



Heald Bank Regatta

HEALD BANK REGATTA

Bay Access Sailing Foundation (OA)

hosted with Lakewood Yacht Club

August 31 - September 1, 2024

Galveston, Texas, USA

NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

Posted June 15, 2024

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 defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (“RRS”) except as changed as follows:
 - 1.1.1. The time limit for boats to finish is 16 hours after their starting signal. 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 IRPCAS between 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. Appendix V2 applies.
- 1.2. [NP] The Safety Equipment Requirements (“SER”) for Coastal Races as published by US Sailing which can be found online at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations/> or may be provided upon request by contacting the Principal Race Officer (see 14 for contact information).
- 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. [NP] If the Race Committee receives a confirmed report from a disinterested party that a boat interfered with commercial traffic in violation of the I.R.P.C.A.S. while transiting to the race area, while *racing*, or while transiting to her mooring after *finishing*, the Race Committee may protest that boat and seek disqualification. Any competitor 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, Multihull, PHRF Non-Spinnaker, and PHRF Spinnaker classes.
- 2.2. Boats may enter the event by registering online at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/28365>.
- 2.3. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all entry and late entry fees. Entry is not complete until the Organizing Authority receives a Waiver and Release of Liability from each skipper and crew member. Skippers' waivers are submitted during the entry process. [NP] All crew waivers shall be submitted online no later than the close of the Skippers' Meeting. No crew member substitutions or additions will be permitted after the Skippers' Meeting except with the permission of the race committee.
- 2.4. Monohulls must have a hull length of at least 27 feet.
- 2.5. 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 race committee. A minimum of three boats constitutes a class. The race committee may, at its discretion, allow a class of two boats. If insufficient competitors register in one or more classes then classes may be combined as required to maintain competitive fleets with the base class for consolidation being the PHRF class. Boats who do not have valid class certificates in the class to which they are reassigned or who choose not to race in the reassigned class will be provided with a full refund upon request. Class selections will be finalized no later than the Competitor's Briefing.

3. **FEES:** The entry fee is \$100.00 per boat. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the race committee until 1800 Central Daylight Time on August 29, 2024 and with an additional late fee of \$30.

4. **SCHEDULE**

- 4.1. Registration must be received before August 24, 2024 at 1800 CDT. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the race committee.
- 4.2. The mandatory Competitor's Briefing will be held at 1800 CDT, August 29, 2024 at Lakewood Yacht Club. In person attendance is highly encouraged, but for those who wish to attend via video conference a link for online participation in the Competitor's Briefing will be provided to all registered boats no later than 1800 CDT, August 28, 2024.
- 4.3. The scheduled time of the warning signal is 1300 on August 31, 2024.
- 4.4. A Heald Bank Sailors Brunch will be held at Lakewood Yacht Club on Sunday, September 1 at 10:30. R.S.V.P. required to 281-474-2511. Cost is \$31.95+tax+gratuity per person, mimosas included. Credit card and club charge accepted. Post-race attire acceptable.
- 4.5. Awards will be presented on September 1, 2024 at Lakewood Yacht Club at 1130. Purchase of brunch is not required to participate in the awards ceremony.

5. **EQUIPMENT INSPECTION:** Boats may receive a request from the race committee to be inspected at any time.

6. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** Sailing Instructions ("SI's") will be available no later than 1800 CDT on August 24, 2024 at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/28365>.

7. COMMUNICATION

- 7.1. The online official notice board is located at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/28365>.
- 7.2. On the water, the race committee 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 or to hail for room to tack, 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. **VENUE:** The racing area shall be within the Galveston jetties and in the Gulf of Mexico within 40 nautical miles of the eastern end of the Galveston jetties, Markers 5a or 6a.

9. **COURSES:** The race course will consist of 3 or more legs from the end of the Galveston jetties and will be of overall lengths of from approximately 30-40 nautical miles to approximately 80 nautical miles. The specific courses will be provided in the SI's. The intent is for a race course in which the median handicap rated boat can finish within approximately 10 to 12 hours given expected wind conditions. Course selection will be announced via VHF radio no less than 1 hour prior to the first start. Race Committee will observe start and hail boats on course side via VHF radio, but boats may be required to register their own finish time by taking a picture of a GPS display which shows position and time and sending the picture via text message to the Race Committee. Finish times may be further validated by AIS at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer.

10. **SCORING AND PENALTY SYSTEM:** The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, applies. The penalty is 2 places.

11. PRIZES

- 11.1. Prizes will be awarded as follows: For classes with less than four participants – first place. For classes with four to six participants – first and second place. For classes with more than six participants – first, second, and third places.
- 11.2. Old Winch Trophy - The name of overall class winner in the ORC class will be engraved on the Old Winch Trophy. If insufficient boats register to constitute a class then the trophy will not be awarded.
- 11.3. Navigator Trophy - The name of overall class winner in the PHRF non-spinnaker classes will be engraved on the Navigator Trophy. If insufficient boats register to constitute a class then the trophy will not be awarded.

12. **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.

13. **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.

14. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** please contact:

Principal Race Officer – Larry Wise lwisehou@gmail.com 713-419-4329

Race Committee Chairman – Steve Guerin spguerin@comcast.net 281-794-7687

Fleet Captain – David Comeaux davidcomeaux@live.com 281-794-7687

Chief Judge – TBD



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