



## 2024 Fall Series

September 14<sup>th</sup> & October 12<sup>th</sup>, 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*.
- 1.2 The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) 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 1800 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 HYC Office.
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to communicate with competitors on VHF Channel 68.
- 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 The **Dates of Racing** are listed in NOR 6.6.
  - a. Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024
  - b. Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- 5.2 On each day of racing:
  - a. **1100** Competitor's Briefing HYC Beachcomber
  - b. **1230** First Warning Signal
- 5.3 Up to three (3) races are planned for each day of racing.
- 5.4 On each day of racing, no warning signal shall be made after **1630** hrs.
- 5.5 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, Fall Series*.

#### 7. RACING AREA

The approximate location of the racing area is described in the addendum, *Racing Area, Fall Series*.

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## 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, Fall Series*. The course diagrams show the courses, the order in which each mark is 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 Marks 1, 2, 2s, and 2p are yellow tetrahedrons. There are no offset marks.
- 10.2 For Dinghy classes, Mark 1 will be announced at the competitor's briefing.

## 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 races.
- 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 redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 12.5 A boat that does not start within 5 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 mark is an orange tetrahedron.
- 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 an original mark.

## 14. THE FINISH

- 14.1 The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying an orange or blue flag on the Race Committee boat and a nearby floating shape.
- 14.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she shall report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## 15. PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS Appendix V1 & V2 are in effect.

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## 16. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1 Mark 1 Time Limit: 45 minutes for the first boat in a class to pass Mark 1.
- 16.2 Finishing Window: 30 minutes for boats to finish after the first boat in its class starts, sails the course, and finishes.
- 16.3 If no boat in a class has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race shall be abandoned for that class.
- 16.4 Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window shall be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

## 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. 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 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.

## 18. SCORING

- 18.1 The scoring system is in accordance with Appendix A of the RRS.
- 18.2 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.3 When four (4) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 18.4 Rule A5.3 applies.

## 19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

[NP] 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**.

## 20. RISK STATEMENT

- 20.1 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** See RRS 3, Decision to Race.
- 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

Tim Johnson/ Billy Richnow  
Park Tupper

PRO – Fall Series  
Race & Regatta Chair park.tupper@gmail.com

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

*Addendum:*

## Class Flags & Order of Starts, Fall Series

For the FIRST RACE of each day, the start order shall be:

### Keel Boat Classes

#### CLASS

PHRF Non-Spin  
PHRF Spin-A  
PHRF Spin-B  
Ensigns  
J/22  
J/24

#### FLAG

Pink Flag  
Gray Flag  
Maroon Flag  
Ensign Class Flag  
J/22 Class Flag  
J/24 Class Flag

### Dinghy Classes

#### CLASS

Melges 15

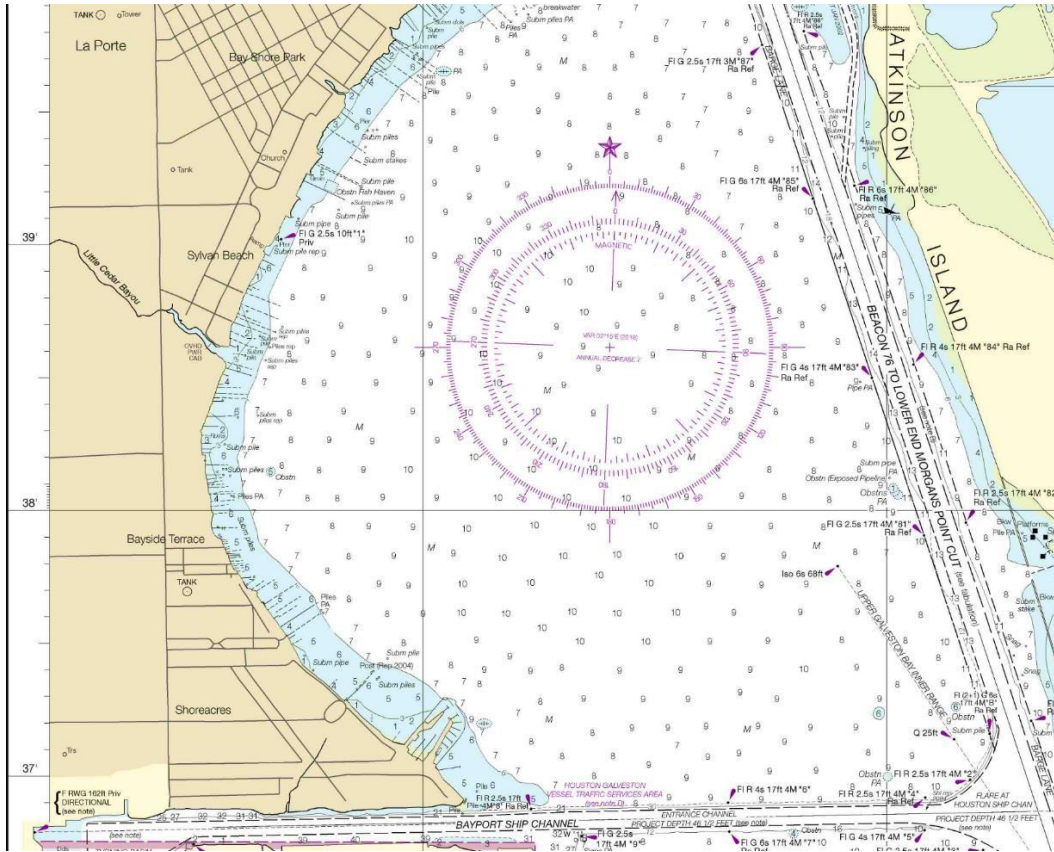
#### FLAG

Melges 15 Class flag

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Addendum:

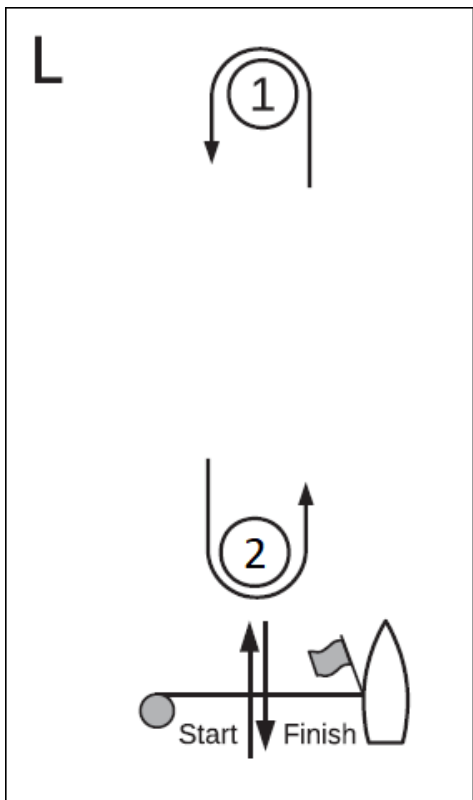
## RACING AREA, FALL SERIES



# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Addendum:

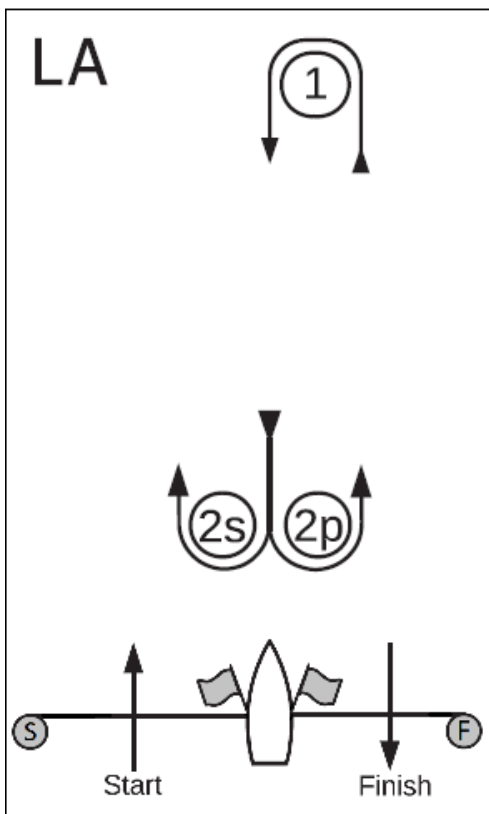
## Course Diagrams, Fall Series



### COURSE L:

**Windward/Leeward,  
Leeward Finish  
No Gate**

Course	Flag	Mark Rounding Order
L-1	# 1	Start - 1 - Finish
L-2	# 2	Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - Finish
L-3	# 3	Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - Finish



### COURSE LA:

**Windward/Leeward,  
Leeward Finish,  
Alternate Finish Line  
Gates**

Course	Flag	Mark Rounding Order
LA-2	# 2	Start - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - Finish
LA-3	# 3	Start - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - Finish
LA-4	# 4	Start - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - Finish