



THE GREAT LAKE RACE 2024 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, 2021-2024 edition herein after referred to as the “rules”.
- 1.2. The U.S. Sailing Prescriptions and addendum, will apply.
- 1.3. If a conflict exists between any of the above and the CSA Sailing Instructions, the CSA instructions will prevail.
- 1.4. In accordance with RRS 86, the following shall be in effect:
RRS 52 “Manual Power” is modified to allow the use of winches operated by using stored power but not for the use of auto-helms at any time while racing.
- 1.5. The skipper and each crew shall wear a life jacket when crossing the start line, or be subject to disqualification.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices will be posted on the regatta notice board at the “Skipper’s Party” Friday night at New Orleans Yacht Club (NOYC).
- 2.2. Any changes to these instructions after the Skipper’s Party will be posted on the official notice board window at NOYC by 0730 the morning of the race.

3. Divisions

- 3.1. Spinnaker Division
 - 3.1.1. Spinnaker Class boats may carry a spinnaker as defined by the rules & the PHRF rating.
- 3.2. Non-Spinnaker Division
 - 3.2.1. Headsails. A single headsail, of the maximum size specified by the PHRF rating, or smaller, may be carried and tacked at the usual tack point. During headsail changes, if two headsails are carried, their clews must both lie on the same side of the boat.
 - 3.2.2. Whisker Poles—Whisker Pole length is unrestricted. Whisker Poles must be attached to the mast and at or adjacent to the clew of the headsail. Only one whisker pole may be carried at a time.
 - 3.2.3. Spinnakers, Bloopers or Pole less Spinnakers are not allowed.

- 3.2.4. Staysails are allowed, if tacked on centerline, a minimum of 1/3 of the “J” dimension behind the jib tack point and shall not exceed the rated overlap distance for which the boat is rated.
- 3.2.5. Cutter Rigs boats rated as such by PHRF may set staysails to the tack point provided by the boat manufacturer.
- 3.2.6. Yawl and Ketch Rigs-- Mizzen staysails may be carried.

4. **RACE SCHEDULE**

- 4.1. The race will be sailed on Saturday September 21, 2024. In the event that the race is abandoned for any reason, the race will be rescheduled at a date to be determined. It will be the individual Skipper's responsibility to keep their crew informed of all schedule changes.
- 4.2. The race start sequence will be a “Staggered Start” based on PHRF ratings with the first Warning Signal at 0855.

5. **CLASS FLAGS**

- 5.1. There will be no class flags.

6. **RACING AREA**

- 6.1. Attachment “A” is a chart showing the locations of the racing area and fixed marks.

7. **THE COURSE**

- 7.1. The course is a twenty (20) nautical mile, Steeple Chase around fixed marks located on the South Shore of Lake Pontchartrain. All or some classes may sail a shorter course at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 7.2. The Course shall be determined at the skipper's meeting.

8. **MARKS**

- 8.1. Marks shall be fixed yellow marks or orange tetrahedrons as described in Attachment “A” and Attachment “B”.
- 8.2. Replacement marks may be white or yellow buoys.

9. **THE START**

- 9.1. The starting line will be between an orange flag on the race committee boat and the nearby “A” Mark.
- 9.2. Each boat's start time is based upon its PHRF rating and is listed on the Start Time Sheet. The Start Time Sheet will be included in the race packets handed out at the Skippers Meeting and posted on the official notice boards. Boats arriving at the Starting area after the Race has started are advised to verify the time sequence the Committee is in.
- 9.3. Pre-Starting sequence will comply with the traditional international 5-minute sequence adopted by the International Sailing Federation (ISAF).
- 9.4. The first Warning Signal will be at 0855.
- 9.5. The highest rated boat registered by the beginning of the Skipper's Meeting on Friday will start at 0900 on Saturday.
- 9.6. GPS time will be used.
- 9.7. Thereafter, a short horn signal will be sounded every minute for the duration of the starting sequence with a long horn signal every 5 minutes.
- 9.8. As an additional aid to Skippers, the Committee Boat will display an Electronic Elapsed Time clock that will reflect the elapsed time from 0900 (i.e.: 0920= 00:20:00). Should the R/C clock fail or malfunction, starts will continue according to GPS time.
- 9.9. It is the responsibility of each Skipper to assure that they start at the proper time. The time display on the Committee Boat will assist in this effort. The Start Committee WILL keep a record of the Sail Numbers that cross the start line in each minute of the sequence.
- 9.10. If the First Start at 0900 is postponed, all Yachts must add the postponement time to their individual start time. If, as an example, the first start is delayed until 0930, the timer clock will re-start at 0930 = 00:00:00. Postponements will be in 10-minute increments.
- 9.11. Yachts are “Racing” five minutes before their start and may run their engines until they are “Racing”. Boats not racing, shall avoid the starting area. Violators of this rule are subject to protest and may be disqualified.

10. **RECALL**

10.1. Rule 30.1 "Round-the-End Rule: is modified as follows:

If any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line before the starting signal, she shall thereafter sail from the course side across an extension to the pre-start side before starting.

11. When a boat has violated 30.1, the Race Committee shall signal Individual Recall as defined in 29.1 and attempt to hail the boat over the VHF radio. Skippers are cautioned not to make "practice" runs at the starting line once the start sequence has begun. Changes Rule 29.1.

12. **THE FINISH**

12.1. The Finish Line shall be between the blue flag displayed on the committee boat and the finish mark.

12.2. The course may be shortened at any mark. If the course is shortened, the Race Committee will make an announcement on VHF channel 69 with directions as to what steps may be required by participating boats.

13. **TIME LIMITS**

13.1. The Race Committee Boat will leave the Finish Line at 1500. Any boat that has not finished may take their own time and turn it into the Race Committee.

14. **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

14.1. A boat intending to file a protest shall inform the Race Committee of the protested boat's sail number and name upon finishing or at the first reasonable opportunity.

14.2. Protests shall be submitted on protest forms listed in the "rules" book. Copies of the protest form are available in the NOYC office.

14.3. Protest Forms shall be deposited in the box located at the NOYC office within two (2) hours of the protesting boat's recorded finish time. Protesting boats shall indicate on the protest form the time the form is deposited in the Protest box.

14.4. The Protest Committee will hear protests in the approximate order of submission. The Protest hearing schedule will be posted on Notice Board at the NOYC Office.

14.5. Skippers of boats involved in the protest must be available for the protest hearing.

15. **SCORING**

15.1. Each yacht will be scored in the order of its finish by class and fleet. The staggered start system adjusts for corrected time by applying a handicap to starting time vs. distance.

16. **SAFETY REGULATIONS**

16.1. It is the sole responsibility of each skipper to determine if his boat and crew are capable of participating in the race. Each skipper is reminded to comply with all applicable State and Federal safety regulations.

16.2. At the start, each crew member must be on deck and wearing a life jacket. Violators will not be scored.

16.3. Radio. The race committee shall operate on and monitor VHF channel 69. Competitors shall monitor VHF Channel 69 during the race.

16.4. Running lights must be displayed between sunset and dawn. Violators are subject to protest and disqualification.

17. **MISCELLANEOUS**

17.1. Trash and Debris. No trash or debris will be thrown overboard at any time. Violators are subject to protest and disqualification.

17.2. Trophies will be awarded as announced.

17.3. Yachts retiring or withdrawing from the race MUST inform either the Race Committee Boat via VHF radio channel 69, or Ella McCulloch at 504-975-4102.

ATTACHEMENT "A"

ATTACHEMENT "B"