

63rd DOWN THE BAY RACE
FOR THE VIRGINIA CRUSING CUP

Friday, May 25, 2012

Sailing Instructions

**Organized by Hampton Yacht Club
and
The Storm Trysail Club Chesapeake Station**

1 Rules

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing – (2009-2012) and the US Sailing Prescriptions unless altered by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 All boats must meet PHRF of the Chesapeake 4P Special Regulations plus the Class Rules for the class in which the boat has entered.
- 1.3 RRS 51 and RRS 52 are waived for boats with moveable ballast reflected on their PHRF and/or IRC certificates.

2 Notices to Competitors

Notices to Competitors will be posted Thursday at the Check-In and Pre-Race Party at J-Port.

3 Changes to the Sailing Instructions

Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 2000 on Thursday, May 24, 2012.

4 Eligibility and Entry

- 4.1 The event is open to monohull boats having a valid 2012 PHRF of the Chesapeake rating certificate, an IRC Standard Certificate, and/or one-design classes of 5 boats or more.
- 4.2 Classes will include IRC, PHRF A, B, C, Non-Spinnaker (2 headsails), and any one-design classes of 5 boats or more.
- 4.3 Eligible boats may enter online at <http://www.hamptonyc.com/downthebay> or by completing a CBYRA Standard Entry Form and sending it with a check for \$170 (US Sailing member) or \$175 (Non-US Sailing member) to Hampton Yacht Club, 4707 Victoria Blvd, Hampton, Va 23669. Checks should be made payable to Hampton Yacht Club. The entry deadline will be May 4, 2012. Entries received between May 4 and May 23 must include a \$50 late fee.

5 Schedule

- 5.1 Mandatory Check-In will be Thursday, May 24, at J-Port, from 1500-1800.
- 5.2 A Pre-Race Party will be held Thursday, May 24, at J-Port, from 1800-2000.
- 5.3 To welcome arriving boats, the Hampton Yacht Club lounge will be open from the finish of the first boat until the Post-Race Party. Food and beverage will be on sale. An up to the moment "scoreboard" will be available showing finish times and retirements.
- 5.4 A Post-Race Party and Awards Presentation will be held at Hampton Yacht Club on Saturday, May 26, beginning at 1900.

6 Course

Location	Mark	Description	Leave to	Lat	Lon
Start	G"9" QG	Fl G 1s	Port	N38 58.703	W076 28.014
Tolley Point	"1AH"	Fl G 4.0s 13ft	Star	N38 56.151	W076 26.167
Sharpes Island	"80"	Fl R 2.5 s	Port	N38 36.541	W076 24. 780
Smith Point	Smith Pt Lt	Fl R Wh 10s 52ft	Star	N37 52.792	W076 11. 025
York River	"1YR"	Fl G 2.5s	Star	N37 07.628	W076 09. 859
Finish	Q R R"22"	Q R 1s	Port	N37 00.159	W076 17.877

Course length = 123.0 nm

In addition, the following marks must be passed on the channel side:

Mark	Lat	Long
Annapolis Harbor Fl G 6s 15ft 6M "HP"	N38 58.500	W76 28.100
Thomas Point Light	N38 53.938	W076 26.153
Bloody Point Light	N38 50.025	W076 23.500
Cove Point LNG Pier	N38 24.176	W076 23.071
Windmill Point Light	N37 35.815	W076 14.165
Wolf Trap Light	N37 23.430	W076 11.373

Note: Boats must pass to the channel side of Cove Point LNG Pier and honor the restricted area the pier including the keep off marks.

Note: The above Lat/Lons are for course identification only and should not be used for navigation.

7 Special Limitations

- 7.1** During the race, competitors may not receive weather, current, or navigational information except from publicized sources available to all competitors. Subscription, password protected, or restricted access web pages as well as phone conversations that contain any of the above information are not allowed.
- 7.2** Between sunset and sunrise, the following will replace RRS 17: When a boat is about to pass another boat and they are on the same tack and within three overall lengths (of the longer boat) of each other, the boat being overtaken shall maintain her proper course, and the boat clear astern, if she elects to pass to windward, must do so at least three overall lengths (of the longer boat) from the leeward boat. Both boats shall sail their proper course while they are overlapped.

8 The Start

- 8.1** The RRS 26 starting system will be used.
- 8.2** The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the RC Signal Boat and Annapolis Harbor Buoy G"9" QG located off Horn Point.
- 8.3** The Starting Area is defined as extending 100 yards beyond each end of the starting line and 150 yards behind the line and its extensions. A boat shall keep clear of the Starting Area and the first leg of the course until the RC Signal Boat hoists her warning signal.
- 8.4** Each boat is requested to check-in before the race by passing close behind the RC Signal Boat and hailing her sail number until acknowledged by the race committee.
- 8.5** Order of starts:

Fleet	Class Flag
PHRF Non-Spin	Code Flag 5
PHRF C	Code Flag 7
PHRF B	Code Flag 6
PHRF A	Code Flag 9

Note: Scheduled warning for the first start is 1000.

Note: The above starting order may be amended due to the addition of additional fleets. Such amendment will be posted on the Notice Board at the Pre-Race Party.

9 Recalls

- 9.1** Individual recalls will be signaled as per RRS 29.1. In addition, the race committee will attempt to hail OCS boats via VHF-72. Failure to hail any boat or failure to hail correctly does not relieve any boat(s) from starting correctly and is not grounds to grant redress.
- 9.2** General recalls will be in accordance with RRS 29.2

10 The Finish

- 10.1** The finish line will be between Q R R"22" and an orange flag on the seawall of Fort Monroe bearing approximately 280 degrees magnetic from Q R R"22".
- 10.2** As a boat approaches the finish line, she shall notify the race committee on VHF-72 of her name and sail number. She shall do this until acknowledged by the race committee. If finishing after dark, the boat shall also shine a bright light on her sail number to assist the race committee with boat identification.
- 10.3** If the race committee is not present, boats are reminded of their responsibilities under the US Sailing Prescription to RRS 34. A boat shall take her finishing time and note her finishing position in relation to any nearby boats. She shall then immediately report this information to the race committee by calling (757) 814-7593. This notification must be done from the finish line area immediately after finishing.

11 Time Limit

None

12 Penalty System

- 12.1** Boats may use either the Two-Turn Penalty (RRS 44.1) or the Scoring Penalty (RRS 44.3).
- 12.2** In addition, the Protest Committee may, at its discretion, penalize a boat by increasing her elapsed time by an amount the Protest Committee deems appropriate.

13 Protests and Requests for Redress

- 13.1 Protests must be in writing in and shall be delivered to the RC representative in the HYC lounge within 90 minutes of the protesting boat finishing.
- 13.2 In addition, the protesting boat must notify the race committee of its intent to protest via VHF-72 immediately after finishing. This notification must include the name and/or sail number of the protesting boat and of the boat being protested and must be acknowledged by the race committee. If the race committee is not present at the finish line, they shall be notified by calling (757) 814-7593. This changes RRS 61.1.
- 13.3 A list of protests filed and hearings scheduled will be posted on the Official Notice Board in the HYC Lounge as boats finish.

14 Withdrawal from the Race

- 14.1 A boat withdrawing before the start shall notify the race committee start boat either by hail or by cell phone at (301) 332-6773.
- 14.2 A boat withdrawing after she has started shall notify the race committee by calling (757) 814-7593. Attempts to complete this notification must be continued until the boat actually speaks to the race committee.

15 Safety Check-In

- 15.1 All boats still racing but not finished as of 1700 on Saturday, shall check-in with the race committee by calling (757) 814-7593 between 1700-1800. This may not be accomplished by leaving a message. Since several boats may be attempting to check-in, please continue to call until reaching the race committee.
- 15.2 Boats failing to properly check-in with the race committee will be given a 20% scoring penalty without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.2 and A5.

16 Commercial Traffic

- 16.1 A boat may not exercise right of way over, cross in proximity to, or interfere with reasonable transit of the race area by commercial freighters, tugs and tows, or other commercial vessels that are unable to respond readily. A boat protested under this rule has the burden of proving that she did not interfere. Boats must take evasive action well in advance of any potentially dangerous situation.
- 16.2 If a boat without way in a ship channel infringes RRS 42.1 by using an engine to clear the channel at the approach of commercial traffic, she shall either retire or, if the incident was unavoidable, continue racing and request redress. RRS 62 is modified to allow the consideration of this request.

17 Trash Disposal

Boats shall not put trash or refuse in the water.

18 Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

19 Prizes

Class awards will be given based on participation. In addition, the boat with the fastest corrected PHRF time will be awarded the Virginia Cruising Cup. Boats competing in a one design or IRC division that wish to compete for the Virginia Cruising cup must have a valid 2012 PHRF of the Chesapeake rating certificate. Other special awards will also be given.