

Southern Yacht Club's Annual  
**RACE TO THE COAST**  
*First sailed on July 4th, 1850*  
**JUNE 20, 2020**  
 New Orleans, La. to Gulfport, Miss.



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1 RULES

**1.1** The event will be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) including the US Sailing prescriptions; applicable class and/or rating rules; the Notice of Race (NOR); and these Sailing Instructions (SI). If there is a conflict between rules, succeeding documents in this list shall govern. This alters RRS 63.7.

**1.2** MONOHULL yachts shall be governed by the By-Laws of the GYA Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (GYA-PHRF).

**1.3** MULTIHULL yachts shall be governed by the *GYA Multihull Council Safety Recommendations*, for which the event shall be classified as Category 2.

**1.4** The following rules are changed herein:

RRS	Changed by	RRS	Changed by
26	10.3	62.1(a)	9.3, 10.1
52	1.6	63.7	1.1
55	1.9	A4.2	10.6
60.1	17.4	A5	16

**1.5** MOTORING is allowed as prescribed by SYC Appendix P and SI 12.

**1.6** RRS 52, Manual Power, will not apply.

**1.7** A yacht shall set only one (1) headsail at a time and only one (1) staysail per mast, which shall not extend beyond the rated LP distance.

**1.8** NON-SPINNAKER classes shall set only headsails and staysails ahead of each mast and only in rated configurations. Headsails shall not be set flying. Whisker poles are permitted.

**1.9** RRS 55 is appended with the following: "However, discarding biodegradable, environment-friendly bands when setting a sail is permitted."

### 2 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

**2.1** RACE TRACKING – Each yacht shall provide and carry a GPS tracking device as prescribed in the NOR. The device shall be operational from the time a yacht casts off before the start and until she next docks, after finishing or withdrawing from the race.

**2.2** The equipment listed in Appendix A – SAFETY EQUIPMENT is recommended for all yachts. Additionally, the OA strongly recommends compliance with the *US Safety Equipment Requirements* (USSER) for a Coastal race.

**2.3** Prior to the start, each yacht shall hold a man overboard (MOB) briefing or drill with the crew.

**2.4** At each yacht's start, one handheld VHF shall be visible and every soul aboard shall be visible on deck wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD).

### 3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices will be posted on the official notice boards at SYC, GYC and online at RMS. Electronic notifications (email and/or SMS) will be sent to competitors registered via RMS.

### 4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to these Sailing Instructions shall be posted online no later than 2000 on the day before the race.

### 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

There will be no signals made ashore for this event. See also SI 3 & 10.1.

### 6 SCHEDULE

Saturday, June 20, 2020	
0700	Pursuit Starting sequence begins
	GPS tracking devices must be active upon casting off

## 7 CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Class assignments and ratings will be as shown on the Scratch Sheet.

## 8 TIMING & RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

The RC will use local GPS time and **VHF 72**. The RC may hail its intentions or additional instructions.

## 9 THE COURSE

**9.1** The STARTING AREA will be located in Lake Pontchartrain, approximately as follows:

Point of Origin	Range	Bearing	NOAA Chart
Southern YC	11.9 nm	045°	11369
Bayou Castine Pontchartain YC	12.2 nm	152°	
Highway 11 bascule	6.4 nm	250°	
Appx. coordinates: <b>30°10.100'N 089°57.100'W</b>			

**9.2** The required MARKS OF THE COURSE, in order of rounding or passing, are shown in the table below.

**9.3** The course distance is **50.0 nm** and is not subject to redress. This alters RRS 62.1(a).

## 10 THE START

**10.1** STARTING BOAT ABSENT – If the RC boat is not on-station at a yacht's prescribed Starting Time, the yacht shall assume that the starting sequence is under Postponement, in accordance with SI Appendix P, and shall stand by in the starting area. The RC will attempt to hail her intentions via VHF or cell phone to the affected yachts. This race condition shall not be grounds for redress. This alters RRS 62.1(a).

**10.2** The STARTING LINE will be between a staff bearing an orange flag on the Race Committee boat on the starboard end and the port end starting mark.

**10.3** APPENDIX P – PURSUIT STARTING SYSTEM shall apply. This replaces RRS 26.

**10.4** Starting Times are as shown on the Scratch Sheet. Starts may be delayed by postponement.

**10.5** PFDs shall be worn at the start. See SI 2.4.

**10.6** A yacht scored as OCS will have thirty (30) minutes added to her elapsed time. This alters RRS A4.2.

MARKS OF THE COURSE			
Mark or Passage	Leave To	Description	NOAA Chart
Starting Mark	PORT	Inflatable orange shape	11369
<b>"Highway 11 Bridge"</b> and NSRR bridge	(a) (b)	(2) bascule bridges	11371
Interstate 10 Bridges	(a)	(2) fixed bridges	
North Shore Channel #9	STBD	Day marker – G "9"	11371 or 11367
Rigolets West Entrance #6	PORT	Fixed mark – Fl R 2.5s 17ft 3M "6"	
Highway 90 Bridge	(a)	Fixed bridge	
<b>"CSX Rigolets Bridge"</b>	(a) (b)	Swing bridge	
ICW Rigolets Approach #19	PORT (c)	Fixed mark – Q G 17ft 4M "19"	
ICW Rigolets Approach #20	PORT (c)	Day marker – R "20"	
St. Joe Pass #2	PORT	Day marker – R "2"	
Pass Marianne #10 and #8	PORT	Day markers – R "10", "8"	11371
Gulfport Sound Channel #62 / Finish	PORT	Fixed mark – Fl R 2.5s 17ft "62"	
(a) Bridges are included for reference only and are not marks of the course. At the Skipper's risk and subject to SI 12.4, a yacht may pass through any fixed bridge span and either side of the swing span.			
(b) Bridge tenders monitor <b>VHF 13</b> using the specific <b>"quoted"</b> call signs. See also SI 11.5.			
(c) Mark #20 is included because mark #19 was missing for the 2019 race.			

## 11 BRIDGE SAFETY AND DELAYS

**11.1** If a yacht encounters a closed draw bridge on the course, the crew shall use the BRIDGE DELAY REPORT FORM to record the time of day (STOPPED) that the yacht's bow reaches a point two (2) boat lengths from the nearest fender, before turning away to wait. Once the bridge opens and the yacht begins to transit the bridge passage, the crew shall record the time of day (RESUMED) that the bow passes the same point relative to the fenders.

**11.2** In the interest of safety, bridge fender systems may be touched, secured-to, or fended-off from without penalty.

**11.3** Yachts shall resume race progress as soon as possible and shall not prolong their delay to gain an advantage.

**11.4** Yachts delayed at a bridge shall keep clear of yachts that are still racing.

**11.5** Bridge Delay Report Forms must be submitted within the Protest Time Limit.

**11.6** The success of this regatta depends on the cooperation of the bridge tenders to get the fleet through The Rigolets. Competitors SHALL NOT engage in argumentative or obscene conversation with the bridge tenders. Competitors SHALL exercise patience and consideration and use polite and clear speech in their communications with the bridge tenders. An offending yacht is subject to disqualification and exclusion from future events. Also, note that bridge tenders must record the names and sail numbers of all boats transiting the bridges.

## 12 MOTORING

**12.1** Yachts may use auxiliary propulsion without penalty as specified in this section. A yacht motoring shall keep clear of a yacht sailing.

**12.2** A yacht motoring as allowed herein shall not overtake another yacht in the race.

**12.3** For safety, while transiting the primary navigational passage of a bridge and in no other bridge span or passage, yachts may motor at a steady course and speed, not to exceed four (4) knots, from the time the bow is two (2) boat lengths from the nearest fender until the yacht clears the fenders on the opposite side.

**12.4** A yacht that becomes grounded in the North Shore Channel or The Rigolets, but nowhere else on the course, may use auxiliary propulsion to free herself. Once free, a yacht shall immediately disengage her motor before proceeding in the race.

**12.5** A yacht delayed at a draw bridge may use auxiliary propulsion to maneuver and to return to the point where her bridge arrival time was taken, as long as her speed does not exceed four (4) knots at that point.

## 13 NOTIFICATION OF RETIREMENT

Yachts retiring while racing must report their actions as soon as possible to the Race Committee via VHF or phone (see Contacts listed below). Failure to report promptly will be grounds for exclusion from future events.

## 14 THE FINISH

**14.1** The FINISH LINE will be set roughly north-south, between a staff bearing an orange flag on the RC signal boat on the starboard (south) end and the port (north) end finish mark.

**14.2** Yachts finishing in darkness shall illuminate their sail numbers to aid the RC in identification.

**14.3** FINISH BOAT ABSENT – If required, a yacht shall report her GPS finishing time and position relative to nearby yachts to the Race Committee upon docking at GYC or via phone. Failure to report in a timely manner will be grounds for disqualification and additional penalties.

## 15 TIME LIMIT

There is no time limit.

## 16 POST-RACE CHECK-IN

Skippers shall submit a completed Bridge Delay Report Form to the Race Committee or GYC office upon docking or via telephone. Yachts that do not check-in within one (1) hour of their finish time may be scored DNF without a hearing. This alters RRS A5.

## 17 PENALTIES AND PROTESTS

**17.1** The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, will apply as a 20% place penalty with display of a YELLOW FLAG.

**17.2** RRS Appendix V2 shall apply.

**17.3** The Protest Time Limit is one (1) hour after the last yacht finishes. Protests may be reported via email or text, but must be properly time-stamped.

**17.4** Breaches of SI 2, 11.5, 11.6, 13, 14.2, 14.3, or 16 will not be grounds for protest by a yacht. This alters RRS 60.1. Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification.

## 18 SCORING

Yachts shall be scored in accordance with RRS Appendix A using corrected time. ORR-Ez handicapping will be time-on-time, PHRF will be time-on-distance.

## 19 PRIZES

**19.1** Marker trophies will be awarded as follows:

- First place in fleet.
- Lowest elapsed time in fleet.
- First place in each class.
- Second and third places in each class as entries warrant.

**19.2** The following perpetual trophies will be engraved with the winners' names and presented at the annual SYC Awards Night:

- **Beauregard "Bugs" Avegno Trophy**  
First in fleet overall.
- **Jack Dane Trophy**  
First in Class A.
- **Whistling Wind II Trophy**  
First in Class B.
- **Class C Perpetual Trophy**  
First in Class C (Non-spinnaker).

## 20 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4 Decision to Race. The Management of the event will not accept liability for any losses resulting from competitors' participation in this event and associated activities prior to, during and after the regatta.

## 21 INSURANCE

Each participating yacht shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance sufficient to cover liability for loss, damage, personal injury or death.

## 22 MISCONDUCT

In the event of gross misconduct by a Skipper, owner, crew or their guests, before, during or after the regatta, a yacht may be subject to disqualification and other disciplinary action.

## 23 CONTACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information, see the SYC web site ([www.southernyachtclub.org](http://www.southernyachtclub.org)) or contact:

- Southern Yacht Club: (504) 288-4200 or [info@southernyachtclub.org](mailto:info@southernyachtclub.org)
- Gulfport Yacht Club: (228) 863-6796
- GYC Harbormaster, Sam Vasquez: (228) 323-1336 or [sam@gulfportyachtclub.org](mailto:sam@gulfportyachtclub.org).

RACE COMMITTEE contacts:

- PRO Nathan Adams: (504) 914-6796
- Kett Cummins: (504) 723-0979

Regatta Management Solutions event page:

[https://www.regattaman.com/def\\_event\\_page.php?race\\_id=775&yr=2020](https://www.regattaman.com/def_event_page.php?race_id=775&yr=2020)

Race Tracking: Kattack.com

## Southern Yacht Club

### APPENDIX P—PURSUIT STARTING SYSTEM

*The purpose of the Pursuit Starting System is to apply a staggered starting time arrangement whereby yachts start in the inverse order of their predicted elapsed time on the course. Thus, the fleet should finish within a relatively narrow time span.*

#### **P0 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS [NP]**

**P0.1** Prior to the start, each yacht shall hold a man overboard (MOB) briefing or drill with the crew.

**P0.2** At each yacht's start, every soul aboard shall be visible on deck wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) and one handheld VHF radio shall be visible in the cockpit.

#### **P1 PURSUIT STARTING SYSTEM**

**P1.1** When the Pursuit Starting System is specified by the NOR & SI, RRS 26 is deleted.

**P1.2** The following rules are changed herein:

RRS	Changed by	RRS	Changed by
26	P1.1	Flags I & P	P1.4
62.1(a)	P1.6, P2.2		

**P1.3** Each yacht shall have a prescribed Starting Time corresponding to her handicap rating and calculated for the course distance, as shown in the starting sequence distributed by the Race Committee. Starting Times may be altered by postponement.

**P1.4** The WARNING SIGNAL will be displayed with one sound signal not less than five (5) minutes prior to the first start of the starting sequence or following a postponement. The signal will remain displayed throughout the starting sequence, as follows:

- **Flag I** – The starting sequence is active; each yacht shall start at her prescribed time.
- **Flags I over P** – The starting sequence is active following a postponement. Each yacht must check the postponement time displayed by RC signal boat and adjust her Starting Time accordingly.

**P1.5** Each yacht's STARTING SIGNAL shall be her Starting Time and her PREPARATORY SIGNAL shall be four (4) minutes prior to her Starting Time. No visual signals will be made.

**P1.6** The RC will attempt to make a sound signal at the Starting Time of each yacht entered in the regatta. Failure to make an accurate sound signal shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

#### **P2 INDIVIDUAL RECALLS**

**P2.1** The **I Flag Rule**, RRS 30.1 (around the ends), will be in effect for all starts.

**P2.2** The RC will attempt to hail the sail numbers of OCS yachts. The order, timing and success of these hails shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

#### **P3 POSTPONEMENT**

**P3.1** At its discretion, the RC may signal a postponement in accordance with RRS 27.3 before or during the starting sequence. Postponements will apply only to yachts that have not yet started.

**P3.2** Postponements will be made in five (5) minute increments. Prior to resuming the starting sequence, the aggregate duration of all postponements will be displayed by the RC signal boat in hours and minutes (H.MM).

**P3.3** If there is a sufficient gap in the starting sequence, the RC may reduce or omit previous postponements for subsequent starts by removing flag P, with multiple sound signals, and making a new Warning Signal. Yachts must remain vigilant for changes to the postponement status.

#### **P4 SCORING**

**P4.1** A yacht's elapsed time shall be the interval between her prescribed Starting Time and her recorded finish time.

**P4.2** Unless prescribed otherwise, the staggered Starting Times shall serve as the only handicap correction and yachts shall be scored in their order of finish, after any adjustments.

#### **P5 MOTORING TO THE START**

**P5.1** Unless prescribed otherwise, yachts may use auxiliary propulsion without penalty as specified in this section. A yacht motoring shall keep clear of a yacht sailing.

**P5.2** Prior to *starting* and not within two (2) boat lengths of the starting line, a yacht may continue to motor after her preparatory signal and Starting Time have passed.

## RACE TRACKING SPECIFICATION

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### 1 OVERVIEW

1.1 Each yacht shall provide, configure, register, carry and maintain a GPS tracking device as specified herein. Live race tracking will be provided by [Kattack.com](http://Kattack.com). The public race tracking data will be available online, as linked via the event web site.

1.2 The tracking device shall be active upon casting off before the start of the race and shall operate continuously until the yacht is docked after finishing or withdrawing from the race.

### 2 GPS TRACKING DEVICE

**2.1 OPTION 1 – SPOT Personal Tracker** or other suitable SPOT device, including the SPOT Basic Service Plan and Track Progress service add-on. SPOT devices are available from various retailers. SPOT subscription service is available at [findmespot.com](http://findmespot.com). SPOT devices, with Track Progress activated, may also be rented from various online sources.

*Local SPOT & Garmin retailers: West Marine; Best Buy; Massey's; Cabela's; Bass Pro; Walmart.*

2.1.1 Track Progress mode (“SPOTcasting”) must be engaged on the SPOT device throughout the event. Note that this mode must be re-engaged on the device at least once every 24 hours.

2.1.2 Fresh batteries should last for several days in Track Progress mode, but replacement batteries should also be available.

**NOTE: Garmin/Delorme inReach** trackers will also work with Kattack. Setup is similar to SPOT.

**2.2 OPTION 2 – Kattack Mobile** app installed on a compatible GPS-enabled smart device (Apple or Android) with suitable data service plan. The app is available through [Kattack.com](http://Kattack.com) and the Apple and Android app stores. Check with Kattack for compatibility with other smart devices. Search app store for “kattackmobile”.

2.2.1 BATTERY LIFE is a primary concern when using a GPS-enabled smart device for race tracking. Provision must be made to maintain the battery charge during the race. It is strongly recommended that the device be continuously connected to a charging device while racing.

2.2.2 Care must be taken that the Kattack Mobile app is able to run continuously throughout the race, as other apps or settings may occasionally interfere with its operation.

*The mobile app continuously receives and records position data from GPS satellites, but relies on cellular technology to transmit the data back to the tracking site; it is intended for inshore use, but is adequate for near-shore races. There may be periods when a yacht is out of cellular range, but once it returns to cellular coverage, the previously recorded GPS tracking data is uploaded.*

2.3 The tracking device shall be secured in a suitable location for best performance. Our experience in 2013 indicates that a waterproof enclosure secured above deck may work better than locating the device belowdecks; and carbon fiber sails may interfere with some GPS signals.

### 3 DEVICE REGISTRATION

3.1 Prior to the race, the tracking device must be registered with [Kattack.com](http://Kattack.com), expressly for the event. Registration can be performed at any time after completing the event’s online entry form, as follows:

3.1.1 SPOT devices must be turned on for a brief period (30 mins) prior to registration, so that the Shared Page contains some amount of track data. Then, email the Boat Name and Shared Page URL to [webmaster@southernyachtclub.org](mailto:webmaster@southernyachtclub.org). Allow at least one (1) day for the URL to be processed. (inReach setup is similar.)

3.1.2 For the Kattack Mobile app, enter the Boat Name and select the proper Race Feed in the drop-down list.

3.2 The RC will moderate the race tracking registrations for the event. You may check your registration by activating your GPS tracking device and going to the Kattack tracking web page linked from the event web site.

3.3 Pre-event testing is strongly recommended for all tracking devices and configurations.

### 4 FURTHER INFORMATION

SYC: email, [webmaster@southernyachtclub.org](mailto:webmaster@southernyachtclub.org).

[Kattack.com](http://Kattack.com): email, [info@kattack.com](mailto:info@kattack.com).

SPOT LLC: web site, [findmespot.com](http://findmespot.com), or phone, 866-651-7768.

Garmin (ex-Delorme) inReach: [explore.garmin.com](http://explore.garmin.com)