



66th DOWN THE BAY RACE

FOR THE VIRGINIA CRUISING CUP

Friday & Saturday, May 22 & 23, 2015

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 – (2013-2016).
- 1.2** All boats must meet PHRF of the Chesapeake Bay (CB) category safety requirements 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.
- 1.4** Any conflict between the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions shall be decided in favor of the Sailing Instructions. This changes rule 63.7

2 Notices to Competitors

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the SSA notice board no later than 2100 on Thursday, May 21, 2015.

3 Changes to the Sailing Instructions

Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the SSA notice board no later than 2100 on Thursday, May 21, 2015.

4 Schedule

4.1 Thursday, May 21
1800 Check-in desk is open at SSA. Registration packets will be given to each boat at Check-in.

1800 - 2100 Welcome party

1900 Skippers meeting

4.2 Friday, May 22
1000 First Warning is scheduled in the Bay near Severn River R "2"

4.3 Following the race, 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 all day in the lounge. An up to the moment "scoreboard" will be available in the lounge showing finish times and retirements.

4.4 Saturday, May 23, 2014

1900 Post-Race Party and Awards at Hampton YC.
2200 Absolute time limit for race.

5 Course

Location	Mark	Description	Leave to	Lat	Lon
Start					
Sharpes Island	"80"	Fl R 2.5 s	Port	N38 36.5	W076 24.8
Smith Point	Smith Pt Lt	Fl R Wh 10s 52ft	Star	N37 52.8	W076 11.0
York River	"1YR"	Fl G 2.5s	Star	N37 07.6	W076 09.9
Finish	Q R R"22"	Q R 1s	Port	N37 00.2	W076 17.9

Course length = 120.0 nm

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

Mark	Lat	Long
Thomas Point Light	N38 53.9	W076 26.1
Bloody Point Light	N38 50.0	W076 23.5
Cove Point LNG Pier	N38 24.2	W076 23.1
Windmill Point Light	N37 35.8	W076 14.2

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

Note: All Lat/Lons are approximate and for course identification only, not for navigation.

6 Special Limitations

6.1 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.

6.2 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.

7 The Start

7.1 The RRS 26 starting system will be used.

7.2 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the RC Signal Boat and an inflatable drop mark.

7.3 In the event of light air, the race committee may, at its own discretion, move the starting line south to a new location. To do so, the RC will display Code Flag "L" with one sound and motor to the new location. Once there, she will drop an inflatable mark, anchor, and either begin a starting sequence or await further developments. The RC will not move the starting line until all boats are checked-in or accounted for or 1000, whichever is earlier. Neither the decision to move the starting area nor the location of the new starting area shall be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

7.4 Each boat is requested to check-in before the race by passing close behind the RC Signal Boat's stern and hailing her sail number until acknowledged by the race committee.

7.5 Order of starts on May 22, 2014

Fleet	Class Flag
PHRF Non-Spin	Code Flag 5
PHRF C	Code Flag 7
PHRF B	Code Flag 6
PHRF A	Code Flag 9
PHRF Multihull	Code Flag 3

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.

8 Recalls

8.1 Individual recalls will be signaled as per RRS 29.1. The race committee will attempt to hail OCS boats via VHF-72. Failure to hear the hail and the timing and order of such hails will not be grounds for redress

8.2 General recalls will be in accordance with RRS 29.2

9 The Finish

9.1 The finish line will be between Q R R"22" and the staff displaying an orange flag on the seawall of Ft Monroe.

- 9.2** 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.
- 9.3** If the race committee is not present at the finish line, boats are reminded of their responsibilities under the US Sailing Prescription to RRS 34 to take their own finishing time, note their finishing position in relation to any nearby boats, and immediately report this information to the race committee by calling them at 757-592-1650.
- 10 Time Limit**
There is an absolute time limit of 2200 on Saturday, May 23. Boats not finished by 2200 on May 23 will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 and A4.1 & 4.2.
- 11 Protests and Requests for Redress**
- 11.1** Sections B (Post-Race Penalties) and C (Expedited Hearings) of Appendix T will be in effect for the regatta.
- 11.2** The notification of the race committee required in T3 shall be accomplished by radio on VHF-72 and must be continued until acknowledged by the race committee. Notification must include the name and/or sail number of the protesting and protested boats. If the race committee is not present, they shall be notified by calling 757-592-1650.
- 11.3** A list of protests filed and hearings scheduled will be posted on the Official Notice Board in the HYC Lounge as boats finish.
- 12 Withdrawal from the Race**
- 12.1** A boat withdrawing before the start shall notify the Annapolis race committee Signal Boat either by hail or by cell phone at 410-353-0477.
- 12.2** A boat withdrawing after she has started shall notify the Hampton race committee by calling 757-592-1650. Please do not leave a message but, rather, continue to attempt to speak with the race committee until successful. Boats not complying with this instruction will be assumed to be safe and in no distress.
- 13 Safety Check-In**
All boats that have not finished or retired as of 2200 Saturday, shall check-in with the race committee as soon after 2200 as possible by cell phone at 757-592-1650. Leaving a message will not satisfy this instruction. Boats not complying with this instruction will be assumed to be safe and in no distress.
- 14 Commercial Traffic**
- 14.1** 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.
- 14.2** As provided in RRS 42.3(i), if a boat is without way in a shipping channel and a dangerous situation develops, she may use her engine to clear the channel, provided she does not gain a significant advantage in the race.
- 15 Media Rights**
Competitors give permission for video footage and/or photographs of themselves of their boat to be published in any media that race organizers see fit.
- 16 Disclaimer of Liability**
- 16.1** 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.
- 16.2** The safety of a boat and its crew is the inescapable responsibility of the Skipper who shall ensure that the boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy, and manned by a

crew that is sufficiently experienced, physically able, and of an appropriate number for the boat.

17 Prizes

The number of awards will be given based on participation. In addition, the monohull boat with the fastest corrected PHRF time will be awarded the Virginia Cruising Cup. Monohull boats competing in a one design or IRC division that wish to compete for the Virginia Cruising Cup must have a valid 2015 PHRF of the Chesapeake rating certificate. Other special awards will also be given.