



**NOTICE OF RACE**  
**2017 Beacon Group Viper 640 North American Championships**  
**Presented by The Beacon Group**  
**October 24-28, 2017**



**Fort Walton Yacht Club, Fort Walton Beach, Florida**



1. The Organizing Authority (OA) for the 2017 Viper 640 North American Championship is the 2017 Viper 640 Championships Committee in conjunction with the Fort Walton Yacht Club.
2. **RULES**
  - 2.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Viper 640 Class Rules, and the Sailing Instructions.
  - 2.2. Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes of the first boat to finish will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes Rules 35, A4 and A5. 1.4. Rule 44.1 will be changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty for all violations of Part 2 except for violations that occur within the Zone around a mark, other than a starting mark, where the penalty shall be two-turns.
  - 2.3. Rules 62.2 and 66 will be changed to shorten the time limit for a request for redress and for reopening of protest hearings on the last scheduled day of racing.
  - 2.4. Rules A4 and A5 will be changed to state that a boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start.
  - 2.5. Decisions of the Jury will be final as provided in RRS 70.5.
3. **ADVERTISING**
  - 3.1. Advertising shall conform to the current World Sailing Regulation 20 and the Viper 640 Class Rules.
  - 3.2. Boats may be required to display bow numbers and advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.
4. **ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**
  - 4.1. The regatta shall be open to all Viper 640 boats whose skipper is a member of the Viper 640 Class Association and has completed the entry process as described in NoR 3.2.
  - 4.2. Eligible boats shall enter by submitting a completed Entry Form with full payment of required fees as per NoR 4, and has completed Competitor Check-In as set forth in the NoR 3.3.
  - 4.3. The following documents shall be submitted at the time of Competitor Check-In:
    - 4.3.1. Verification of membership as per NoR 3.1.
    - 4.3.2. A Boat and Equipment Inspection List signed by a member of the Class Technical Committee.
    - 4.3.3. A loss, damage and injury waiver signed by each person racing on board the boat.
    - 4.3.4. A certificate of compliance of the Viper 640 Class Association Rules, signed by the owner or skipper.
    - 4.3.5. Proof of insurance as per NoR 18. 3.4. Only boats having completed all entry requirements will be allowed to compete.
    - 4.3.6. A Visitor Survey Form shall be completed by each boat and any support boat and submitted at time of competitor check in.

- 4.4. Verification of All Crew and All Skippers of ISAF Category Level 1 or 3. Skipper and Crew can register with World Sailing at <http://members.sailing.org/sailors/profile.php>.
- 4.5. Teams wishing to compete for the top Corinthian boat prize shall complete the Corinthian team input on the Yacht Scoring website by 2200 Monday October 16, 2017.
- 4.6. A complete list of Corinthian teams will appear on the event website by 2000 Tuesday October 24, 2017.

## 5. FEES

- 5.1. Early entries, received and paid on or before April 30, 2017, will be US \$450.00 per boat.
- 5.2. Regular entry fee, received and paid on or before August 30, 2017 shall be US \$550.00 per boat.
- 5.3. Late entries received after October 1, 2017 will be US \$650.00 per boat.
- 5.4. Entries cancelled by the competitor prior to September 15, 2017 will be refunded less \$50 administrative fee.

## 6. SCHEDULE

October 24, Tue:	1000-1700	Measurements, Boat & Equipment Inspections
	1600-1900	Competitor Check In.
	1915	Competitor Briefing
October 25, Weds:	1155	1st Race Warning
October 26, Thurs:	1055	Warning, Racing Resumes
October 27, Fri:	1055	Warning, Racing Resumes
October 28, Sat:	1055	Warning, Racing Resumes
	1330	No warning signal after this time
	ASAP	Awards to follow as soon as possible

## 7. MEASUREMENT

- 7.1. At any time before and during the regatta, the Viper 640 Technical Committee may inspect and measure any boat, equipment thereon and sails in order to determine compliance with class rules and eligibility. Competitors shall be aware that random spot checks of rules compliance may be in effect throughout the event.

## 8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 8.1. Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be available at Competitor Check-In.

## 9. VENUE

- 9.1. Races will be held in Choctawhatchee Bay.

## 10. THE COURSES

- 10.1. Windward-Leeward courses will be used.

## 11. SCORING

- 11.1. The Low Point Scoring system of Appendix A shall apply except that when six (6) or more races have been completed, a competitor may discard his worst score.
- 11.2. No pre-set maximum number of races are scheduled.
- 11.3. One (1) completed race shall constitute a series.

## 12. SUPPORT BOATS

- 12.1. Team/Owner Support boats (Support boat) shall register with the OA during the Competitor Check-In period.
- 12.2. The OA will not provide berths for support boats. Support boats shall heed right of way to all competitors and event committee vessels. Support boats shall give ramp and hoist priority to competitors and event committee vessels.
- 12.3. A support boat flag will be assigned to each support boat. The flag shall be visible at all times while on the water.
- 12.4. Rules governing the conduct of support boats will be outlined in the SIs.

## 13. BERTHING

- 13.1. Berthing will be available and shall be designated by tape runners or flags by the Event Dock Manager. Boats shall be kept in their assigned places on their designated days of the regatta. Rafting in a berth may be required and competitors should plan accordingly. It is planned that competitors will be in water on one day and out the next based on bow number, with even numbers out one day, and odd numbers out the next day throughout the event.

#### **14. LAUNCH AND HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

14.1. All boats are to be launched prior to the first warning signal of the regatta and shall not be hauled out without prior permission of the Viper 640 Technical Committee or PRO or on their non-assigned day.

#### **15. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

15.1. The race committee intends to use international VHF marine frequencies to broadcast courtesy information to competitors, which may include OCS hails after starts. The channel will be detailed in the SIs. 14.2. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones, and any other communication devices.

#### **16. PRIZES**

16.1. Prizes will be awarded to the overall first through fifth place finishers.

16.2. The overall first place finisher will be the 2016 Viper 640 North American Champion.

16.3. The top three Corinthian Boats will be awarded to the highest placing three boats in which the helm and all crew are registered World Sailing Group 1 sailors. Skipper and Crew can register with World Sailing at <http://members.sailing.org/sailors/profile.php>.

16.4. The Governor's Cup Perpetual will be awarded to the highest placing skipper who will be 55 or older in the calendar year 2016.

16.5. The top female helm will be awarded Top Female Finisher.

16.6. The top Gulf Yachting Association club member will be awarded Top GYA Boat.

16.7. The youngest sailing crew under the age of eighteen of that year will be awarded Youngest Crew Award.

16.8. The farthest travelling team not hailing from the North American Continent will be awarded Farthest Travelled International Team.

16.9. The farthest travelling team hailing from the North American Continent will be awarded Farthest Travelled North American Team.

#### **17. RIGHT TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS**

17.1. By participating in the regatta, a competitor automatically grants to the organizers and its sponsors the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television, still photography, and other reproductions of him or her during the period of the competition without compensation.

#### **18. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

18.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The OA, the Host Club, and all volunteers will not accept liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta. Each person racing on board a boat entered in the regatta shall sign a waiver for loss, damage or injury to their person or property in conjunction with the regatta or while on the premises of the Host Clubs. The Host Clubs, the Viper 640 Class Association Inc, the 2017 Viper North American Championships committee, the OA, and their member volunteers, employees, officers and agents shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury that may occur to persons (s) or property whether ashore or at sea as a consequence of the participation of any boat.

#### **19. INSURANCE**

19.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with minimum coverage of US\$100,000 per event or the equivalent.

#### **20. AMENDMENTS**

20.1. Amendments to the NoR and other regatta information will be posted on the event website and the Official Notice Board at the Fort Walton Yacht Club.

## 21. FURTHER INFORMATION

21.1. Event website located at: <http://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=2996>

21.2. Event Facebook site is located at: <https://www.facebook.com/Viper640NorthAmericanChampionships/>

21.3. Social Package fees and schedule will be detailed in the Event Social Package document available from the event website.

21.4. All payment of fees shall be made online at the event website

21.5. Fort Walton Yacht Club website [www.fwyc.org](http://www.fwyc.org) Fort Walton Yacht Club Phone 850-243-7102.

21.6. Other contact information is Craig Wilusz, 2017 Viper 640 Championships Committee Chair, email to [contact@gulfperformancesailing.com](mailto:contact@gulfperformancesailing.com) or telephone or 850-797-2933.