

Southern Yacht Club's Annual  
**RACE TO THE COAST**  
First sailed on July 4th, 1850  
**JUNE 16 & 17, 2023**  
New Orleans, La. to Gulfport, Miss.



## NOTICE OF RACE

*Southern Yacht Club and Gulfport Yacht Club invite all eligible yachts to enter the Race to the Coast.*

*This race is the first leg of the Sawgrass Offshore Series for the Barnett Trophy.*

*The Deeds of Gift of the following perpetual trophies are supported by this event: Beaugard "Bugs" Avegno Trophy, Jack Dane Trophy, Whistling Wind II Trophy, Class C Perpetual Trophy.*

*The Organizing Authority (OA) is Southern Yacht Club (SYC) of New Orleans, La. Regatta Management Solutions (RMS) is the host for online registration. Gulfport Yacht Club (GYC) is the host club for post-race activities. This is an invitational event and the OA reserves the right to accept or reject the entry of any yacht and will have the authority to interpret the conditions governing the event and shall assign yachts to classes.*

### 1 RULES

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

**1.2** This is a Pursuit Start race; RRS 26 is replaced by SYC Appendix P as noted herein. RRS 52 and 62.1(a) are also altered herein.

**1.3** MOTORING – There will be special provisions for the use of auxiliary propulsion prior to starting, while transiting bridges, and if grounded in the North Shore Channel or The Rigolets.

**1.4** RRS 52, Manual Power, will not apply, except that autopilot use is prohibited in the Open division.

**1.5** Yachts 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.

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

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

### 2 YACHT ELIGIBILITY

**2.1** The regatta is open to yachts with valid handicap rating certificates as follows:

- ORR-Ez – Open and Cruising Divisions
- GYA PHRF – PHRF Divisions
- NEMA – Multihull Divisions

**2.2** Portsmouth multihulls (beach cats, etc.) are not eligible and trapezes are prohibited.

**2.3** Yachts entering the CRUISING DIVISION must have an inboard engine with an exposed propeller, a Downwind SA/D ratio (with spinnaker) less than 50.0, a Crew Weight to Empty Displacement ratio less than 16.0%, and at least one of the following:

- Fixed (non-folding, non-feathering) propeller.
- Mast-furling mainsail used while racing.
- Roller-furling headsail used while racing.
- Full keel; keel-hung rudder.

Non-conforming yachts may petition for entry in the Cruising Division.

**2.4** PHRF & Multihull division entrants are not eligible for fleet & perpetual trophies.

**2.5** The OA may modify or reject a yacht's entry if it is deemed to be inconsistent with the intent of the eligibility requirements.

### 3 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

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

**3.2** At each yacht's Start, every soul aboard shall be visible on deck wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) and a handheld VHF shall be displayed in the cockpit.

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

**4 TRACKING**

**4.1** Each yacht shall provide and carry a GPS tracking device in accordance with the appendix RACE TRACKING SPECIFICATION.

**4.2** The tracking device shall be operational from the time a yacht casts off her mooring before the start, until she moors after finishing or withdrawing.

**5 CREW ELIGIBILITY & RESPONSIBILITIES**

**5.1** The term “Skipper” as used herein means the person, whether or not the owner of the yacht, who is so designated on the entry form and who is the Person in Charge of the yacht during the race. The Skipper is responsible for the yacht, its handling and safety, the conduct of the crew before, during and after the race, and compliance with the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

**5.2** The Skipper shall make all race documents available to each crew member for review.

**5.3** The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Owner, who shall do his best to ensure that the boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are physically fit and sufficient in number to sail the boat in adverse conditions. The owner must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew knows where it is kept and how it is used.

**5.4** Single-handed entries will not be accepted.

**6 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

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

**7 DIVISIONS AND CLASSES**

The fleet will have the following divisions, broken into classes as entries warrant:

- OPEN – Monohull racing yachts.
- CRUISING – Monohull cruising yachts with Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker sub-divisions.
- MULTIHULL – Multihull racing yachts.
- PHRF – Legacy class for PHRF scoring.

Classes will be published on the Scratch Sheet.

**8 ENTRIES AND FEES**

**8.1** Eligible yachts may be entered by completing the online entry form, including payment of all fees. See Contacts below for RMS link.

**8.2** The entry fee is **\$50.00**.

**8.3** The entry deadline is shown in the Schedule.

**9 SCHEDULE**

Friday June 16, 2023	
1700	Entry deadline
1900	Skippers Meeting at SYC
Saturday June 17, 2023	
0800	Pursuit starting sequence begins
	GPS tracking devices must be active upon casting off of mooring.
ASAP	Post-race Awards Ceremony at GYC

**10 SKIPPERS MEETING**

**10.1** There will be an optional Skippers Meeting at SYC as shown in the Schedule. Competitors unfamiliar with this event are strongly encouraged to attend.

**10.2** The SAILING INSTRUCTIONS and SCRATCH SHEET with assigned start times will be posted online and distributed via email.

**11 SPECIAL RACE CONDITIONS**

**11.1** SYC APPENDIX P – PURSUIT STARTING SYSTEM shall apply. RRS 26 is deleted.

**11.2** STARTING TIMES will be calculated using IR# and PHRF TOD ratings and published on the scratch sheet.

**11.3** BRIDGE TIME – The course includes draw bridges at which yachts may be delayed. Each yacht shall record such bridge delays so that her elapsed time can be adjusted accordingly.

**12 THE COURSE**

**12.1** The starting area will be located in eastern Lake Pontchartrain, approximately **12 nm** from both Southern and Pontchartrain Yacht Clubs, and **8 nm** from Tammany Yacht Club.

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

**12.3** The fleet will transit the east end of Lake Pontchartrain via the North Shore Channel, proceed through The Rigolets to Lake Borgne, thence eastward into the Mississippi Sound to the finish near the Gulfport Harbor entrance. Required marks of the course will be specified in the Sailing Instructions. NOAA charts 11367, 11369 & 11371 are applicable.

### 13 PENALTIES AND SCORING

**13.1** RRS 44.3 Scoring Penalty shall apply. (20% and requires display of a YELLOW FLAG.)

**13.2** RRS Addendum V – US Alternative Penalties, rule V2 shall apply.

**13.3** The selection of handicap scoring parameters by the RC shall not be grounds for redress under 62.1(a).

**13.4** OPEN & CRUISING divisions will be scored using ORR-Ez PCS corrected time; MULTIHULL will use NEMA TOT.

**13.5** PHRF divisions will be scored using TOD in accordance with Appendix P4.2.

### 14 DOCKING

Yachts may dock or raft at the Gulfport YC Visitors Pier (D-Pier) overnight without charge. GYC slips may also be available by prior arrangement.

### 15 PRIZES

**15.1** Prizes will be awarded as entries warrant. PHRF and Multihull divisions are not eligible for fleet and perpetual trophies, except best elapsed time.

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

- **Beauregard “Bugs” Avegno Trophy**  
First place in fleet.
- **Jack Dane Trophy**  
First place in Class A.
- **Whistling Wind II Trophy**  
First place in Class B.
- **Class C Perpetual Trophy**  
First place in Class C (Non-spin).

### 16 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.

### 17 INSURANCE

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

### 18 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.

### 19 CONTACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information, see

[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.frontdesk@gmail.com](mailto:gyc.frontdesk@gmail.com)

Regatta Chair: Kett Cummins,  
[kett@cumminsnola.com](mailto:kett@cumminsnola.com)

RMS event website (QR code below):

[https://www.regattaman.com/def\\_event\\_page.php?race\\_id=775&yr=2023](https://www.regattaman.com/def_event_page.php?race_id=775&yr=2023)

Race Tracking: Kattack.com



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## Southern Yacht Club

### APPENDIX P—PURSUIT STARTING SYSTEM

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*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.*

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

**P1.1** When the Pursuit Starting System is specified by the NOR & SI, RRS 26 is deleted. RRS 62.1(a) and Race Signals Flags I & P are also altered herein.

**P1.2** Each yacht has 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.

**P1.3** 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. The RC will hail instructions regarding changed Starting Times.

This changes Race Signals Flags I & P.

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

**P1.5** 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 is not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

#### **P2 INDIVIDUAL RECALLS**

**P2.1** The **I Flag Rule**, RRS 30.1 (around the ends), is 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 is not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

#### **P3 POSTPONEMENT**

Postponements only apply to yachts that have not yet started.

If a postponement is signaled, the RC will hail changes to the affected yachts and make respective adjustments to the order of finish.

#### **P4 SCORING**

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

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

#### **P5 MOTORING PRIOR TO STARTING**

**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 to the COAST**  
Southern Yacht Club

**APPENDIX A—SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

In addition to USCG required safety equipment, the following equipment is recommended:

**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**

Multihulls are subject to the requirements of the *GYA-MC Safety Recommendations* for Category 2 events. The Category 2 equipment requirements are excerpted and modified below:

Marine Compass	Righting Line at least 8 mm in diameter - beach cats
Adequate drinking water	Navigational charts and devices for safe piloting
Adequate food, energy bars, and snacks to maintain crew stamina	Tools and spare parts including a knife for each crewmember
First Aid kit	VHF radio receiver (2 suggested) rated submersible and floats
GPS - rated submersible	Water resistant flashlights with spare batteries
Cell phone or satellite phone (sealed)	One hand held flare and PLB for each crewmember
EPIRB or Personal Locator Beacon	Tether for each crewmember *

**\* 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.*