

2024 GREAT LAKES SINGLEHANDED SOCIETY

46th PORT HURON and 28th CHICAGO TO MACKINAC SOLO CHALLENGES

NOTICE AND CONDITIONS OF RACE

1. MANAGEMENT

1.1 The Great Lakes Singlehanded Society (GLSS) is the Organizing Authority (OA) of the 2024 Port Huron to Mackinac and Chicago to Mackinac Challenges. The Challenges shall be under the management of the Great Lakes Singlehanded Society Race Committee, who shall have full authority in interpreting the rules and conditions for this event, directing the race management, establishing the event, and establishing the Protest Committee for the hearing of protests.

1.2 The Race Committee shall have the right to reject the entry of any skipper or boat for any reason any time prior the start of the Challenge.

1.3 The Challenges will start on **June 22, 2024**.

1.4 The fleets will be divided into divisions or classes according to rating or handicap and other factors at the discretion of the Race Committee.

1.5 Questions can be sent to racechair@solosailors.org

2. RULES

The Challenges shall be governed by:

2.1 The rules as defined by the US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing (2022-2024) including US Sailing Prescriptions (RRS) except as modified by the Sailing Instructions.

2.2 This Notice and Conditions of Race.

2.3. The Sailing Instructions and any Amendments

2.4. The Inland Navigation Rules

2.5. U.S. Coast Guard Rules and Regulations.

3. QUALIFICATION OF SKIPPERS

3.1 As used in this Notice and Conditions of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the term "Skipper" shall mean the person designated on the Entry Form as "Skipper" and who is operating the boat regardless of ownership.

3.2 An entrant shall be 18 years of age or older prior to the start of the Challenge and shall have at least 1000 statute miles of sailing experience on a water body similar to or greater than the magnitude of Lake Huron or Lake Michigan.

3.3 New entrants shall document that they have made at least one nonstop singlehanded passage under sail, on the boat being entered in the Challenge, covering a distance of no less than 100 statute miles, and requiring a passage time of no less than 24 hours. If a different boat is used for the solo qualification passage, a complete description of the type of boat intended to be used in the Challenge, is to be provided to the GLSS Race Director for consideration and approval.

3.4 Entrants other than GLSS members must submit a completed GLSS Sailing Experience Resume Form showing that they meet the qualification requirements listed above.

4. ELIGIBILITY OF YACHTS

4.1 The Challenge is open to single hulled self-righting boats with permanent cruising accommodations, or multihull boats with permanent cruising accommodations. Cruising accommodations shall consist of a marine toilet legal for the lake sailed on, a permanently installed bunk and galley facilities.

4.2 The overall length limits shall be a minimum of 26 feet in length (LOA) and a maximum of 50 feet in length (LOA). Boats exceeding either of these parameters may be considered for acceptance into the Challenge by petition to the GLSS Race Committee.

4.3 The safety of the boat and the Skipper shall be the sole responsibility of the owner or Skipper, who shall insure that the boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy and that the Skipper is physically and mentally prepared for the Challenge.

5. ENTRY PROCEDURES AND FEES

5.1 The Race Committee shall receive the following items prior to the Challenge.

- a. Completed registration on Yachtscoring.com. A link and instructions can be found on the GLSS Mackinac Challenge web page www.solosailors.org/mac
- b. **For Current dues paid GLSS Members** the Entry Fees are as follows:
 - i. Solo Mackinac Challenge entry fee is \$350.00,
All are payable in U.S. funds to the GLSS via PayPal and due by **May 21, 2024**.
- c. **New Entrants Solo Mackinac Challenge:** Entry fee of \$375.00 payable in U.S funds to the GLSS due by **May 21, 2024**. Non-GLSS member applications shall not be accepted after **May 21, 2024**.
- d. A late entry fee of \$50.00 in U.S. funds shall be required for any entry received after **May 21, 2024**. Entries for current GLSS members shall be accepted until June 9, 2024. However, ANY entry received after **May 28, 2024** shall have a late entry fee of \$100.00.
- e. A **Waiver and Release** form and the **Required Equipment** list shall be signed and submitted no later than **May 31, 2024**.
- f. **Evidence of Liability Insurance** to cover this event, a copy shall be submitted by **May 31, 2024**. Each boat shall have a minimum of \$300,000.00 Liability Insurance coverage. Insurance shall be valid for the duration of the Challenge.
- g. **Life Raft inspection Certificate.** A valid certificate shall be submitted prior to the Skipper's final registration. A skipper may substitute a survival suit that provides appropriate thermal protection and floatation for the requirement of a life raft provided s/he also carries a Personal Locator Beacon with built in GPS positioning, 406 MHz signal, and 121.5 MHz homing capability, SPOT, or the equivalent.
- h. **Rating Certificates:** For all GLSS events except on Lake Ontario, a copy of the boat's **2024 MWPHRF** or **GLMRA** .

5.2 All Entry Fees are non-refundable and cannot be applied to other GLSS Challenges.

5.3 All required documents shall be submitted prior to final registration via www.yachtscoring.com or by e-mail to the GLSS Race Chair, Elisabeth Reichling, www.nthawk3@yahoo.com.

6. REGISTRATION AND SKIPPERS' MEETING

6.1 Mandatory Skipper's Meetings and weather briefing will be held in conjunction with a final registration at the following locations:

- a. The location of the skippers meeting for yachts starting in Port Huron, MI. is The Vintage Tavern, 103 Michigan St, Port Huron, MI 48060.
- b. The location of the skippers meeting for yachts starting in Chicago shall be the Columbia Yacht Club, 111 N. Lakeshore Drive, Chicago, IL 60601.

6.2 Check-in will begin at 1700 (EDT) in Port Huron and 1700 (CDT) hours in Chicago on June 21, 2024 with the Skipper's Meeting commencing at 1800 hours.

6.3 Skippers shall be required to ensure that all required documentation has been provided. The following may be submitted at registration, if not previously provided, **but only with the Challenge Director's permission in advance.**

- a. Current proof of Liability Insurance.
- b. Required equipment checklist, to be signed and dated.
- c. Waiver, to be signed and dated
- d. In date Life Raft inspection certificate or Anti-Exposure suit certificate dated and signed (if applicable)

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be distributed at the mandatory Skippers' Meeting. The Sailing Instructions will also be available for downloading from Yacht Scoring at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=15871>

8. REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

8.1 The Required Equipment List for the 2024 Challenges shall be posted to the GLSS website: www.solosailors.org/mac

8.2 The Great Lakes Singlehanded Society recommends that a Skipper wear a Safety Harness designed and constructed for offshore sailing and be always tethered to the boat. However, a skipper need not be tethered to the boat if they are wearing:

- a. A self-inflating life jacket with personal strobe and whistle AND a
- b. Personal Location Beacon (PLB) registered with a current SRSAT registration sticker, AND
- c. A registered DSC capable waterproof VHF.

Otherwise, a Skipper shall be tethered to the yacht from the time of casting off the dock to start the Challenge until the yacht crosses the finish line and returns to the proximity of the dock.

8.3 The use of powered winches and powered winch drivers shall be permitted

9. DATE

The start of the Challenge will be on Saturday, June 22, 2024.

10. COURSES

10.1 Port Huron:

a. Port Huron to Mackinac Island:

The Challenge shall take place on the waters of Lake Huron beginning from a starting line approximately 1.5 miles NNE of the Blue Water Bridge, to Mackinac Island as set out in the Sailing Instructions.

10.2 Chicago:

a. Chicago to Mackinac Island:

The Challenge shall take place on the waters of Lake Michigan beginning from a starting line southeast of the south end of the outer break wall to Mackinac Island as set out in the Sailing Instructions.

11. STRUCTURE OF RACING DIVISIONS

Boats entered in the event will compete in several Monohull or Multihull divisions.

MWPHRF ratings will be used for handicapping boat performance within each monohull division. The Time on Distance Handicap will be used. If the certificate does not have a DHCP it may be changed at the discretion of the Race Director. GLMRA ratings will be used for handicapping multihull boat performance.

JAM (jib and main only) ratings will not be used.

Any Skipper wishing to participate in the Challenge without a MWPHRF or a GLMRA handicap shall be assigned the base rating for the lake by the Race Director. A six second/mile penalty shall be imposed to that base rating.

12. AWARDS

12.1 Skippers and their guests are invited to attend the Awards Luncheon to be held at the Mackinac Island Yacht Club at 1200 hours on Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

12.2 All Skippers who finish the course/s within the allotted time and within the rules and entry conditions set forth by the GLSS directors will be awarded a commemorative GLSS medallion acknowledging this achievement.

12.3 In years with Super Mac and Super Mac & Back courses, participants are eligible for medallions and flags for each of the courses they complete.

12.4 The course distance is 230 nautical miles for the Port Huron to Mackinac course, and 287 nautical miles for the Chicago to Mackinac Island course. Port Huron Super Mac distance is 517 nautical miles. Chicago Super Mac distance is 517 nautical miles. PH Super Mac and Back distance is 1034 nautical miles. Chicago Super Mac and Back distance is 1034 nautical miles.

Flags will be awarded using PHRF or GLMRA time allowances calculated on a time-on-distance basis.

Flags will be awarded by using the following criteria:

Two boats in a division – 1st place.

Three boats in a division – 1st and 2nd place.

Four or more boats in a division – 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

***Late entrants may not receive a commemorative medallion.**

12.5 The **President's Challenge Cup** will be awarded to the first-time finish challenger with the best corrected time in a monohull boat on each course and applies only to the regular race, not Super Mac or Super Mac & Back. The GLSS reserves the right to provide additional awards for exceptional passage or seamanship.

13. SAFETY INSPECTIONS

13.1 Solo Mac: Each boat may be inspected upon finishing the Challenge.

14. TRACKING

14.1 A SPOT or other Messaging and Tracking device using satellite communications capable of sending a manual "OK" signal every 6 hours and set to a ping rate of no less than every 30 minutes is MANDATORY. It must be turned on and transmitting for the entirety of the event.

14.2 AIS transponder identifying the yacht's position, course, and speed to other craft is MANDATORY except for solo sailors who have already completed at least twenty (20) GLSS Solo Challenges. It must be turned on and transmitting for the entirety of the event.

15. RISK AND LIABILITY

To the fullest extent permitted by law, I hereby waive any rights I may have to sue the race organizers (the Great Lakes Singlehanded Society, the officers and directors, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official or member of such a committee) involved with the event with respect to any and all personal injury or property damage suffered by myself or my yacht, including death, as a result of my participation in this event and hereby release to the fullest extent permitted by law the race organizers from any and all liability associated with my participation in this event .