

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



# MIDBAY BRIDGE REGATTA



May 15, 2021 & August 7, 2021

Fort Walton Yacht Club

Fort Walton Beach, Florida

### 1. RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).

### 2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 on the day it will take effect.

### 3. COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the FWYC bulletin board and electronically at the following web address: [http://www.nextsailor.com/regatta/FWYC\\_Midbay](http://www.nextsailor.com/regatta/FWYC_Midbay).

3.2 The Race Committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 72.

### 4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Smack Point flagpole.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 5 minutes" in the Race Signals for AP.

### 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 One (1) race is scheduled on each Race Day.

5.2 Race Day Events:

Check-In: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Skippers Meeting: 11:05 AM

First Warning: 11:55 AM

### 6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1 Two Class Flags will be used for separate starts

6.2 The Class Flags will be as follows:

A Fleet & B Fleet – Pink; C Fleet & M Fleet – Green

### 7. RACING AREA

7.1 The racing area will be located on the waters of the Choctawhatchee Bay.

### 8. COURSES

8.1 The racing area will be located on the waters of the Choctawhatchee Bay.

8.2 Courses will be to/through the MidBay Bridge and back using Government, Club, or temporary marks.

8.3 Courses will be available at the Skippers Meeting.

### 9. MARKS

9.1 The starting and finishing marks will be inflatable buoys unless briefed otherwise at the Skippers meeting.

### 10. THE START

10.1 The Starting order will be the Pink Class followed by the Green Class.

10.2 There will be a delay between the Pink Class Start and the Green Class Flag

10.3 The delay between one class start and the next class's first warning will be approximately 1 minute (Starts are not rolling)

10.4 Unless otherwise specified at the Skippers Meeting, The starting line will be between the inflatable mark at the port end and the Smack Point flagpole at the starboard end.

- 10.5 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 10.6 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## **11. CHANGE OF COURSE**

There are no provisions to shorten the course or alter legs on the course.

## **12. THE FINISH**

- 12.1 Unless otherwise specified at the Skippers Meeting, the finishing line will be between the finishing mark at the starboard end and the Smack Point flagpole at the port end.

## **13. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 13.1 For all fleets, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

## **14. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

- 14.1 There are no time limits for the race.
- 14.2 Boats failing to finish within two (2) hours after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 36, A4, and A5.

## **15. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 15.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat in any class finishes. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 15.2 Protest forms are available on the bulletin board.
- 15.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

## **16. SCORING**

- 16.1 The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply.
- 16.2 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta.

## **17. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 17.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 17.2 If conditions should warrant, propulsion in accordance with rule 42 may be used briefly in the vicinity of the bridge. Use of propulsion shall not result in a significant advantage in the race. Rule 42.3(i).
- 17.3 For courses that pass beneath the MidBay Bridge, boats shall pass within one (1) span of the center span.

## **18. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 18.1 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.

## **19. PRIZES**

- 19.1 Fleet winner names will be engraved on the MidBay Bridge Perpetual Trophy.
- 19.2 Additional awards will be presented based on the number of entries per fleet.
- 19.3 The awards ceremony will take place as soon as possible after the final race of the regatta.

## **20. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 20.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

20.2 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. The Fort Walton Yacht Club will not accept any responsibility for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

**21. CONTACT INFORMATION**

FWYC Web Site

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