



**68th DOWN THE BAY RACE  
FOR THE VIRGINIA CRUISING CUP**

**Friday & Saturday, May 26 & 27, 2017**

**Sailing Instructions**<sup>v3</sup>

**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 – (2017-2020).
- 1.2** All boats must meet PHRF of the Chesapeake Bay (4P) Special Regulations 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
- 1.5** All classes will be scored Time on Time.
- 1.6** Doublehanded class boats must adhere to 2017 CHESSS Class Rules found at [http://media.wix.com/ugd/1795e0\\_28123eee6bb040e5aa790b03db682ef9.pdf](http://media.wix.com/ugd/1795e0_28123eee6bb040e5aa790b03db682ef9.pdf) , which includes the allowable use of autopilots. Doublehanded boats can be raced with or without spinnakers, but no time corrections will be available other than that supplied with their PHRF of the Chesapeake Bay rating certificates. Boats participating in the doublehanded class will not be eligible for the Virginia Cruising Cup.

**1.7** Multihulls will have to have a Chesapeake Multihull Association (CMA) handicap rating. Please note that boats participating in the multihull class will not be eligible for the Virginia Cruising Cup.

**2 Notices to Competitors**

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the SSA notice board no later than 2000 on Thursday, May 25, 2017 and will also be posted on the yachtscore.com website and emailed to all entries.

**3 Changes to the Sailing Instructions**

Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the SSA notice board no later than 2000 on Thursday, May 25, 2017 and will also be posted on the yachtscore.com website and emailed to all entries.

**4 Schedule**

**4.1** Thursday, May 25, 2017

1800 Check-in desk is open at SSA. Registration packets will be given to each boat at Check-in.

1800 2000 Welcome party

1900 Skippers meeting

**4.2** Friday, May 26, 2017

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. A Hampton Yacht Club Operating Schedule will be posted on the HYC Website and Yacht Scoring. Hard copies of The Operating Schedule will be available at the Welcome Party.

**4.4** Saturday, May 27, 2017

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
Wolf Trap Light	N37 23.4	W076 11.4

Note 1: Boats must pass to the channel side of the Cove Point LNG Pier and shall honor the restricted area around the pier, including the keep off marks.

Note 2: All above mark locations are approximate. They are for course identification only and should not be used for navigation.

Note 3: The Coast Guard is no longer maintaining Wolf Trap Light. Consequently it will not be lighted. NOAA has up-dated their new Chesapeake Bay Charts to show the position of Wolf Trap Light as an Abandoned Lighthouse.

## **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, announce their intentions on VHF 72 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 required to fly their class flag from their backstay for the duration of the race and check-in before the start 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 27, 2016

<b>Start</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Flag</b>
1	PHRF Double Handed	Code Flag 1
1	PHRF Non-Spin	Code Flag 5
2	PHRF B	Code Flag 6
3	PHRF A	Code Flag 9
4	PHRF Multihull	Code Flag 2

**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 and will also be posted on the yachtscore.com website and emailed to all entries.

## **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 27, 2017. Boats not finished by 2200 on May 27, 2017 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 **443-254-3049**. Please do not leave a message but, rather, continue to attempt to speak with the race committee until successful.

**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 Scoring**

All IRC, ORC and PHRF classes will be scored Time-on-Time (TOT).

**16 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.

**17 Disclaimer of Liability**

**17.1** 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.

**17.2** 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.

**18 Awards**

**18.1** Class awards will be given for 1st, 2nd & 3rd in each class based on participation.

**18.2** The first to finish monohull will be awarded the Robert M. Ravin Memorial Trophy

**18.3** The monohull boat with the fastest corrected PHRF time will be awarded the Virginia Cruising Cup. Monohull boats competing in a one-design ORC or IRC division that would like to compete for the Virginia Cruising Cup must have a valid, current, 2017 PHRF of the Chesapeake certificate.

**18.4** This race counts toward the HYC CUP Championship.