

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2024 Houston Open One Design (HOOD) Regatta

J/24 Beasley Cup
J/22 Heritage Cup

September 21 - 22, 2024

The Houston Yacht Club
3620 Miramar Drive, Shoreacres, TX 77571
(281) 471-1255



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta shall be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
- 1.2 The notation '[DP]' means that the penalty for breaking this provision will be a discretionary penalty, which may be less than disqualification. The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the NOR or SI means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the breezeway adjacent to the The Houston Yacht Club (HYC) Office. Copies of notices may be posted at: regattanetwork.com/event/26133.
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to communicate with competitors on VHF radio:
 - (a) Channel 72 for the Keelboat Racecourse.
 - (b) Channel 69 for the Dinghy Racecourse.
- 3.3 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole at Houston Yacht Club.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 Saturday, September 21, 2024
1100 **ALL Classes:** Warning Signal for the first race, additional races to follow.

Sunday, September 22, 2024
1100 **ALL Classes (except Sunfish):** Warning Signal for the first race, additional race to Follow.
- 5.2 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1400 hours.
- 5.3 Keelboats: a. Six (6) races are scheduled over two (2) consecutive days. b. No more than four (4) races will be sailed per day.
- 5.4 Centerboards (Dingies): a. Seven (7) races are scheduled over two (2) consecutive days. b. No more than five (5) races will be sailed per day.

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- 5.5 Sunfish: a. Five (5) races are scheduled on Saturday only. b. No more than six (6) races will be sailed.
- 5.6 Flag "A" (ALPHA) displayed with no sound while boats are finishing means "no more racing today".

6 CLASS FLAGS

Class flags and order of starts are defined in the Addendum: *Class Flags and Order of Starts*.

7 RACING AREA

The racing area is shown in the Addendum "Race Areas".

8 [NP] CHECK IN

- 8.1 Prior to the warning for the first race of each day, each boat shall check-in. Check-in means passing on starboard tack, close astern of the Race Committee Signal Boat displaying the code Flag "L" and hailing her sail number and being recognized by the Race Committee.
- 8.2 Boats failing to check-in shall receive a 20% scoring penalty in the first race of the day, without a hearing, in accordance with RRS 44.3 (c).

9 COURSES

- 9.1 The course diagrams are shown in the Addendum: *Course Diagrams* and show the courses, the order in which the marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee will designate the course and the approximate compass bearing of the first leg on the course board.
- 9.3 If a gate mark is missing, the remaining gate mark shall be rounded leaving the mark to port.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 For Keelboat classes there will be a long and short weather mark. The J105 class will use the long weather mark with a yellow tetrahedron. The J24 and J22 classes will use the short weather mark with a green tetrahedron. Offsets are marks or floating shapes. Change marks will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 10.2 For Dinghy classes, mark 1 is a yellow tetrahedron and no offset. Change marks will be orange tetrahedrons.

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

Boats shall not enter any Ship Channel while racing. Ship Channels are designated as obstructions.

12 THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.
- 12.2 The 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.
- 12.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other boats.
- 12.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 12.5 A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 The change marks are orange tetrahedrons. Change Mark 1 will not have an offset.
- 13.2 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by

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an original mark.

- 13.3 When the first mark of the course is to be a change mark, code flag “C” will be displayed before the warning signal, accompanied by a series of repetitive sound signals.

14 THE FINISH

The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee boat and a nearby floating shape.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS Appendix **V1 & V2** are in effect.

16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Class	Mark 1 Time Limit	Finishing Window
One-Design (all)	40 minutes	20 minutes

- 16.2 If no boat in a class has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race shall be abandoned for that class.
- 16.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat in a class sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized, or given redress, shall be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.
- 16.4 RRS A5.3 is in effect.

17 HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1 Intent to protest shall be signaled in accordance with RRS 61.1. The protesting boat shall also notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity and be acknowledged before leaving the finish area. This changes RRS 61.1.
- 17.2 Protests shall be written on forms available at the office of the Houston Yacht Club and delivered there within forty-five (45) minutes following the arrival in the harbor of the Race Committee boat for the racing line involved. This time will be posted on the "HYC Race Information" official notice board. This changes RRS Appendix S13.2.
- 17.3 The times and locations of the protest hearings, along with the names of the boats involved will be posted on the "HYC Race Information" official notice board at the entrance to the breezeway adjacent to the offices of The Houston Yacht Club no later than thirty (30) minutes after the protest time period.
- 17.4 For the purpose of meeting obligations under US Sailing prescriptions concerning redress, notification of a redress hearing shall be by posting on the official notice board for thirty (30) minutes. The requirement for written requests for attendance of the hearing will be satisfied by a signup sheet at the official protest table. No more than one person per boat may attend. No request for reopening a hearing will be accepted later than 30 minutes after a protest committee decision has been posted on the “HYC Race Information” official notice board. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 17.5 As a courtesy, the Protest Committee will attempt to notify the parties to a protest hearing or a redress hearing by telephone at the telephone number provided online on Regatta Network upon registration.
- 17.6 Competitors who intend to protest are required to bring their own device for electronic communication in a hearing. Some of the judges are only accessible through Zoom.

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18 SCORING

- 18.1 The scoring system is in accordance with Appendix A of the RRS.
- 18.2 Three (3) races must be completed to constitute a regatta. This modifies RRS A1.
- 18.3 Each boat's regatta score shall be the total of her race scores. No race score shall be excluded. This modifies RRS A2.1.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 [DP] A boat that retires from a 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** (all Lines). Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification from this regatta.
- 19.2 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race.

20 RISK STATEMENT

- 20.1 RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* 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.**
- 20.2 The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, or to contact club operations, please feel free to reach out to:
Park Tupper, Regatta Chairman, Park.tupper@gmail.com

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ADDENDUM: RACING AREA

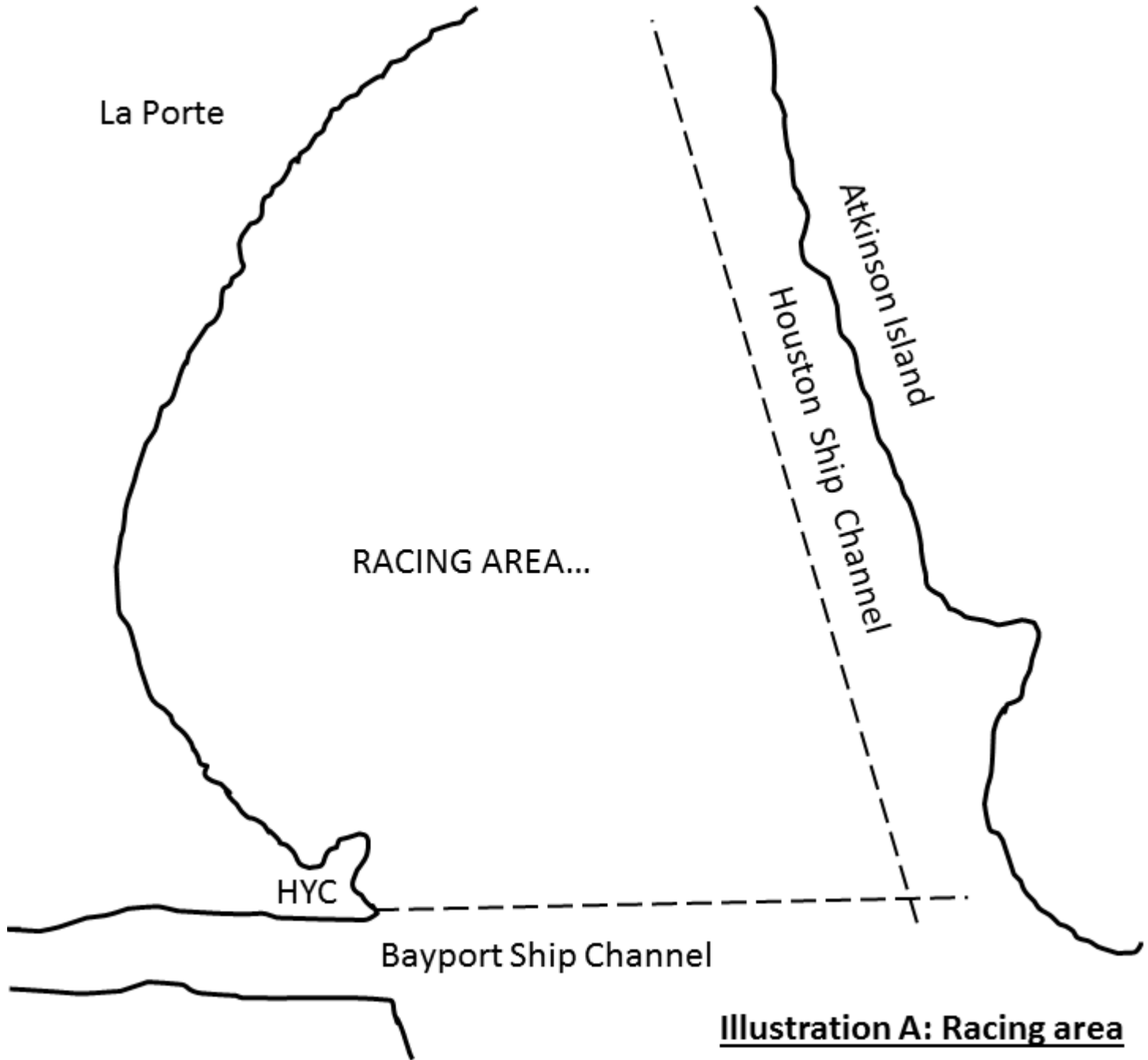
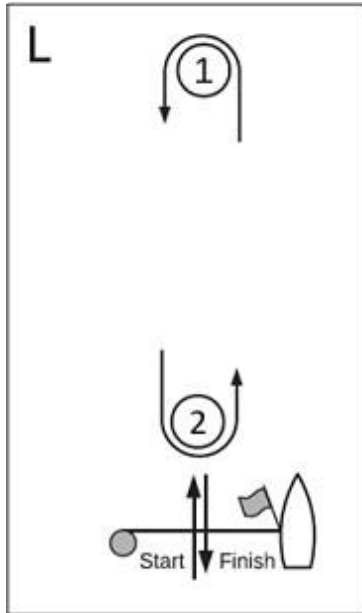


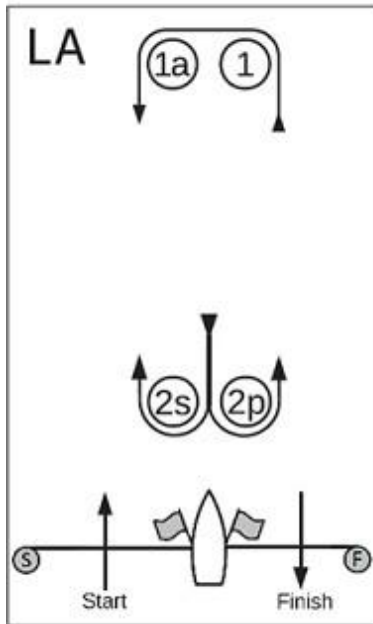
Illustration A: Racing area

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ADDENDUM: COURSE DIAGRAMS



Course L – Windward/Leeward, Leeward Finish	
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
L2	Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - Finish
L3	Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - Finish
L4	Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - Finish



Course LA – Windward/Leeward with Offset Mark, Leeward Finish	
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LA2	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish
LA3	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish
LA4	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish

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ADDENDUM: CLASS FLAGS and ORDER of STARTS

Class Flags & Starting Order for FIRST RACE of each day

Keelboat Line

Class:

J/105

J/24

J/22

Flag:

J/105 Class Flag

J/24 Class Flag

J/22 Class Flag

Dinghy Line

Class:

Ensigns

Melges 15

Sunfish

Flag:

Ensign Class Flag

M 15 Class Flag

Purple Flag

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At Houston Yacht Club, we are grateful for our sponsors and volunteers!

Thank you for your contributions and for making this a great regatta!

