

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



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

---

### 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, 60.1, and A5.1 are also altered herein
- 1.3** MOTORING is allowed as prescribed by SYC Appendix P, rule P5.2 and SI 13, below.
- 1.4** RRS 52, Manual Power, will not apply.
- 1.5** 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.
- 1.6** 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.
- 1.7** As provided by RRS 47, there will be no penalty for discarding biodegradable, enviro-friendly bands when setting a sail (e.g., cotton yarn).

### 2 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

**2.1** [NP] 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.

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

**2.3** [NP] 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.

### 3 RACE TRACKING

[NP] 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.

### 4 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices will be posted online at RMS. Electronic notifications (email and/or text) will be sent to competitors registered via RMS.

### 5 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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

### 6 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

There will be no signals made ashore for this event. See also SI 4.

**7 SCHEDULE**

Saturday, June 17, 2023	
	GPS tracking devices must be active upon casting off.
0800	Pursuit Starting sequence begins
ASAP	Post-race Awards Presentation at Gulfport Yacht Club

**8 CLASS ASSIGNMENTS**

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

**9 TIMING & RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**10 THE COURSE**

**10.1** 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>			

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

**10.3** The course distance is **50.0 nm** and is not subject to redress under RRS 62.1(a).

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	Daybeacon – G "9"	11371 or 11367
The Rigolets Light #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	
Lake Borgne Light #19	PORT	Fixed mark – Q G 17ft 4M "19"	
Saint Joe Pass #2	PORT	Daybeacon – R "2"	11371
Pass Marianne #10 and #8	PORT (c)	Daybeacons – R "10", "8"	
Gulfport Ship 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 13.3, 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 12.1. (c) Do not confuse these marks with Marianne Channel ICW markers #10 & #8 to the southeast.			

## 11 THE START

**11.1** SYC Appendix P – Pursuit Starting System shall apply. This replaces RRS 26.

**11.2** STARTING TIMES are shown on the Scratch Sheet.

**11.3** 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 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 under RRS 62.1(a).

**11.4** 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.

**11.5** PFDs shall be worn at the start. See SI 2.3.

## 12 BRIDGE SAFETY AND DELAYS

**12.1** [NP] 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.

**12.2** BRIDGE TIME – If a yacht encounters a closed draw bridge on the course, the crew shall record the time 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 that the bow passes the same point relative to the fenders. The interval between these two times shall be the “Bridge Time” for that bridge and will be subtracted from the yacht’s elapsed time.

**12.3** For safety, bridge structures and fender systems may be touched, secured-to, or fended-off from without penalty.

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

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

**12.6** Bridge Time shall be submitted to the RC within the Protest Time Limit. See SI 17.

## 13 MOTORING

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

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

**13.3** 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.

**13.4** After passing the I-10 bridges and before passing the CSX Rigolets swing bridge, a yacht that becomes grounded may use auxiliary propulsion to free herself. Once free, a yacht shall immediately disengage her motor before proceeding in the race.

**13.5** 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.

## 14 NOTIFICATION OF RETIREMENT

[NP] 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.

## 15 THE FINISH

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

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

**15.3** 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. See also SI 17.

## 16 TIME LIMIT

There is no time limit.

## 17 POST-RACE CHECK-IN

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

## 18 PENALTIES AND PROTESTS

**18.1** 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.

**18.2** RRS 44.3 Scoring Penalty shall apply. (20% penalty with display of a YELLOW FLAG.)

**18.3** USP Appendix V, rule V2 shall apply.

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

## 19 SCORING

**19.1** Yachts will be scored as prescribed herein, after any corrections for Bridge Time. The selection of handicap scoring parameters by the RC shall not be grounds for redress. This alters 62.1(a).

**19.1.1** OPEN & CRUISING divisions will be scored using PCS corrected time per Appendix P, rule P4.3.

**19.1.2** PHRF divisions will be scored in order of finish per Appendix P, rule P4.2.

**19.1.3** MULTIHULL divisions will be scored on corrected time using NEMA TCF (TOT) ratings.

## 20 PRIZES

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

**20.2** 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).

## 21 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 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.

## 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 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.

## 24 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; [info@southernyachtclub.org](mailto:info@southernyachtclub.org)
- Gulfport Yacht Club: (228) 863-6796; [gyc.frontdesk@gmail.com](mailto:gyc.frontdesk@gmail.com)
- GYC Waterfront Director Robert Adams 251.656.6847 or [gycwaterfrontdirector@gmail.com](mailto:gycwaterfrontdirector@gmail.com)

RACE COMMITTEE contacts:

- Regatta Chair Kett Cummins: (504) 723-0979
- Start PRO Nathan Adams: (504) 914-6796 – RC boat: IDYLL, Albin 32+2 (dark hull), Tom Long, skipper.
- Finish PRO George Hero: (504) 427-5856 – RC boat: SCOUT, Grand Banks 36 Trawler.

Regatta Management Solutions event page (QR code):

[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 <http://kws.kattack.com/player?FeedID=1960>



# # #