



1st Annual Christmas Run Race

December 28th, 2023

Sailing Instructions

The notation “[NP]” in this and subsequent documents indicates that the relevant rule is only protestable by the Race Committee. This changes RRS 60.1(a). The notation “[DP]” indicates that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES and REQUIREMENTS

1.1. The race will be governed by:

1.1.1. The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), except as modified by the Notice of Race (NOR), the Sailing Instructions (SI), or any amendments thereto. The following rules are changed:

1.1.1.1. RRS 52 is modified to allow the use of canting keels and water ballast for boats racing in compliance with a rating which allows them.

1.1.1.2. RRS 41 is modified to allow communication between competitors by VHF Radio.

1.1.1.3. From sunset to sunrise, Part 2 is replaced with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS). When two boats are on the same tack within three overall lengths (of the larger boat) of each other, the boat being overtaken shall maintain her proper course. The overtaking boat shall keep clear, and neither boat shall bear away toward, nor luff, the other.

1.1.1.4. RRS 26 is modified to allow the use of audible only signals (no flags). See SI 7.4

1.1.1.5. RRS 61.1 is modified per SI 12, Protests and Requests for Redress

1.1.1.6. RRS 62.1(a) is modified per SI 8, Recalls. This also changes rules 28, 63.1, A4, and A5.

1.1.1.7. RRS 63.3(a) is modified per SI 12, Protests and Requests for Redress.

1.1.1.8. RRS 64.1 is modified per SI 10.2, Penalty System.

1.1.2. US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) for “Coastal” races except as modified by these NOR’s, SI’s, or any amendments thereto.

1.1.3. The current IMS Rule and Offshore Racing Congress (ORC) Rating Systems rules and regulations except as modified by the NOR, SI’s, or amendments thereto (www.orc.org/rules).

1.1.3.1. ORC Rule 201.2 restricting the amount of water to be carried aboard shall not apply.

- 1.1.4. Each boat shall carry an operating VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on Channels 05A, 13, and 16, and a cell phone, the number of which shall be on file with the OA and which shall be kept on while racing and for two hours after finishing.
 - 1.1.5. [NP] An operational AIS transponder shall be carried and switched on in both receiving and transmitting modes. Failure to comply with this rule shall not be grounds for protest or redress except by the OA, modifying RRS 60.1. RRS 62.1(a) and RRS 63.1 shall not apply.
 - 1.2. Any boat withdrawing before the start or abandoning the Race shall remove her class flag and immediately notify the OA by email to leovasiliev@nekasailing.org . It is the sole responsibility of any boat withdrawing to ensure that the Race Committee has been notified.
- 2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**
 - 2.1. Changes and/or additions to the SI's shall be posted on the Notice Board by 0800 on the day of the race. Changes to the scheduled start time will be posted by 2000 on the day before the race. Any changes or additions shall be incorporated into these SI's and shall be considered as having been delivered to each captain.
- 3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**
 - 3.1. Notice to competitors will be posted on the race website on yachtscoring.com on the Notice Board and emailed to all entrants.
 - 3.2. On the water, the Race Committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF channel 05A.
- 4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:**
 - 4.1. In the event that changes and/or additions have been made to the SI's, there will be no signals ashore. Any such changes will not be available on the water, however, the Race Committee may make a courtesy broadcast reminding captains to check the Notice Board.
 - 4.2. In the event of weather conditions which are not conducive to starting the race, a notice will be posted on YachtScoring.com and emailed to competitors.
- 5. REPORTING FOR INSTRUCTIONS**
 - 5.1. There will be no pre-race requirement to report in person. All communications will be via the Notice Board and/or by email to competitors.
 - 5.2. [NP]Tracking: All entrants will be issued a Spot Trace GPS tracker that shall be operational and switched on, such that it is transmitting throughout the race. Failure to comply is only subject to protest by the Race Committee.
- 6. COURSE**
 - 6.1. The course shall be from the starting line, south to the Miami Sea Buoy ("RW Mo (A) Whistle") leaving it to starboard; then to the Key West Sea Buoy ("RW Mo(A)") located south of Key West, leaving the marks outlined in Appendix A and the continuous line between them to starboard. Competitors are reminded that the continuous line may not be and is not always indicative of safe water and does not include the course from the Key West Sea Buoy to the Finish.
 - 6.2. In the event that a mark of the course is not on station, it will be incumbent on each boat to round the established position of that mark. The Navigator shall report the missing mark, in writing, to the Race Committee within four hours of finishing. Rounding time and boats within sight or on AIS shall be noted.
 - 6.3. Competitors **SHALL** consult the Local Notice to Mariners for the latest updates on marks of the course. The charted position of any missing mark shall be observed as that mark. Several lights may have different characteristics from what older charts show and one is due to be

discontinued. As of the writing of these Sailing Instructions, the OA is aware or reports that mark 17, Pelican Shoal '26' may be missing.

7. START

- 7.1. The first signal shall be at 0955 in the vicinity one half mile south of the Port Everglades harbor entrance and approximately one mile offshore. The start will be between a drop mark and a staff displaying an orange flag on the Signal Vessel.
- 7.2. Starting signals shall be made in accordance with Rule 26, except as modified by race documents. Classes will start at ten-minute intervals following the first start in the order indicated on the Scratch Sheet.
- 7.3. [NP] Each boat shall, prior to the warning signal for their respective class, approach and verbally hail the Signal Vessel indicating intention to start. There will be no check-in via radio.
- 7.4. The RC may use an audible-only start system. The timing of the audible signals will be the same as described in Rule 26. A series of short sounds will indicate that the first warning signal is imminent. The RC may attempt to broadcast starting instructions via radio.
- 7.5. A boat shall start no later than 60 minutes after her starting signal.

8. RECALLS

- 8.1. In the event of an Individual Recall, the RC will attempt to hail OCS boats by name or sail number via VHF Channel 05A. The timing and order of such hails or the failure to broadcast, will not be grounds for redress. This changes rules 62.1(a).
- 8.2. A boat that is OCS and does not restart shall, without a hearing, have thirty minutes added to her elapsed time. For the purposes of RRS A5, a boat so penalized shall be considered to have started properly. This changes rules 63.1 and A5.

9. FINISH

- 9.1. The finish line shall be between two marks "Gr 21, day mark" and "Gr 23, Fl Gr 4s" west of Mallory Square in Key West.
- 9.2. Each boat's navigator shall complete a Record of Finish to be posted on Yachtscoring, within four hours of finishing via email to the Race Committee at leovasiliev@nekasailing.org. Competitors should note any other competitors ahead or astern of them at the finish. A legible cell phone photo of the form shall suffice.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 10.1. The Scoring Penalty, rule 44.3 shall apply.
- 10.2. [DP] In the case of a protest involving the rules of RRS Part 2, the boat at fault, instead of disqualification resulting from a hearing, may, at the discretion of the Protest Committee, have her corrected time increased by 2% or more. This modifies Rule 64.1.

11. TIME LIMIT

- 11.1. The time limit shall be 48 hours from the start signal for a competitor's class.

12. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 12.1. In addition to all other requirements of rule 61.1, a boat intending to protest, shall promptly notify the Race Committee after finishing over VHF Channel 05A. Should no finishing boat be on station, an email to leovasiliev@nekasailing.org shall suffice.
- 12.2. Protests and requests for redress shall be filed online via the owners page on YachtScoring within four hours of the protesters finish time.

- 12.3. The Protest Committee will attempt to notify the parties by telephone, text, or email.
- 12.4. Arbitration will be held in accordance with Appendix T.
- 12.5. The arbitrator will not be a member of the Protest Committee, but will be permitted to observe any hearing and offer testimony. This adds to rule 63.6.
- 12.6. Arbitration and protest hearings shall be held at a location to be announced and may be held virtually at a time determined to be suitable to all involved parties by the Protest Committee.

13. SCORING

- 13.1. [NP] The OA may divide boats into ORC classes based on their ORC rating. Races will be scored using ORC Triple A/P, Time on Time.
- 13.2. [NP] The Race Committee shall announce its intended scoring option prior to the first warning signal, however, the rating band used for scoring will be determined by observed conditions over the duration of the race. The use of a particular rating band will not be grounds for protest or redress.

14. SAFETY AND RESPONSIBILITY

- 14.1. [NP] At least 3 of the 4 crew shall have attended a US Sailing (or international equivalent) Safety at Sea Seminar after May 1, 2018. Such seminars may be attended online (ussailing.org/safety) provided not fewer than two members of the crew, including the person in charge, have attended an International Offshore Safety at Sea Course with Hands-on Training or a US Sailing sanctioned In-person Offshore Safety at Sea Seminar after May 1, 2018. If the 50% requirement cannot be met due to a "Safety at Sea with hands-on training" course not being available, the requirement may, at the discretion of the OA, be met by completing the US Sailing "Online Offshore Safety at Sea" course.
- 14.2. All competitors are strongly advised to follow STC Safety Guidelines for Rendering Assistance. These guidelines are available on the Storm Trysail Club Website.
- 14.3. [NP] Attention is drawn to RRS 1.2 Life Saving Equipment: "Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal buoyancy for the conditions" including but not limited to:
 - 14.3.1. Between sunset and sunrise
 - 14.3.2. When alone on deck
 - 14.3.3. When reefed
 - 14.3.4. When true wind speed exceeds 25 knots
 - 14.3.5. When visibility is less than 1 nautical mile
 - 14.3.6. With due consideration to water temperature
 - 14.3.7. At all times when a boat is being sailing double-handed
 - 14.3.8. By all crew at all other times unless the person in charge has indicated they may be set aside.

15. PRIZES

- 15.1. Prizes will be awarded to the top three competitors in each class.
- 15.2. Prizes will be awarded at a time and location to be announced at a later date.

16. DECISION TO RACE

- 16.1. Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. It is the responsibility of each captain to weigh the anticipated conditions against the skill and experience of their crew as well as the capability of their vessel. See Rule 3.
- 16.2. Competitors are reminded of the Disclaimer of Liability outlined in the NoR.

Appendix A: Course Description

The following describes marks of the course along with their approximate Latitude and Longitude positions. All marks shall be rounded in accordance with SI 6. Competitors are advised to evaluate the course in its entirety as numerous hazards exist in the vicinity of marks.

From the Start to the Miami Sea Buoy and then to the Key West Sea Buoy, leaving the following marks, and the continuous line between them to starboard, and finishing as described in SI 9.

1. Fowey Rocks Light 25 35.442N 080 05.810W	8. Davis Reef "14" 24 55.544N 080 30.162W	15. Looe Key "24" 24 32.808N 081 24.156W
2. Triumph Reef Point, no mark 25 28.60N 080 06.60W	9. Crocker Reef Point, no mark 24 54.490N 080 31.480W	16. American Shoal Light 24 31.506N 081 31.166W
3. Pacific Reef Light 25 22.258N 080 08.524W	10. Alligator Reef Light 24 51.078N 080 37.062W	17. Pelican Shoal "26" (Possibly missing) 24 30.364N 081 35.983
4. Carysfort Reef Light 25 13.311N 080 12.685W	11. Tennessee Reef Light 24 44.772N 080 46.936W	18. Eastern Sambo Point, no mark 24 29.350N 081 40.000W
5. The Elbow "6" 25 08.673N 080 15.498W	12. Coffins Patch Point, no mark 24 40.500N 080 57.400W	19. Stock Island "32" 24 28.481N 081 44.527W
6. Molasses Reef "10" 25 00.709N 080 22.589W	13. Sombrero Key Light 24 37.669N 081 06.651W	20. Key West Entrance Buoy "KW" 24 27.429N 081 47.999W
7. Conch Reef Point, no mark 24 57.00N 080 27.400W	14. Big Pine Shoal "22" 24 34.102N 081 19.539W	