

TSS PHRF CLUB RACES 2008-2009 WATCH
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1 RULES

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, except as they may be modified by these Sailing Instructions and the Club Championship Rules, which are published separately.

2 ENTRIES

Competitors enter by registering or racing. Races are open to non-members with the permission of the Racing Fleet Captain or Race Officer, but non-members shall not be scored officially against members. Competitors can race without WPHRF rating certificates (ratings will be assigned by TSS) but they are not eligible for the Club Championship. Competitors for the Club Championship are governed by the Club Championship Rules.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official racing notice board on the porch at TSS. Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted as a Notice and announced at the skippers' meeting. Changes in the schedule of races or race days will be posted as Notices, announced at the skippers' meeting and the Racing Fleet Captain will try to notify competitors in advance via e-mail, phone, Lighthouse or website. A competitor's failure to receive a notice shall not be grounds for redress.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Club's flagstaff. If a postponement is signaled ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than one hour after AP is lowered. Any postponement signaled ashore lasting more than 90 minutes means races are abandoned that day.

5 SCHEDULE

The schedule of races will be posted at TSS and on the TSS website calendar and e-mailed to racers who have provided their e-mail addresses to the Racing Fleet Captain. A list of upcoming races will frequently appear in the Lighthouse.

As of April 8, 2008, the schedule of race days and times are as follows:

Spring Series

Saturday [Apr 12, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [May 17, 2008](#) 2pm *Club Race
Saturday [May 31, 2008](#) 11am *Club Race
Saturday [Jun 14, 2008](#) 11am *Club Race
Saturday [Jun 21, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Jul 12, 2008](#) 11am Club Race
Saturday [Jul 19, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Aug 16, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Aug 30, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race

Fall Series

Saturday [Sep 13, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Sep 27, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Oct 25, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Nov 8, 2008](#) 11am Club Race
Saturday [Nov 22, 2008](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Jan 10, 2009](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Jan 24, 2009](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Feb 21, 2009](#) 2pm Club Race
Saturday [Mar 7, 2009](#) 2pm Club Race

Skippers' meetings will be held on the porch at TSS one hour before the scheduled first race of a race day. This will usually be at 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. AT THE SKIPPERS' MEETINGS, THE RACE FORMAT (DISTANCE RACE WITH PURSUIT STARTS OR BUOY RACE WITH FLAG STARTS) WILL BE ANNOUNCED. SCRATCH SHEETS WITH PURSUIT START TIMES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SERIES.

The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is listed above. Subsequent races, if any, will be held as soon as possible after the end of the previous race.

6 FLAGS and SOUND SIGNALS

Some races will be over a distance course, with "pursuit starts" where racers have assigned start times. For these races, as a warning signal, Race Committee will give courtesy sound signals indicating the "zero hour" or the start time of the scratch boat, but a failure of the sound signal or a racer's failure to receive it shall not be grounds for redress. Race Committee may show the "over early" flag and shout or sound a horn at an "over early" boat, but only as a courtesy, and a racer's failure to receive same is not grounds for redress.

For buoy races, class flags will be as follows:

Spinnaker (Red Fleet) – Red Square or #1 pennant

Non-Spinnaker (Blue Fleet) – Blue Square or #2 pennant

For buoy races, classes may start together or separately, at the discretion of the Race Officer.

The Race Officer may require non-members to start later to minimize interference with TSS racers.

7 RACING AREA

The race committee boat will anchor in the waters off Apollo Beach and will be identified by a Race Committee flag and/or an orange flag.

8 COURSES and MARKS

The courses will be as described and depicted on the attached diagrams, which show the courses, course designations, the marks in order and the rounding direction of each mark. Errors in coordinates or depictions shall not be grounds for redress.

AT THE SKIPPERS' MEETING, THE RACE OFFICIAL WILL ANNOUNCE IF A DISTANCE RACE WITH PURSUIT STARTS OR BUOY RACE(S) WILL BE SAILED. THE BUOY RACE COURSE TO BE SAILED WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON THE WATER BEFORE THE START.

9 START AND FINISH LINES

The start line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat and a floating mark. The finish line will be between a floating inflatable mark and a flag on the Race Committee boat, unless the course is shortened per Section 11.

Usually, for buoy races, the "pin end" or floating mark will be to the port side of the Race Committee boat, indicating all marks to port.

Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area. Before starting the first race, all yachts shall pass the stern of the Race Committee boat on a starboard tack and check in with the yacht name, sail number and division or class.

10 RECALLS

Individual recall: The Race Committee may attempt to hail a boat for an individual recall, but failure to notify a competitor shall not be grounds for redress.

General recall: A class that has a general recall shall start after the last scheduled class has started. If more than one class is recalled, they shall start in the order in which they were recalled.

11 SHORTEN COURSE

IF, IN THE RACE COMMITTEE'S SOLE DISCRETION, WEATHER, TIDE, WIND OR ANY OTHER CONDITION(S) WARRANT SHORTENING THE RACE, THE RACE COMMITTEE WILL SHORTEN COURSE BY POSITIONING A RACE COMMITTEE BOAT AT A MARK OF THE COURSE. THE FINISH WILL BE AN IMAGINARY LINE BETWEEN A POINT ON THE RACE COMMITTEE BOAT AND THE MARK. THIS CHANGES RULE 32.

12 TIME LIMIT

On a race day with one distance race, a competitor finding no Race Committee on station at the finish shall (1) take his/her own time (hour:minute:second) within a boat length of the #2 channel marker and (2) no later than 24 hours after the race, report that time to the Racing Fleet Captain. If no such time is reported, competitors finishing or failing to finish one hour after the first boat in the Non-Spinnaker class finishes shall be scored DNF.

13 PROTESTS

In addition to flying the red protest flag, a protesting yacht must inform the Race Committee of its intention to protest after crossing the finish line and before leaving the finishing area or the protest may not be heard. Protests shall be written on official protest forms (available at TSS, the TSS website and other websites, and the US Sailing rulebook) and delivered to the Racing Fleet Captain as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours after the finish of the race. Hearings will be held as soon as possible, at a date, time and place designated by the Racing Fleet Captain.

14 SCORING

Buoy races will be scored using the time on time method. Distance races with pursuit starts are "time on distance" races, wherein the order of boats crossing the finish line will be the finishing place (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.). In the case of a shortened distance race with pursuit starts, the race will be scored using time on distance.

Any competitor who challenges a vessel confined to the Tampa Bay shipping channels in such a way as to cause them to file a report, or who violates a moving or static safety or security zone resulting in the filing of a report, will be scored DSQ. This changes Rule 63.1.

Any competitor who throws anything overboard is subject to protest and possible disqualification by the Race Committee.

Scoring shall otherwise be in accordance with the Club Championship Rules.

15 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

The race committee will monitor channel 68. Any vessel wishing to retire shall notify the Race Committee on VHF channel 68 and receive confirmation from the Race Committee that the Race Committee understands that the vessel is withdrawing. Competitors so doing will give the name of their vessel, the sail number and the class in which their vessel is racing.

While racing, a boat shall not make or receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile or cellular telephones. Mobile or cell phone communications are to be made in case of emergency only and the boat shall be scored "DNF."

16 AWARDS

Subject to protests and review by the Racing Fleet Captain, preliminary or unofficial scores will be announced at TSS on the race day, posted on the website and included in e-mails and Lighthouse articles. Official scores will be posted after review by the Racing Fleet Captain and any protest hearings. Official scores may affect trophies and awards.