



41st ANNUAL
FORT LAUDERDALE
TO
KEY WEST RACE

JANUARY 13th – 15th, 2016

OFFICIAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES GOVERNING THE RACE

- 1.1 The Race will be governed by the current rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (rules) including US Sailing Prescriptions, the PHRF of Southeast Florida Rules & Regulations as adopted and amended by the Ft. Lauderdale to Key West Race Committee, the current IRC Rules #1, 2, & 3, the Class Rules for eligible One Design Classes, the Notice and Conditions of Race and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 The rules of Part 2 will be replaced by Part B, “The Steering and Sailing Rules, of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea” (COLREGS) between the hours of sunset and sunrise.
- 1.3 All boats shall conform to the most current International Sailing Federation Special Regulations Governing Offshore and Oceanic Racing, including the *US Sailing* Prescriptions for Monohulls (or Multihulls), **Category 3 With Life Raft**. Life rafts are not required to have a canopy or insulated floor.
- 1.4 Each boat must carry hard copies of NOAA chart numbers: 11462, 11452 and 11442.
- 1.5 Anchors shall not be stowed on or protruding from the bow area of the boat except only anchors that may be stowed in a bow locker or on deck in chocks, provided that no portion of the anchor or anchor rode extends beyond the edge of the deck.

2. OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD

- 2.1 At the Lauderdale Yacht Club the Official Notice Board will be located at the front entrance of the clubhouse. Any signals made ashore shall be displayed on the flagpole on the eastern most part of the club property.
- 2.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on January 13, 2016, except any change to the schedule of the race will be announced at the Skipper’s Meeting.
- 2.3 In Key West, the Official Notice Board will be located at the Ft. Lauderdale – Key West Race Duty Office on the rooftop of The Turtle Kraals Wildlife Bar & Grill, 231 Margaret Street, Key West, FL 33040. The Key West Duty Office will be open from 1100 to 1700 on Thursday, January 14th, and from 1100 to 1500 on Friday, January 15th. Phone number for the Key West Duty Office is 954-525-6022. Any signals made ashore in Key West shall be displayed at the Key West Duty Office.
- 2.4 Notices will also be posted on the race website at www.Keywestrace.org.

3. RADIO MONITOR

- 3.1 The Race Committee at the start in Ft. Lauderdale will monitor VHF Channel 68 from one (1) hour prior to the first start until one (1) hour after the last start. All competitors should then monitor Channel 16 for the duration of the race. The Finish Committee will monitor VHF Channel 68 when on station in Key West.
- 3.2 An effort will be made to broadcast on Channel 68 the recall of boats prematurely starting, general recalls, abandonments or cancellations.

4. STARTING AREA

- 4.1 The Starting Line shall be between an inflatable race mark placed by the Race Committee at the eastern end (approximately ½ mile South of the Port Everglades harbor entrance and approximately 1 mile offshore) and a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal boat at the western end.

5. STARTING PROCEDURE AND TIMES

- 5.1 Starting signals shall be made in accordance with rule 26, with Classes starting at five (5) minute intervals. The Starting signal for each Class(es) shall be the Warning signal for the next Class(es).
- 5.2 The first **Warning signal** is scheduled to be made at 1300 hours on January 13, 2016.
- 5.3 Class Signals & Times are as below:

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>PENNANT COLORS</u>	<u>WARNING TIME</u> <u>(Class Flag)</u>	<u>PREP FLAG</u> <u>DISPLAYED</u>	<u>PREP. FLAG</u> <u>DOWN</u>	<u>START</u> <u>SIGNAL</u>
IRC	Yellow	1300	1301	1304	1305
PHRF A	Orange	1305	1306	1309	1310
PHRF B	Green	1310	1311	1314	1315
PHRF C	White	1315	1316	1319	1320
PHRF D	Lime	1320	1321	1324	1325
Multihulls	Purple	1325	1325	1329	1330

6. RECALLS

- 6.1 An effort may be made to recall premature starters by broadcast on VHF Channel 68. Failure of a boat to hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such hails, or the length of time it takes to make a notification on the VHF radio shall not be grounds for redress. (This changes rule 29.1 and 62.1a)
- 6.2 Boats starting prematurely and not properly re-starting shall be penalized 30 minutes.
- 6.3 General Recalls shall be signaled in accordance with rule 29.2, as modified herein. In the event a General Recall is made, the Class(es) recalled shall immediately clear the Starting Area and shall start **after** the last Class in the Starting sequence. If more than one (1) Class has a General Recall, the first Class recalled shall restart five (5) minutes after the last Class and other recalled Classes to follow in order of recall.

7. COURSE

- 7.1 The course shall be from the starting line South to the **Miami Sea Buoy** (“RW Mo (A) Whistle”), leaving it to starboard; then to the **Key West Sea Buoy** (“RW Mo(A)”) located due South of Key West, leaving the following marks and a continuous line connecting the following marks or points to starboard. The continuous line does not include the course from the Key West Sea Buoy to the Finish:

1. Fowey Rock Light	9. Davis Reef “14”	17. Looe Key “24”
2. Triumph Reef Light	10. Crocker Reef “16”	18. American Shoal Light
3. Pacific Reef Light	11. Alligator Reef Light	19. Pelican Shoal “26”
4. R “4” Turtle	12. FL R “18”	20. Eastern Sambo point, no mark 24°29.35 N & 81°40.00
5. Carysfort Reef Light	13. Tennessee Reef Light	21. Stock Island “32”
6. The Elbow “6”	14. Coffins Patch “20”	22. Key West Sea Buoy
7. Molasses Reef “10”	15. Sombrero Key Light	
8. Conch Reef Nun “12”	16. Big Pine Shoal “22”	

After rounding the Key West Sea Buoy, proceed Northward to the Finish Line passing between the channel marker R”14” (Qk FI R) to Starboard and G”15” (FL G-4s) to Port.

- 7.2 All competitors shall know the charted positions of the above marks of the course, and the charted position of any missing mark shall be observed as that mark.

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- 7.3 All competitors are advised that leaving the above marks and a continuous line connecting them to starboard does not necessarily constitute a safe course. It is imperative to be aware of the many hazards along the course and their locations.
- 7.3 Through the Keys from Carysfort to the Key West Sea Buoy, most of the reef areas are surrounded by privately maintained buoys. Detailed information concerning these buoys and their locations can be found at <http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/mbuoy/buoymap.html>. These buoys may be on the course side of the continuous line connecting the marks, and navigators are advised to be familiar with the locations of these buoys.
- 7.3 All competitors are advised to be familiar with and understand the strict regulations involving endangered species and coral reef habitats which may be found in and adjacent to the race course.
- 7.3 All competitors are also advised that deep draft commercial and military vessels utilize the Key West Ship Channel during all hours of the day and night and any action which obstructs or impedes such vessels may be grounds for disqualification by the Race Committee and/or disciplinary action on behalf of the United States Coast Guard or appropriate Law Enforcement Authority.

8. NIGHT SAILING

- 8.1 When sailing between the hours of sunset and sunrise, the rules Part 2 will be replaced by **Part B, The Steering and Sailing Rules**, of the **International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS)**.

9. FINISH LINE

- 9.1 The finish line shall be between R"14" (Qk FI R) left to Starboard and G"15" (FL G-4s) left to Port. The bearing of this line is approximately 280°.
- 9.2 The Race Committee will be stationed ashore at Ft. Zachary Taylor State Park adjacent to the finish line.
- 9.3 All boats finishing should contact the Race Committee on VHF channel 68 when abeam of Marker G 13 in Key West channel prior to finishing. To avoid radio clutter, simply state the boat's name, and sail number, and that it is approaching the finish line.

10. NIGHT FINISHING

- 10.1 If boats finish the race during darkness, it is their responsibility to identify themselves to the Race Committee and to confirm their finish (after crossing the finish line) on VHF channel 68. Until a boat makes certain it has identified itself, the Race Committee shall not be responsible for recording its finishing time. To alert the Committee that a boat is about to finish, the boat should show a strong light on the sail numbers in such a manner that the numbers can be clearly read by the Committee.

11. ALTERNATE FINISH LINE

- 11.1 In the event that a cruise ship, commercial, military or other large vessel is in the vicinity of the Finishing Line, and on a course to pass between markers R"14" and G"15" at or close to the same time as a finishing boat, a boat may choose to finish at the Alternate Finishing Line. The Alternate Finishing Line shall be between channel marker G"15" and a point 50 yards away on a bearing of 280°. A boat has crossed this line when marker G"15" bears 100°.
- 11.2 A boat that intends to use the Alternate Finishing Line in accordance with Section 11.1 shall notify the Race Committee of her intent prior to finishing, shall record her finish time upon finishing, and shall notify the Race Committee of her finish time immediately thereafter. Notifications under this section shall be made on VHF channel 68. This section supersedes section 10.1 above.
- 11.3 A boat that uses the Alternate Finishing Line shall submit a written explanation of her reason for doing so to the Race Committee at the Key West Duty Office within the time limit defined by Section 16.1 below.
- 11.4 A Protest Committee may assign a time penalty to any boat found to be in violation of any part of this Section.

12. TIME LIMIT

- 12.1 Boats must finish within 48 hours of their starting time to be considered as a finisher.

13. BOATS RETIRING FROM THE RACE

- 13.1 A boat, which retires from the race for any reason, **MUST** notify the Race Committee in Key West (954-525-6022) or at the Lauderdale Yacht Club (954-524-5500) as soon as possible. Official race results will not be posted until all boats have been accounted for.

14. SCORING AND TIME ALLOWANCES

- 14.1 Appendix A, using the “Low Point” scoring system of the rules shall be in effect. The course distance of the Fort Lauderdale to Key West Race is established at 160 nautical miles for scoring purposes.
- 14.2 **PHRF** Time Allowances shall be calculated using the 2016 PHRF of Southeast Florida handicap rating and the rated course distance.
- 14.3 **MASF** Time Allowances shall be calculated using the appropriate handicap from MASF and the rated course distance.
- 14.4 For the **IRC** division, the boat’s rating allowance will be applied as a factor of the elapsed time of its race.

15. TRACKING

- 15.1 All boats are required to carry a SPOT or DeLorme race tracking device in accordance with the Official Notice and Race Conditions of Race. Failure to carry the tracker, failure to enable the tracker, or disabling the tracker during the race may result in disqualification.
- 15.2 Tracking of all boats provided by Kattack Live will be used for public viewing and public media purposes. Information from the tracking system shall not be used as evidence, or be used as a basis for a protest or protestor request for redress by either the Race Committee or a boat, although the Protest Jury may use available information from the system at their discretion. This changes RRS 60.1 and 60.2.

16. PROTESTS

- 16.1 Protests shall be submitted in writing to the Race Committee located in the Key West Duty Office, where protest forms are available. The protest time limit is two hours after her finishing time for a boat finishing between 0900 and 1600 hours. For boats finishing after 1600 hours, the protest time limit is 1100 hours the following day.
- 16.2 Protest hearings will be scheduled upon receipt of protests and will be held no later than 1100 hrs. on Friday, January 15, unless the protest committee posts a change to the hearing schedule by that time.
- 16.3 If a breach of any rule is found, other than a rule of Part 2 of the rules or COLREGS, penalties shall be at the discretion of the Jury. This alters rule 64.1.

17. AWARDS PRESENTATION & AFTER RACE PARTY

- 17.1 An Awards Presentation and After Race Party will be held on Friday, January 15th, 2015 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm., at **the Oldest House, 322 Duval Street, Key West**. The awards presentation is scheduled to begin at 6:00 pm.
- 17.2 Wristbands will be required for entry to the party & awards presentation. Wristbands can be purchased at the Skipper’s Meeting in Ft. Lauderdale for \$30.00 each **or** purchased in Key West at the Duty Office or at the entrance to the Oldest House for \$35.00 each.