



North Gulf Challenge

The St. Petersburg Yacht Club is the Organizing Authority. The hosts for this event are St. Petersburg Yacht Club and Pensacola Yacht Club.

NOTICE OF RACE April 22 – 30, 2021

SPYC COVID-19 Policies

All CDC, State of Florida, County and City of St. Pete guidelines/restrictions will be strictly followed along with the SPYC/SPSC Covid rules and regulations.

DUE TO COVID-19, THIS EVENT MAY BE CANCELLED AT ANY TIME. If cancellation becomes necessary, the entry fee will be refunded.

All persons on SPYC/SPSC property shall wear a mask/face cover at all times while on site. This includes the parking lot, breezeways, classrooms, restrooms and docks. Temperature checks may be performed on all persons entering all SPYC facilities. It is critical to be mindful of how you feel, and, particularly when ANY of the potential Covid-19 symptoms are present, to please stay at home.

Subject to current Covid-19 protocols, masks will be required inside the PYC buildings. Sensible distancing will be strongly encouraged, though we are hopeful of easing those protocols as we move into April. PYC reserves the right to alter this policy at any time with regard to safety and health interaction on PYC grounds.

1. Rules

The Race will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and the current WFPHRF *Class Rules*. As allowed by RRS 88.2, the US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 60, 63.2, & 63.4 do not apply to these classes.

1.1 The following rules will also apply:

- a. West Florida PHRF Handicap Rule
- b. ORC 2021
- c. Equipment Rules of Sailing.
- d. The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea. (IRPCAS)
Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing is replaced by Part B of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea from **1800 to 0630 local time.**

1.2 World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations 2020-2021 Category 2, except as amended below.

- Each boat shall have sufficient fuel on board, at the start, for running 150 miles.
- All boats are required to have VHF radios with channels 9, 16, 63, 68, 69, 71, 72, & 77
- AIS Transponders are not required but highly recommended.
- Every vessel entered shall carry the appropriate nautical charts.
- Each skipper or owner shall declare his or her vessel's eligibility and shall affirm that the vessel complies with any and all equipment requirements for this race.

1.3 World Sailing National authority prescriptions to RRS 60, 63.2, & 63.4 will not apply.

1.4 If there is a conflict between Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions will take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7

1.5 The organizing committee may perform random inspections for compliance of the equipment.

2. Advertising

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority. Advertising shall be restricted to ISAF Advertising Code 20.2.2, 20.2.3.

3. Eligibility and Entry

The regatta is open to all boats holding a valid and current 2020-2021 WFPHRF Certificate with a rating between -100 and 320. Eligible classes are Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker, Racer-Cruiser, Cruising, Multi-Hull and Double-Handed.

3.1 Any one-design class must have 4 or more entries. If there are not enough for a class, the vessels will be placed in the appropriate WFPHRF Class/Division.

3.2 All boats shall display the same number on all sails. The Cruising Class shall have a number on at least one sail. In the event two boats have the same number, the race committee may assign a suffix. Failure to display the suffix may result in disqualification. If a problem arises on the course with this suffix, the skipper must identify his vessel when he/she crosses the finish line. Class designations and insignias do not constitute conforming sail numbers.

3.3 Eligible boats may enter in advance by completing the Entry Form by the entry deadline April 15, 2021. To enter electronically, go to www.spyc.org, and under "Regattas" go to "North Gulf Challenge". This will take you to the Yacht Scoring Page for the Online Entry Form/Application. You must enter your WFPHRF Certificate ID number on the right hand side of the application.

3.4 Depending upon the number of entries, classes may be divided in two or more divisions. The final decisions for eligibility and class divisions shall be solely the responsibility of the organizing authority.

3.5 A skipper in Cruising Class must declare his intent to use his cruising chute rating no later than 1700 Wednesday, April 21, 2021.

3.6 The yacht must be owned by a member in good standing of a recognized yacht club, sailing club, or organization.

3.7 No boat's entry will be final without a completed and signed online (YS) waiver for each participating crew member. If there is crew member substitution, that crew member must complete and sign an online (YS) waiver. The Skipper shall inform the OA and/or the PRO of same prior to the first warning that day.

3.8 **No boat will be scored without completing all eligibility requirements.**

4. Entry Fees - All fees include tax.

\$400 for entries received by **March 25, 2021**.

\$450 for entries received after March 25th until April 15, 2021

Deadline for entries is **1700 Thursday, April 15, 2021**. Entries after that date **MAY BE** accepted solely at the discretion of the Organizing Authority with a reasonable explanation and will pay the \$450 entry fee plus a \$50 late fee for a total (non-refundable) sum of \$500.

5. Schedule

Thursday, April 22	1700-1900 Registration at SPYC – may be done electronically and competitors will be notified 1900 Skippers' Meeting – may be done electronically and competitors will be notified
Friday, April 23	0800 Complimentary Breakfast at SPYC contingent on Covid restrictions in effect 1100 First Warning Signal
Monday April 26	Early Arrival Party at PYC 6:00pm. CST (The club will be open in full capacity for food and beverages. (And will be open 24hours starting Sunday for boat arrivals).
Tuesday April 27	Welcome Reception at PYC 5:30-7:30pm CST
Wednesday April 28	Pensacola tours and events, Fish Class sail and races, Lawn Olympics (ALL DAY)
Thursday, April 29	Dinner and Awards 5:00-6:00pm Cocktails 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm awards

6. Measurements

Each boat shall produce a valid 2020-2021 West Florida PHRF Certificate.

7. Sailing Instructions

The Sailing Instructions will be available on line at YS no later than Thursday, April 22.

8. The Course will be as described in the Sailing Instructions

9. Penalty Systems

9.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3 (a), (b), (c) will apply.

10. Scoring

The Low-Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply using the WFPHRF Rating for RLC, except no score will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.

11. Berthing

Boats are to berth in the area assigned by the SPYC@PAG Dockmaster, when arriving for the race. Phone # 727-822-3227 email Dockmaster@spyc.org

Boats will be assigned dockage at PYC and surrounding marinas as applicable. Contact Greg Spitzer PYC Dockmaster at dockmaster@pycfl.com. Phone# 850-232-5191. Owners, Skippers, and Captains are advised to be ready to provide details about their vessel's requirements ie: Draft, beam, vertical clearance, overall length, etc....

12. Communications

12.1 All boats shall carry transponders. The rental fee for the YB transponders is included in the entry fee. Information about the transponders will be sent to each skipper. The Regatta organizer will provide an agreement form for the transponders, whereby the skipper agrees to be responsible for the replacement cost of the transponder should they lose, damage, or not return the transponder in the manner described in the agreement. This agreement will state skipper name, vessel name, final date of return, and current credit card information.

12.2 Except in the event of an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats, except as modified by the Sailing instructions. This restriction also applies to cellular telephones.

12.3 The Official Bulletin will be Yacht Scoring. All competitors shall have a way to access Y.S. to receive all communications posted. PYC would like to see this event remain Paperless. All communications and documentation done electronically.

12.4 The Race Committee may use RRS 90.2[C] to make changes to NOR and /or Si's on the water.

13. Prizes

Prizes will be given as follows: Classes may be divided into divisions according to the number of entries. First, Second and Third place trophies will be given for each class/division.

14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY AND PERSONAL CONDUCT

14.1 Competitors participate in this regatta at their own risk. See RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority, the sponsors, the race committee, officers and board of directors of SPYC, and all those involved in these organizations will not accept any responsibility for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after this regatta.

14.2 The Skipper/Owner of each boat participating in the Regatta shall be responsible for the behavior of each member of the crew of his/her boat both on the water and while ashore. The failure of any of those persons to comply with all federal, state and local government regulations as well as the St Petersburg Yacht Club and the Pensacola Yacht Club policies or with any reasonable request of the Organizing Authority, hosts, Race Officers, or their representatives may result in the disqualification of the boat and its exclusion from the regatta. This modifies RRS 76.

15. Further Information

For Accommodations please visit the SPYC website at www.spyc.org – “Regattas” and scroll to the bottom of the page “For Hotel Accommodations.”

Information regarding hotel accommodations in Pensacola is forthcoming,

Guest Cards for SPYC are available on the club website under “Regattas” and then “SPYC Guest Card.” Fill out your information and your card will be available at the front desk upon your arrival. SPYC requests that you do this at least 48 hours before the Registration.

PYC will be accepting cash and credit cards for payments. **No Guest cards will be issued and no club reciprocal charges will be available.**

Contacts for this event will be:

Event Chair Selga Sakss, selga.sakss@verizon.net 727-320-5177

PRO George Pennington, epennin09@earthlink.net 727-580-5431

PYC Event Chair David Johnson, DJ@ZernRigging.com 850-292-8414

PYC Fleet Captain Andrew McMillan, Fleetcaptain@pycfl.com , 850-982-3012

PYC Social Director Nicole Ferry, NFK@FerryandFerry.com