

**Southern Yacht Club's Annual
RACE TO THE COAST**
First sailed on July 4th, 1850
JUNE 14 & 15, 2024
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: Beauregard "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 ORA-1 – 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 and a Downwind SA/D ratio (with spinnaker) less than 50.0.

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.

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 14, 2024	
1700	Entry deadline
1900	Skippers Meeting at SYC
Saturday June 15, 2024	
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 published on the scratch sheet prior to the skippers meeting.

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 & MULTIHULL divisions will be scored in accordance with App. P4.3, after adjustments for Bridge Time.

13.5 PHRF divisions will be scored in accordance with App. P4.2, after adjustments for Bridge Time.

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 or contact:

- Southern Yacht Club: (504) 288-4200 or info@southernyachtclub.org
- Gulfport Yacht Club: (228) 863-6796 gyc.frontdesk@gmail.com

Regatta Chair: Kett Cummins,

kett@cumminsnola.com

RMS event website (QR code below):

https://www.regattaman.com/def_event_page.php?race_id=775&yr=2024

Race Tracking: Kattack.com



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