The first boat to finish shall be on the north side of the Hobie Hilton Supply Boat.

- 11.1.4. If the Hobie Hilton Supply Boat is not present when the first boat finishes, they shall finish at the coordinates noted in SI 6.1.
- 11.1.5. A finisher shall note their time of day (hh:mm:ss) and record the next **two finishers**.
- 11.1.6. Failure to record the next two finishers may result in a penalty of (10) ten minutes added to their elapsed time.

11.2. Sunday finishing

- 11.2.1. The finish line shall be between a line from Doc's Seafood & Steaks and a structure across the channel as noted in SI 6.1.
- 11.2.2. Finish times will be taken by Race Committee.
- 11.2.3. Once finished, boats are to sail to the Landing Area and not interfere with other boats finishing or commercial traffic.

12. RETIRING FROM A RACE

- 12.1. NOTIFY THE RACE COMMITTEE: A boat which retires from a race, shall notify the Race Committee either before leaving the course area or upon arriving at shore. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification from future regattas.

13. ALTERNATE FINISHES, TIME LIMIT, AND RACE VALIDITY

- 13.1. SHORTENING OR ABANDONING AFTER THE START: There is no intention to shorten or abandon after the start. Refer to RRS 3.
- 13.2. TIME LIMIT: There is no time limit for either day.

14. PROTESTS

- 14.1. PROTEST TIME LIMIT: Protests shall be written on regatta supplied protest forms or reasonable equivalent. Protests shall be filed with the Race Committee or with the Protest Committee within one-half hour (0.5 hr.) after the Race Committee boat arrives in the harbor or dock as signaled by an audible blast following the last race of the day. The protest committee may extend the protest time at their discretion. This modifies RRS 61.3.
- 14.2. SIGNALING A PROTEST: A boat protesting another boat shall follow RRS 61.1 (a) with the following provisions and modifications:
 - 14.2.1. All boats, regardless of hull length shall hail "Protest" and but are not required to display a red flag even if longer than 6 meters. This modifies RRS 61.1 (a)(2)
 - 14.2.2. The definition of the "first reasonable opportunity" for hailing "Protest" is IMMEDIATELY following the incident.
 - 14.2.3. Notify the Race Committee of intent to protest when finishing is recommended so they will know to a protest may be filed after racing is concluded. If unable to finish, notify the Race Committee upon reaching shore that you did not finish and of your intent to protest.

15. ALTERNATE PENALTIES

- 15.1. RRS Appendix T, Arbitration will apply.

16. SCORING

- 16.1. METHOD: Cumulative corrected score of their two races. Modified RRS 90.3.
- 16.2. THROW OUT RACES: No race shall be excluded. This modifies RRS A2.1
- 16.3. PENALTIES AND SCORING PENALTIES: As described in RRS Appendix A except that DNF shall be scored the number of finishers plus one (1). This changes RRS 44.3(c).
- 16.4. Competitors are encouraged and expected to watch out for each other. Time will be credited for a competitor assisting another competitor. Each of the two competitors must agree on the time assistance.
- 16.5.

17. SPECIAL NOTES

- 17.1. OBSTRUCTIONS: Commercial vessels (such as barges, push boats, and others defined in the Inland Rules of the Road) and shallow waters outside the ICW channel shall rank as obstructions.
 - 17.1.1. For shallow waters, there shall be no luffing outside the limits of the ICW channel (beyond the channel markers).
 - 17.1.2. If a boat calls for room due to shallow water or other obstruction, they shall alter their course immediately to avoid the obstruction.
 - 17.1.3. Because of the possibility of shoaling around channel markers and day markers, they shall be considered a continuous obstruction.
- 17.2. ASSISTANCE: Any boat receiving "hands on" assistance from rescue and/or chase boats will have 20 minutes added to their elapsed time. The Race Committee may decide when a boat or crew needs assistance.
- 17.3. EQUIPMENT: Trapezes are permitted. Modifies RRS 49.1

18. LAUNCHING/PARKING

- 18.1. Launching is available at "the flats" just north of the South Padre Convention Center (7355 Padre Blvd, South Padre Island TX 78597).
 - 18.1.1. There is no fee for access/launching at "the flats" for Friday & Saturday.
 - 18.1.2.
- 18.2. Parking at the S. Padre Convention Center is available for vehicles and trailers with Race Committee issued parking pass.
- 18.3. Landing Area: Sunday's finish area is the beach access area northwest of the finish area; on the south side of the JFK Memorial Causeway.

19. COMMUNICATIONS

- 19.1. The RC will intend to monitor **VHF Channel 68** while on the water.

- 19.2. Competitors shall monitor **VHF Channel 16** for commercial traffic.
- 19.3. It is heavily recommended for each competitor to carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on US VHF channels 9,13, 16, 68, 69, 70, 71, and 72.
- 19.4. Boats may use performance tracking devices and software during the regatta provided that the information communicated is available to all competitors and not used to gain an unfair advantage. AIS receivers and transponders are also allowed.
- 19.5. Race Committee Cell Phone:
 - 19.5.1. **Scott Tuma: 281.705.3712**
 - 19.5.2. **Tom Dodd: 251.656.1568**