

Middle Bay Light Regatta

September 14, 2024
Buccaneer Yacht Club
Mobile, Alabama



Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

The regatta will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association, the Notice of Race, and these Sailing Instructions. This event is classified as a Category A event in accordance with Rule 79, Event Classification, advertising, and Appendix G, except as to personal clothing.

2. Classes and Registration

PHRF Spinnaker and non-spinnaker, Portsmouth spinnaker and non-spinnaker, multihull, and One design. Three entrants are required to form a One design class. If less than three one design boats register, those entrants will revert to Portsmouth. Entry is only allowed in one class. Registration will be through Regatta Network at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/28604>.

3. Notice to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located downstairs next to the elevator.

4. Changes to the Sailing Instructions

5. Any questions concerning the Sailing Instructions must be submitted in writing no later than 0900, Saturday, September 14. Answers, in writing, and any other changes to the Sailing Instructions, will be posted no later than 10000, September 14, except that any change to the schedule will be posted by 2000 on Friday September 13.

6. Signals Made Ashore

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located East of the Main Hall. If a postponement is signaled ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after AP is lowered.

7. Schedule of Events

Friday September 13

1800-2000

Late Registration

2000

Skipper's Meeting

Saturday September 14

1055

Race Warning

1100	Start
1600-until	After Race party, food and band
Trophy presentation	ASAP after the race

8. Class Flag

Buccaneer burgee

9. Course

Start: RC Signal Boat and Orange tetrahedron to port in the vicinity of Dog River #5
Theodore Ship Channel #10 to port
Middle Bay Light to port
Theodore Ship Channel #10 to starboard
Finish: RC Signal Boat and Orange tetrahedron in the vicinity of Dog River #5

10. Check-In

Each boat shall sail by the RC Starting Boat and hail their sail number and receive acknowledgement from the Race Committee before the race. All crew must wear their PFDs for the check in, and for the start of the race, and for the following five (5) minutes. It is also “recommended” that the crew continue wearing PFDs throughout the race

11. Starting and Finishing Lines; Starting System

The starting system is described in RRS Rule 26. The “L” flag will be dropped with multiple sounds, approximately one minute before the starting sequence.

The starting line will be between the staff of an orange line flag on the Race Committee Boat and the forward (course side) edge of a nearby mark. There will be one start for all classes. The finish line will be between a blue flag and the same mark.

A boat shall not start later than 15 minutes after her starting signal.

12. Recalls

Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.2. Additionally, the race committee will endeavor to hail the sail numbers of boats over early, or that have broken Rule 30.1 on VHF channel 68 and will also endeavor to hail when they have returned to the pre-start side of the line, except when Flag I has been displayed.

13. Time Limit

The time limit for completion of the race is six (6) hours. Boats failing to finish within the above time limit will be scored *Did Not Finish*. This changes Rule 35.

14. Protests

Rule 61.1 (a) is changed by adding the following: “ A boat intending to file a protest shall additionally inform the race committee finishing line boat upon finishing, or if unable to finish, at the first reasonable opportunity, of the sail number(s) or otherwise identify the protested boat(s) and receive an acknowledgement from the Race Committee. Failure to do so will make the protest invalid.”

Protests shall be written on forms available at the

Official Notice Board and delivered to the PRO within the protest time, which will end one (1) hour after the race committee signal boat docks at the end of the day’s racing.

Protest notices will be posted within twenty (20) minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as a witness. Such posting shall constitute notice of hearing as required by Rule 63.2.

Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt.

15. Safety and Responsibility

A boat, which retires from a race, shall notify the race committee before leaving the racecourse, or, if unable to do so, shall notify a regatta official immediately after arriving ashore.

It shall be the sole responsibility of each skipper to decide whether or not to start or to continue a race.

All participants shall abide by the Navigational Rules International/Inland (COMDTUNSTM16672.21), “a vessel of less than 20 meters in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel that can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway”. Any boat which impedes commercial shipping shall be subject to disqualification. Participants may cross ship channels if not impeding commercial shipping but should not race in the ship channels.