



GULFPORT TO PENSACOLA RACE
JUNE 24–26, 2021
Southern Yacht Club
Gulfport, Miss. to Pensacola, Fla.



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing during the COVID-19 global pandemic presents new challenges to event organizers and competitors alike. The OA, including host clubs, intend to follow all applicable governmental requirements, but it is also up to each individual skipper, crew and guest to act responsibly and within their own comfort range when choosing whether and how to participate in this event. Similar to offshore safety equipment, the OA strongly recommends all appropriate health precautions, but makes no assessment or warranty of each team’s preparedness or safety.

EACH COMPETITOR PARTICIPATES IN THIS EVENT AT THEIR OWN RISK.

1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).

1.2 TWO-LENGTHS CUSHION AFTER DARK – When yachts meet between sunset and sunrise, for added safety, they shall act with the expectation that if they come within two (2) of the longer boat’s lengths of each other, the protest committee will presume that a right-of-way boat will need to take avoiding action and the other boat is, therefore, not keeping clear. This does not apply to yachts finishing.

1.3 MONOHULL yachts shall be governed by the current *ORR-Ez Rules* and *GYA PHRF By-Laws*.

1.4 MULTIHULL yachts shall be governed by the *GYA Multihull Council Safety Recommendations* (GYA-MC), for Category 2 events, except that all instances of “should” are replaced with “shall”, and as modified herein.

1.5 The following rules are changed herein:

RRS	Changed by	RRS	Changed by
52	1.6	62.1(a)	11.2, 13
60.1	18.4	Race Signals	15.1

1.6 POWERED WINCHES and AUTOPILOTS are allowed in the Cruising and PHRF Divisions only. This alters RRS 52.

1.7 Yachts shall set only one (1) headsail at a time and 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 their designed and rated configurations. Whisker poles are permitted.

1.9 As provided by RRS 47, there shall be no penalty for discarding biodegradable, environment-friendly bands when setting a sail.

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 continuously operational from the time a yacht casts off before the start and until she safely reaches port whether finishing or withdrawing from the race.

2.2 The equipment listed in Appendix A—MANDATORY SAFETY EQUIPMENT is required for all yachts. Additionally, the OA strongly recommends compliance with [US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements](#) (US SER) for a Coastal race.

2.3 All yachts will be subject to random inspection for compliance with Appendix A and their rating certificates. Yachts found not in compliance will be subject to protest by the Race Committee which may result in disqualification or other penalties. These inspections are made for rules compliance purposes only; the RC will not assess nor warrant the safety or seaworthiness of yachts or crews.

2.4 Prior to the start, each yacht shall hold a man overboard (MOB) briefing or drill involving her full crew.

2.5 At each yacht's Prestart Check-In (SI 10), every soul aboard shall be visible on deck wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) and a handheld VHF radio shall be displayed.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices will be posted on the official notice boards at Gulfport YC and Pensacola YC and online at RMS. See SI 25. Electronic notifications (email and/or SMS) will be sent to competitors registered via RMS.

4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to these Sailing Instructions shall be posted no later than 2000 on the day before the start and will be signaled ashore on the morning of the race.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be flown from the GYC mast.

6 SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 24, 2021	
1830	Skippers Meeting at GYC
2000	Deadline for SI changes to be posted
Friday, June 25, 2021	
0930	Deadline to submit Crew List
	GPS tracking devices must be active upon casting off
1155	Earliest Warning Signal
Saturday, June 26, 2021	
1800	Awards Ceremony at PYC

7 TIMING AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

8 CREW LIST

No later than 0930 on the morning of the start, each yacht must submit a complete and accurate Crew List Form as follows: via RMS; email to billwright504@gmail.com; or by hand at the Skippers Meeting. The RC will not accept Crew List Forms on the water.

9 CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

9.1 The class assignments and ratings will be as shown on the Scratch Sheet.

9.2 The anticipated starting sequence will be:

Class	Color	Warning
Open Classes	Blue	1155
Multihull		
Cruising Classes	Green	1205
PHRF		

10 PRESTART CHECK-IN

10.1 Prior to her warning signal, each yacht shall pass within hail of the RC signal boat, hail her sail number and be acknowledged. Failure to check-in properly may result in a score of DNC.

10.2 PFDs shall be worn during Check-In. See SI 2.5.

11 THE COURSE

11.1 The STARTING AREA will be located appx. two (2) nautical miles ESE of the Gulfport Yacht Harbor entrance.

11.2 The course distance is **100.0 nm** and is not subject to redress. This alters RRS 62.1(a).

11.3 The MARKS OF THE COURSE, in required order of rounding or passing, are as listed in the table on Page 3.

12 THE START

12.1 The STARTING LINE will be between the staffs bearing an orange flag on the RC signal boat, on the starboard end, and the port end RC pin boat.

12.2 The Warning signal for each class will be as noted in SI 9.2. The starts will not be in a "rolling" sequence.

12.3 Yachts not starting shall remain clear of the area directly behind the starting line.

13 RECALLS

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 alters RRS 62.1(a).

MARKS OF THE COURSE			
Mark	Leave To	Description	NOAA Chart
Starting Line	—	RC boat at each end	11373
Gulfport Sound Channel east side marks from harbor to Intracoastal Waterway (ICWW)	STBD	(9) Fixed marks – Fl R 17ft various “62, 60, 58, 56, 54, 52, 50, 48, 46”	
Gulfport Sound Channel “44” at ICWW	STBD	Fixed mark – Fl R 2.5s 17ft 4M “44”	
Gulfport Bar Channel “24” at Ship Island	PORT	Buoy – R “24” Fl R 6s	
Gulfport Bar Channel entrance “GP”	PORT	Buoy – RW “GP” Mo (A)	
Mobile Bar Channel entrance “M”	PORT	Buoy – RW “M” Mo (A)	11376
Caucus Channel entrance “1” / Finish (Pensacola Harbor channel)	PORT	Buoy – G “1” Fl G 2.5s	11382

14 NOTIFICATION OF WITHDRAWAL

Yachts withdrawing while racing must report their actions as soon as possible to the Race Committee via VHF or phone (see RC contacts below). Failure to report promptly will be grounds for penalty by the OA, including exclusion from future events. All yachts shall continue GPS race tracking until safely in port.

15 THE FINISH

15.1 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 finish mark, on the port (north) end. This changes Race Signals.

15.2 Yachts finishing in darkness are encouraged to illuminate their sail numbers to aid the RC in identification.

15.3 Each yacht is encouraged to verify that she has been properly identified before leaving the finish area.

15.4 FINISH BOAT ABSENT – In the event the finish boat is not stationed at the FINISH LINE, a yacht shall report her GPS finishing time and position relative to nearby yachts to the Race Committee upon docking at Pensacola Yacht Club or via phone. Failure to report in a timely manner will be grounds for disqualification and additional penalties.

16 TIME LIMIT

There is no time limit.

17 PENALTIES & PROTESTS

17.1 Until five (5) minutes after her starting signal, a yacht shall have the option of taking a Turns Penalty (RRS 44.1) or a Scoring Penalty (RRS 44.3). After that

time, only the Scoring Penalty will apply (20% penalty with display of a YELLOW FLAG.) ty.

17.2 US Sailing Appendix V2 shall apply.

17.3 The Protest Time Limit is one (1) hour after the RC boat docks.

17.4 Breaches of SI 2, 8, 10.1, 10.2, 12.3 and 15 will not be grounds for a protest by a yacht and penalties for these may be less than DSQ. This alters RRS 60.1.

18 DOCKAGE

Pensacola YC has made arrangements for the docking of the fleet through Monday, June 28, 2021 without charge. The PYC dockmaster will assign berths to yachts upon their arrival.

19 SCORING

19.1 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.

19.2 For MASTERS CHALLENGE scoring only, each qualifying yacht will have her corrected time reduced by 100 seconds (1:40) for each full year over 65 of the skipper’s age on the day of the start.

19.3 TEAM CHALLENGE scores will be the combined scores of each team.

20 PRIZES

20.1 Trophies will be awarded for Racing Divisions as follows, although additional trophies may be awarded:

- First boat to finish.
- First monohull to finish.
- First to third places in Open fleet overall.
- First place in PHRF fleet overall.

- First place in each class.
- Second place in each class as entries warrant.
- Third place in each class as entries warrant.
- First to third places in the Masters Challenge.
- Youth, Yacht Club & Builder Challenge winners.

20.2 The following perpetual trophies will be presented for qualified classes as entries warrant:

- **Governor of Mississippi Trophy**
First place in Open Fleet.
- **Jack Dane Trophy**
First to finish
- **Dr. Logan Emlet Trophy**
First place in Multihull class.
- **Governor Kennon Bowl**
First place in Open Class A.
- **Mystere Trophy**
First place in Open Class B.
- **Art Mahoney Trophy**
First boat to finish in Open Class B.
- **Pollack Trophy**
First place in Open Class C.
- **Schreck Trophy**
First place in Open Class D.
- **Tootie & Joel Barnett Trophy**
First place in Cruising Spinnaker class.
- **Patrick Kent Trophy**
First place in Masters Challenge

21 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 Decision to Race. The Management of the event will not accept any liability for material damage or personal exposure, illness, injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

22 INSURANCE

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

23 MISCONDUCT

In the event of a serious breach of conduct by a Skipper, owner, crew or their guests, before, during or after the race, a yacht may be subject to disqualification and other disciplinary action. Penalties may include, but are not limited to, exclusion from one or more future GYA sanctioned events.

24 CONTACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

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

- Southern Yacht Club: (504) 288-4200 or info@southernyachtclub.org
- Gulfport Yacht Club: (228) 863-6796
- Pensacola Yacht Club: (850) 433-8804

Regatta Chair: Bill Wright billwright504@gmail.com

PRO: Nathan Adams rc@southernyachtclub.org

Online Entry: Regatta Management Solutions at https://www.regattaman.com/def_event_page.php?race_id=584&yr=2021

Race Tracking: Kattack.com

