



# 75<sup>th</sup> GULFPORT TO PENSACOLA RACE

sponsored by *Regata al Sol*

June 28 – 29, 2024

Gulfport, Miss. to Pensacola, Fla.

## NOTICE OF RACE



*Southern Yacht Club, Pensacola Yacht Club and Gulfport Yacht Club invite eligible offshore yachts to enter this year's Gulfport to Pensacola Race. This race is the second leg of the Sawgrass Offshore Series for the Barnett Trophy.*

*The Deeds of Gift of the following perpetual trophies are supported by this event: Governor of Mississippi Trophy; Dr. Logan Emlet Trophy; Governor Kennon Bowl; Art Mahoney Trophy; Pollack Trophy; Schreck Trophy; Tootie & Joel Barnett Trophy; Mystere Trophy in Memory of Philip C. Spangenberg; Patrick Kent Trophy.*

*The Organizing Authority (OA) is Southern Yacht Club (SYC) of New Orleans, La. The event is sanctioned by the Gulf Yachting Association (GYA) and the host clubs are Gulfport Yacht Club (GYC) and Pensacola Yacht Club (PYC). Regatta Management Systems (RMS) is the host for online registration. 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 regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.

**1.2** RRS 52 and 62.1(a) are altered herein.

**1.3 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.

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

**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 designed and rated configurations. 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 auxiliary offshore 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** Each yacht shall have an auxiliary propulsion system with sufficient stored power to motor for at least four (4) hours at a minimum speed in knots equal to the square root of her load waterline length (LWL) in feet.

**2.4** 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.

**2.5** PHRF and Multihull division entrants are not eligible for challenge and perpetual trophies.

**2.6** 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 CREW ELIGIBILITY & RESPONSIBILITIES

**3.1** 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.

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

**3.3** 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.

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

#### **4 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

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

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

**4.3** 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](#) (SER) for a Coastal race.

**4.4** All yachts will be subject to 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 enforcement purposes only; the RC will not assess nor warrant the safety or seaworthiness of yachts or crews.

#### **5 TRACKING**

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

**5.2** The tracking 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.

#### **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 SMS) will be sent to competitors registered via RMS.

The SAILING INSTRUCTIONS will be available online prior to the event.

#### **7 DIVISIONS AND CLASSES**

**7.1** The racing 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.

**7.2** Classes will be announced no later than the Skippers Meeting.

#### **8 FLEET CHALLENGES**

Challenge options for the combined Open & Cruising divisions include:

- **MASTERS** – Yachts with skippers aged 65 years or over on the day of the start, scored overall in fleet, with a corrected time credit of 100 seconds (1m40s) for each year of the skipper's age over 65. Age 65 receives no credit, 66 receives 1m40s, 67 receives 3m20s, and so forth.
- **YOUTH** – Yachts with 2 or more crew under the age of 21 on the day of the start, scored overall in fleet.

#### **9 ENTRIES AND FEES**

**9.1** Eligible yachts may be entered by completing the online entry form, including payment of all fees. Registration must be made via RMS at the link provided below. The entry submission deadline is noted on the schedule.

**9.2** The regatta entry fee is **\$125.00** before the Early Entry Deadline and **\$150.00** thereafter.

**10 SCHEDULE**

Friday, June 14, 2024	
2200	Early entry deadline
Thursday, June 27, 2024	
1200	Final entry deadline
1830	Skippers Meeting at Gulfport YC
Friday, June 28, 2024	
0930	Deadline to submit Crew List Forms
	GPS tracking devices must be active upon casting off
1155	First Warning Signal
Saturday, June 29, 2024	
1800	Awards Ceremony at Pensacola YC

**11 SKIPPERS MEETING**

**11.1** The Skippers Meeting will be held at Gulfport Yacht Club as noted on the schedule. Each entrant is encouraged to be represented to receive a regatta packet.

**11.2** The final SCRATCH SHEET will be distributed at the Skippers Meeting and posted online.

**12 CREW LIST**

No later than 0930 on the day of the start, each yacht shall submit a complete and accurate Crew List Form. Crew Lists shall be submitted to the RC as follows: via email to [billwright504@gmail.com](mailto:billwright504@gmail.com); or by hand at the Skippers Meeting or on the morning of the start. Any changes in the Crew list shall be provided by the same deadline. The RC will not accept Crew List Forms on the water.

**13 THE COURSE**

**13.1** The fleet will start in the Mississippi Sound near the Gulfport Yacht Harbor and finish in the Gulf of Mexico at the Pensacola Sea Buoy, leaving Ship Island and the Gulfport and Mobile Sea Buoys to port.

**13.2** The marks of the course will be specified in the Sailing Instructions. NOAA charts 11373, 11376 & 11382 are applicable.

**13.3** The course distance will be **100.0 nm** and is not subject to redress under RRS 62.1(a).

**14 PENALTIES AND SCORING**

**14.1** 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.)

**14.2** RRS USP US Addendum V, rule V2 shall apply.

**14.3** Breaches of the following rules shall not be the basis for a protest by a competitor and the associated penalties may be less than DSQ: 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, 12

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

**14.5** OPEN & CRUISING divisions will be scored using ORR-Ez PCS corrected time.

**14.6** PHRF and MULTIHULL divisions will be scored using PHRF and NEMA ratings, respectively.

**15 DOCKING**

Pensacola YC will attempt to make arrangements for the docking of the fleet until Monday, July 1, 2024, without charge. If available, the dockmaster will assign berths as yachts arrive at the PYC pier.

**16 PRIZES**

The full list of prizes will be provided in a separate document. Perpetual trophy winners will receive marker trophies. Each yacht will receive a participation tag.

**17 SEA BUOY SOCIETY**

Competitors who have participated in twenty (20) or more editions of the Gulfport to Pensacola Race, including this one, are eligible for induction into the Sea Buoy Society. New inductees will be recognized at the awards ceremony. See the event web site for more details.

**18 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.

**19 INSURANCE**

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

**20 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.

**21 CONTACTS AND 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
- Pensacola Yacht Club: (850) 433-8804

Regatta Chair: Bill Wright, [billwright504@gmail.com](mailto:billwright504@gmail.com)

PRO: Nathan Adams, [npadamsiii@gmail.com](mailto:npadamsiii@gmail.com)

RMS event website: [Regattaman.com](http://Regattaman.com)  
(QR code & link below)

Race Tracking: [Kattack.com](http://Kattack.com)



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**GULFPORT TO PENSACOLA RACE**  
**Southern Yacht Club**  
**Gulfport, MS to Pensacola, FL**

**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	
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*

\* These (3) items are recommended, but not mandatory.