



GULFPORT TO PENSACOLA RACE
JUNE 29–JULY 1, 2023
Southern Yacht Club
Gulfport, Miss. to Pensacola, Fla.



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1** This 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
52	1.6
60.1	18.4

RRS	Changed by
62.1(a)	12.2, 14

- 1.6** POWERED WINCHES and AUTOPILOTS are allowed in the Cruising Division 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** Yachts registered with Non-Spinnaker ratings shall set only headsails and staysails ahead of each mast and only in their designed and rated configurations. Headsails shall not be set flying. Whisker poles are permitted.
- 1.9** As provided by RRS 47, there will be no penalty for discarding biodegradable, environment-friendly bands when setting a sail.

2 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1** [NP] 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.
- 2.2** [NP] Yachts will be subject to inspection at any time for compliance with Appendix A and 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.

- 2.3** [NP] Prior to the start, each yacht shall hold a man overboard (MOB) briefing or drill involving her full crew.
- 2.4** [NP] During the Prestart Check-In (SI 11), every soul aboard shall be visible on deck wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) and a handheld VHF radio shall be displayed.

3 RACE TRACKING

[NP] Each yacht shall provide and carry a GPS tracking device as prescribed in the NOR. This device shall be continuously operational from the time a yacht casts off before the start and until she reaches port after finishing or withdrawing from the race.

4 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices will be posted online at RMS. See SI 25. Electronic notifications (email and/or text) may be sent to competitors.

5 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to these Sailing Instructions shall be posted no later than 2000 on the day before the start and communicated via email.

6 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be flown from the GYC mast.

7 SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 29, 2023	
2000	Deadline for SI changes to be posted
Friday, June 30, 2023	
0930	Deadline to submit Crew List Form
	GPS tracking devices must be active upon casting off
1155	Earliest Warning Signal
Saturday, July 1, 2023	
1800	Awards Ceremony at PYC

8 TIMING AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

9 CREW LIST

[NP] No later than 0930 on the morning of the start, each yacht must file with the RC a complete and accurate Crew List Form (provided online) via email to billwright504@gmail.com or by hand. The RC will not accept Crew List Forms on the water.

10 CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

10.1 The class assignments and ratings, where applicable, will be as shown on the Scratch Sheet.

10.2 The starting sequence and earliest warning signal times are scheduled as follows:

Division & Class	Flag	Warning
Multihull	Red	1155
Open, all classes	Blue	1205
Cruising, all classes	Green	1215
PHRF, all classes	White	1225

11 PRESTART CHECK-IN

11.1 [NP] 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.

11.2 See SI 2.4 for Check-In requirements.

12 THE COURSE

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

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

12.3 The MARKS OF THE COURSE, in required order of rounding or passing, are listed in the table below.

MARKS OF THE COURSE			
Mark	Leave To	Description	NOAA Chart
Starting Mark	PORT	Orange tetrahedron or line flag on pin boat	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
Pensacola Bay Entrance Channel “1” / Finish	PORT	Buoy – G “1” Fl G 2.5s	11382

13 THE START

13.1 The STARTING LINE will be between the staff bearing an orange flag on the RC signal boat, on the starboard end, and the course side of the port end starting mark. Approximate location: **N30 21.0, W089 02.6**.

13.2 The Warning signal for each start will be no earlier than as noted in SI 10.2. The starts will not be in a “rolling” sequence.

13.3 [NP] Yachts not starting shall remain clear of the area directly behind the starting line.

14 INDIVIDUAL 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).

15 NOTIFICATION OF WITHDRAWAL

[NP] 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.

16 THE FINISH

16.1 The FINISH LINE will be set roughly north-south between a staff bearing a blue flag on the RC signal boat, on the starboard (south) end, and the course side of the finish mark, on the port (north) end.

16.2 [NP] Yachts finishing in darkness shall illuminate their sail numbers to aid the RC in identification.

16.3 [NP] Each yacht shall verify that she has been properly identified before leaving the finish area.

16.4 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.

17 TIME LIMIT

There is no time limit.

18 PENALTIES & PROTESTS

18.1 Prior to passing the Gulfport sea buoy, RRS 44.1 (Two-Turns Penalty) shall apply. Once clear of the sea buoy, RRS 44.3 Scoring Penalty shall apply. (20% penalty with display of a YELLOW FLAG.)

18.2 US Sailing Appendix V2 shall apply.

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

18.4 Breaches of rules denoted by [NP] will not be grounds for protest by a yacht and penalties for these may be less than DSQ. This alters RRS 60.1.

19 DOCKAGE

Pensacola YC typically allows docking without charge on a first come, first served basis. The PYC dockmaster will assign berths to yachts upon their arrival.

20 SCORING

20.1 Yachts shall be scored using handicap corrected time. ORR-Ez will use PCS; PHRF will use GYA PHRF, and Multihulls will use NEMA TOT.

20.2 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.

20.3 YOUTH CHALLENGE scores will be scored overall in fleet.

21 PRIZES

21.1 Trophies will be awarded as follows and additional trophies may be awarded:

- First boat to finish.
- First monohull to finish.
- First to third places in ORR-Ez 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 Challenge winner.

21.2 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 class.
- **Patrick Kent Trophy** – First place in Masters Challenge

22 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.

23 INSURANCE

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

24 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.

25 CONTACTS AND MORE 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 npadamsiii@gmail.com

Online Entry at Regatta Management Solutions:

https://www.regattaman.com/def_event_page.php?race_id=584&yr=2023

Race Tracking at Kattack.com: <http://kws.kattack.com/WPlayer/WPosDisplay.aspx?FeedID=1961>



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APPENDIX A—MANDATORY SAFETY EQUIPMENT

In addition to USCG required safety equipment, the following equipment must be carried by each yacht, as applicable, while racing and is subject to inspection:

A1 MONOHULLS

Marine Compass	Navigational charts and devices for safe piloting
Soft wood plugs	Two buckets, each one gallon minimum capacity
Anchor and rode	Two gallons emergency water
Water resistant flashlight	Minimum of two fire extinguishers
VHF radio	Cell phone with charger or spare batteries
Navigation Lights	USCG approved PFD's with whistle for each crew member
One manual bilge pump	Horseshoe type life ring with pole and self-activating light, or Man Overboard Module
First Aid kit and manual	
Tools and spare parts	USCG required distress signals

A2 MULTIHULLS

- A2.1 The GYA-MC recommends a total crew of no less than three (3) persons for this event.
- A2.2 Multihulls with auxiliary power shall carry two fire extinguishers.
- A2.3 Multihulls are subject to the requirements of the *GYA-MC Safety Recommendations* for Category 2 events, except that all instances of “should” are replaced with “shall”. The Category 2 equipment requirements are excerpted and modified below:

Marine Compass	Navigational charts and devices for safe piloting
Adequate drinking water	Tools and spare parts including a knife for each crewmember
Adequate food, energy bars, and snacks to maintain crew stamina	VHF radio receiver (2 suggested) rated submersible and floats
First Aid kit	Water resistant flashlights with spare batteries
GPS - rated submersible	One hand held flare and PLB for each crewmember†
Cell phone or satellite phone (sealed)	Tether for each crewmember *†
EPIRB or Personal Locator Beacon‡	

*** Tether specific recommendation:**

Each crewmember shall have a tether that attaches them to the boat while sailing including while on the trapeze. These tethers shall have quick disconnect hardware that can be operated with one hand to release the tether from the crew's trapeze harness or dedicated harness.

† These items are optional for yachts without trapezes.

‡ These items are recommended, but not mandatory.