

The 89th Commodore Bernard L. Knost GYA Ladies Championship Regatta



August 8th & 9th, 2026
Pass Christian Yacht Club
Pass Christian, MS
Organizing Authority: PCYC



NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

- 1.1. This event is sailed under the management of the Pass Christian Yacht Club Race Committee.
- 1.2. This event is governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the GYA Regulations for Sanctioned Events.
- 1.3. The US Sailing Prescriptions in the Preamble to Part 5, Section B, and RRS 63.1(b) are deleted.
- 1.4. Appendix V (Alternative Penalties) of the RRS will apply.
- 1.5. The notation '[NP]' in a rule in the NOR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may not be protested. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 1.6. Protests alleging a breach of a rule of RRS Part 2, or RRS 31, shall not be accepted from a boat that was not involved in, **and** did not see the incident. This changes RRS 60.4(a)(2).
- 1.7. The Vakaros RaceSense system will be used by the Race Committee (RC), This changes RRS 41(c). See Appendix A for rules and details.
- 1.8. The Melges 15 Class rules shall apply

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available no later than 9:00am on Saturday, August 8, on the Official Notice Board and at Registration.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. All competitors must be biological females for all classes in this event.
- 3.2. All yacht clubs, which are current General Members of the GYA, are eligible to participate in Capdevielle Melges 15 Class.
- 3.3. Registration shall take place online at
<https://passchristianyachtclub.org/regatta/UBlsN6Tlk7>.
- 3.4. The registration deadline is 11:55pm on Friday, August 7th, 2026

4. FEES

GYA Capdevielle Melges 15's – No fee.

5. CREW LIMITATIONS

See GYA Rules for Sanctioned Events Rule 17 & 21 for Capdevielle team captain, skipper, and crew requirements.

6. ADVERTISING

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

7. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

7.1. See GYA Sailing Regulation 14.1 for Capdevielle Race Requirements.

7.2. The maximum number of Capdevielle races to be attempted on the first day of racing is four.

7.3. See the table for the scheduled warning signal time for each day's first race.

7.4. On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1430.

7.5. Eight races are scheduled. One race constitutes a series

SATURDAY		
9:00-10:30	Breakfast in the Bar Registration and Check-In	PCYC Bar Area
11:00	Competitors Briefing	PCYC Bar Area
12:55	Warning Signal (Back to back races to follow)	Mississippi Sound
	PCYC Luau Party	PCYC
SUNDAY		
10:55	Warning Signal (Back to back races to follow)	Mississippi Sound
14:30	No Races Start after this time	
ASAP	Trophy Presentation	PCYC Bar Area

8. COMMUNICATION

[NP] The Race Committee will attempt to communicate on VHF Chaneel 68.

9. VENUE

The racing area will be in the Mississippi Sound just Southeast of PCYC.

10. SCORING

Each class shall be scored using the low point system of RSS Appendix A, except that no races shall be excluded.

11. SUPPORT VESSELS

As races will be sailed back-to-back, clubs are encouraged to provide support boats for any required on-the-water crew changes. Team leaders, coaches and other support persons shall

stay at least 100 yards outside the areas where boats are racing, from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or retired or the RC signals a postponement, general recall, or abandonment.

12. SAFETY

All boats shall comply with United States Coast Guard and Mississippi safety equipment regulations. It is the responsibility of each skipper to determine if they should start a race, continue racing, or if wearing a life jacket is appropriate. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. Neither the Organizing Authority, nor the host club, nor the race officials, shall accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta. This does not supersede any class rules or regulations that may require wearing of life jackets while on the water. A boat which retires from a race shall notify the RC before leaving the racing area, or if that is not possible, at the first reasonable opportunity.

13. TROPHIES

Trophies will be presented per GYA Regulations 16, 21.4, and 21.5. The Host Club may also present additional trophies at their discretion.

14. LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS

The Driftwood Hotel 228-497-0800 - (Ask for the PCYC DISCOUNT)

Email:driftwoodmotelbsl@gmail.com

810 US 90, Bay St Louis, MS 39520

15. FURTHER INFORMATION

Yacht Club Contact Information:

Regatta Chairman - Samson Vasquez - 228-596-7686 - samsonvasquez@gmail.com

NOR / SI Appendix A

[NP][DP] USE OF THE VAKAROS ATLAS 2 / RACESENSE SYSTEM

1. Device Requirement

Each boat shall carry a functioning Vakaros Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge device configured for RaceSense. Competitors using GYA Foundation supplied devices are required to pick-up their units at the Registration Desk during Check-In. Competitors using their own devices are required to drop off their devices at the registration desk by the end of the Check-In period, then be picked up before the Competitors Briefing.

2. Mounting Location

The device shall be centered & secured to a mount on the aft side of the competitor's mast.

3. Competitor Responsibility

Competitors shall take all reasonable steps to maintain the device in working condition. In the event of a broken or lost device, the competitor shall notify the Race Committee immediately after the race and be ready to pick up a replacement before the next race. (Damage or loss in the result of negligence to GYA Foundation devices can result in the competitor shall make them financially responsible for replacement or repair) Competitors using GYA Foundation supplied units shall return them within one hour of the Race Committee's dock-time by each day of racing.

4. System Use by Race Committee

The Race Committee will use the Vakaros RaceSense system for starting procedures and OCS identification.

5. Usage Instructions

The instructions for operating the Vakaros Atlas 2/Atlas Edge device are available online.

6. RaceSense Status Signal

If the system is disabled or malfunctions, the Signal Boat display the R-Flag and applies the standard starting procedures under RRS 26, 29, & 30.

7. Starting Procedure Modification

When RaceSense is active, the Vakaros device's countdown serves as the official start time, and visual signals provide only information. This changes RRS 26.

8. Recalls and Penalties

RaceSense electronically detects and notifies boats infringing RRS 29 or RRS 30, replacing visual identification. The Race Committee does not display Flag X or any recall flags and makes no sound signals to indicate recalls. This changes RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, & 30.4.

9. Redress and System Failures

Failures or malfunctions of the RaceSense system, the Vakaros device, or related communications shall not be grounds for redress unless due to improper action or omission by the Race Committee. This changes RRS 41(c), 61.1(a), 61.1(c), & 61.4(b).

10. Firmware Updates

Between race days, competitors may need to install firmware or configuration updates. The Race Committee will notify all competitors via email or SMS through the regatta's designated communication channels.

11. Start Line Definition (Virtual Line)

The Race Committee mounts a Vakaros device on the signal boat's orange line staff and at the port-end starting mark or flag. When RaceSense is active, a boat is OCS when any part of her hull crosses the virtual line between the two Vakaros units, regardless of the physical marks. This modifies RRS 29.1 and the definition of starting line.