



**89th Commodore Bernard L. Knost
GYA Ladies Championship Regatta
August 8th-9th, 2026
Pass Christian Yacht Club
120 South Market St., Pass Christian, MS**



Sailing Instructions

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta shall be governed by the rules as defined in the current *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), the [GYA Regulations for Sanctioned Events](#) and the 2026 Melges 15 Class Rules.
- 1.2 If there is a conflict between the notice of race and the sailing instructions, the sailing instructions shall take precedence. This changes RRS 63.5(c).
- 1.3 Changes to Racing Rules of Sailing
 - I. Sl. 1.2 changes RRS 63.5(c)
 - II. Sl. 5.2 changes Race Signals
 - III. Sl. 12.2 modifies RRS 63.2, A4 and A5.1
 - IV. Sl. 13.1 changes RRS 33
 - V. Sl. 15.1 changes RRS 44.1
 - VI. Sl. 16.3 changes RRS 35, A4 and A5
 - VII. Sl. 17.5 changes RRS 61.1(a)
 - VIII. Sl. 18.2 changes RRS A4 and A10

2 Eligibility:

- 2.1 All yacht clubs which are current General Members, in good standing, of the GYA are eligible to participate. Also see GYA Regulation 21.
- 2.2 Males may only assist crews with boat repairs between races after receiving permission from the RC via VHF channel 68. Assistance by males must cease prior to the next warning signal.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on the official notice board located upstairs inside the Pass Christian Yacht Club (PCYC). At the end of each day of racing, the Race Committee (RC) shall post its docking time as well as any RC actions. Notices of protest hearings and requests for redress shall be posted here within 20 minutes of the expiration of protest time.
- 3.2 Any questions regarding these Sailing Instructions (SI's) shall be submitted in writing to the protest box located upstairs inside the Pass Christian Yacht Club (PCYC) no later than 90 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the first race of the day. Written answers shall be posted on the official notice board 60 minutes before the scheduled start of the first race of the day it will take effect.

4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Any change to the SIs shall be posted 60 minutes before the scheduled start of the first race of the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races shall be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole on the South side of PCYC.
- 5.2 When flag 'AP' is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes.' This changes RRS race signals AP.

6 SCHEDULE & RACES

- 6.1 Eight (8) races are scheduled.

6.2 SATURDAY, August 8th

- 9:00am-10:30am Regatta Registration and Check-In in the ballroom.
- 9:00am Breakfast in the Bar
- 11:00am Competitors Meeting in the bar.
- 12:55pm Warning Signal (back-to-back races to follow)

6:00pm

PCYC Luau & Knost Luau Party

SUNDAY, August 9th

9:00am Breakfast in the Bar

10:55am Warning Signal (back-to-back races to follow)

ASAP After Racing - Trophy Presentation in the bar.

2:30pm No Warning Signal will be made after this time.

- 6.3 The warning signal for the second and subsequent races of each day shall be made as soon as practical after the finish of the first race and after any necessary crew changes.

7 CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1 Capdevielle - GYA burgee

8 RACING AREA

- 8.1 The racing area will be Southeast of the harbor.

9 CHECK IN

- 9.1 Prior to the warning signal for the first race of the day, each boat shall sail past the stern of the RC signal boat and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the RC.

10 THE COURSES

- 10.1 The diagrams in Attachment A show the racecourses, the order in which the marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 10.2 No later than the warning signal, the RC will display the course to be sailed and approximate compass bearing of the first leg.
- 10.3 Prior to the warning signal the course will be displayed onboard the RC signal boat. The RC will attempt to announce the course on VHF CH 68 prior to the Warning Signal. Failure by the RC to transmit this information or failure to hear this information shall not be grounds for redress.

11 MARKS

- 11.1 Mark 1 will be orange tetrahedron. Mark 1a (offset) will be an orange ball. Marks 2 (Gate) will be two green tetrahedrons. The Start and Finish Mark will be an orange tetrahedron.
- 11.2 New marks will be yellow tetrahedrons.

12 THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started using RaceSense. See NOR Appendix A.
- 12.2 A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored (DNS) by the Race Committee without a hearing. This modifies RRS 63.2, A4, and A5.

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 The Race Committee may make minor adjustments to the position of the windward mark (Mark 1) and the gate (Mark 2) by up to 15° in bearing and 0.1 NM in range without signaling a course change. This changes RRS 33.
- 13.2 To change the next leg of the course more than 15° or 0.1 NM, the RC shall lay a new mark (or move the finish line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it shall be replaced by an original mark. A new windward mark will have an offset.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee boat and the nearby orange tetrahedron.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1 Appendix V, 'Alternative Penalties,' both V1 and V2 shall apply. This changes RRS 44.1.

16 TIME LIMITS

- 16.1 The time limit for the first boat to reach the first weather mark is 20 minutes.
- 16.2 The time limit for the first boat to finish is 50 minutes.

- 16.3 Boats still racing and failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, shall be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 and A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

17 PROTESTS & REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 Protest forms shall be available in the Protest Box upstairs at PCYC. Protests, request for redress and request for reopening shall be delivered there within the posted protest time limit.
- 17.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the Race Committee's Signal Boat "dockage time". The protest time limit shall be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.3 Notices of protests and requests for redress shall be posted as soon as possible, but no later than 20 minutes after the protest time limit, to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 17.4 Hearings will be held in the PCYC Board Room and will be heard in approximately the order of receipt.
- 17.5 A boat intending to protest shall notify the RC signal boat at the finishing line prior to leaving the racing area.

18 SCORING

- 18.1 The RRS Appendix A will apply, except that no scores shall be excluded. This changes RRS A2.1.
- 18.2 A score of TLE will be two points more than the last boat to finish within the time limit, but not worse than last place. This changes RRS A4 and A10.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 All competitors shall comply with M15 Class Rule C4 regarding the wearing of USCG approved PFDs.
- 19.2 All boats shall comply with USCG and State safety equipment regulations and their respective class safety rules. It is the responsibility of each skipper to determine if they should start a race or continue racing. This does not supersede any class rules or regulations that may require wearing 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.
- 19.3 In the interest of safety or to avoid unreasonable delays, the RC, at its discretion and with concurrence of the judges, may order a capsized boat rescued and scored DNF.

20. RESPONSIBILITY

- 20.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. 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.

21 SUPPORT BOATS

- 21.1 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.

22 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 22.1 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data transmissions that are not available to all boats. This includes the use of cell phones.

23 TROPHIES

- 23.1 Trophies will be awarded in compliance with the GYA Regulations 16, 21.4, 21.5, and Appendix G.

24 CONTACTS

PCYC Sailing Director:

Samson Vasquez

samsonvasquez@gmail.com

228-596-7686

Yacht Club Contact Information:

Pass Christian Yacht Club

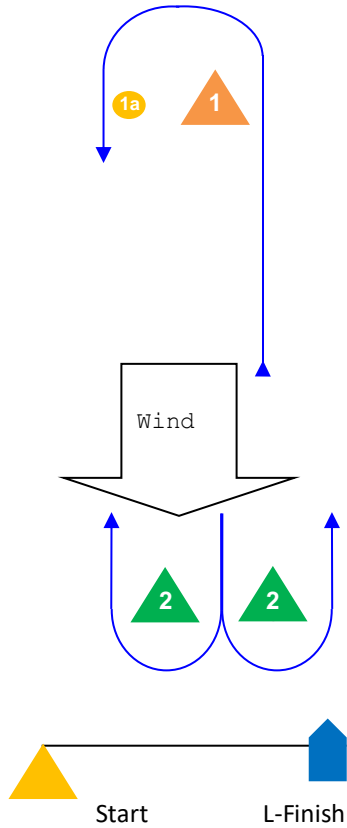
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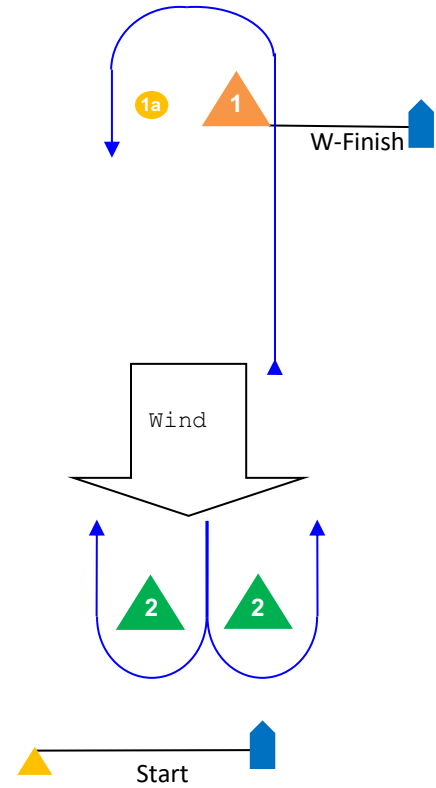
www.passchristianyachtclub.org

Attachment A – Course Diagrams



Course: Leeward finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
2	Start – 1 – 1a – L-Finish
4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2g – 1 – 1a – L-Finish
6	Start – 1 – 1a – 2g – 1 – 1a – 2g – 1 – 1a – L-Finish



Course: Windward Finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2g – W-Finish
5	Start – 1 – 1a – 2g – 1 – 1a – 2g – W-Finish
7	Start – 1 – 1a – 2g – 1 – 1a – 2g – 1 – 1a – 2g – W-Finish