Coconut Grove Sailing Club – Miami, Florida

HOWLER REGATTA, XVI

October 24-25, 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

Published: September 4 2026; amended September 9, October 17, October 22

1. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

1.1. The Organizing Authority is the Coconut Grove Sailing Club, Miami, FL.

2. RULES

2.1. This regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.(RRS)

2.2. [DP][NP] Personal Flotation Devices: RRS 40.1 applies and is modified hereafter. PFDs shall be US Coast Guard approved, except competitors traveling from another country may wear an appropriately sized PFD approved by a regulatory body for use in the competitor's country of origin. The preamble to Part 4 will not apply.

2.3. Rule 90.3(e), Time Limit on Changes to Race or Series Scores, will apply.

2.4. Class rules regarding qualifying events and championships will not apply.

2.5. Rule 60.4(a)(2) is replaced by the following: (2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or

3. VAKAROS (except for Opti Green Fleet)

3.1. The Vakaros RaceSense system will be utilized by the Race Committee (RC). This changes RRS 41(c).

3.2. Each boat shall either provide a working Atlas 2, Edge or Halo at check-in for configuration with RaceSense, or an Atlas 2 or Halo will be provided by the Organizing Authority (OA) to any boat that indicated while registering that they need a rental (which is included in the entry fee). If you provide your own Vakaros unit, you must bring it to registration and make sure it is on the latest software release.

3.3. RaceSense information is available to all boats. Each boat is required to have a Racesense subscription purchased through Vakaros. Devices provided by the OA come with a two-day RaceSense subscription..

3.4. A working Vakaros Atlas 2, Edge or Halo configured for RaceSense at check-in shall be mounted per the mounting instructions in the Sailing Insructions.. Once mounted, the Vakaros device shall not be manipulated by a competitor or support person in any way, except when so required by the OA.

3.5. Failure of an Atlas 2 or the RaceSense system shall not be grounds for opening a hearing considering redress. This changes RRS 61.1

3.6. Information from this equipment shall not be introduced by a boat as evidence in a hearing, but the jury may consult Vakaros information at their sole discretion..

3.7. Vakaros units which are provided by the OA MUST be returned to the organizing authority at the end of the regatta. A competitor will be charged for an unreturned or substantially damaged device. The charge will be $900 for an Atlas 2 or $500 for a Halo unit.

3.8. Instructions for use (Addendum B) will be posted as a separate document on the Official Notice Board AND be included as an addendum to the Sailing Instructions.

4. ADVERTISING

4.1. The OA may require that all participating boats display sponsor flags and/or stickers.

5. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

5.1. The event is open to the following classes and divisions that meet the obligations of their Class Rules and their National Authority, including current membership.

5.1.1. Optimist RWB (Red, White, and Blue) Fleet -- The Red, Blue and White Fleet assignments will be based on the competitor's age on the first scheduled day of racing, October 24, 2026. After 100 RWB sailors have registered, later registrants may be waitlisted at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

5.1.2. Optimist Green Fleet -- The Green Fleet is intended for less experienced sailors and will include opportunities for learning and competition.

5.1.3. Youth ILCA (ILCA 4 and ILCA 6) -- All ILCA 4 and ILCA 6 are welcome. Sailors are free to choose their rig size at registration, depending on their fitness level, height, age and weight but shall not change their selected rig size after registration. Parental consent forms will be required for competitors under age 19 as of December 31, 2025.

5.1.4. Club 420 -- The Club 420 class is invited for the 2026 event. Parental consent forms will be required for competitors under age 19 as of October 24, 2026.

5.2. Registration will be limited to Optimist sailors who were born after December 31, 2010, and to ILCA and Club 420 sailors who are younger than 21 years of age on October 24, 2026

5.3. Eligible Boats may enter by completing the online entry form at https://theclubspot.com/regatta/BiPbrVl6Wh

5.4. A minimum of 5 boats per class will constitute a fleet and a separate start or separate circle, at the discretion of the OA.

5.5. Entry is complete upon submission of all forms/waivers and payment of fees.

6. ENTRY FEE

6.1. All entry fees shall be paid during online registration at

https://theclubspot.com/regatta/BiPbrVl6Wh

No registration will be accepted after **noon on October 16, 2026. The Organizing Authority reserves the right to close registration for any fleet at any time**.

6.2. Fees include a Vakaros Atlas or Halo unit for each boat (except for Opti Green). berthing (nights of Friday October 23th and Saturday, October 24th), Continental Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and a Regatta shirt for each competitor. Competitors must provide for their own lunch, as lunches will not be supplied.

6.3. Fees to all classes, include all taxes, and are determined by payment date and time.

Before Sep 22	Online Early Bird Entry Fee	$190^{00}	- Opti Green
	Online Early Bird Entry Fee	$240^{00}	- RWB Optis, ILCAs
	Online Early Bird Entry Fee	$280^{00}	- C420s
Sep 22 - Oct 3	Online Regular Entry Fee	$205^{00}	- Opti Green
	Online Regular Entry Fee	$255^{00}	- RWB Optis, ILCAs
	Online Regular Entry Fee	$295^{00}	- C420s
Oct 4 - Oct 20	Online Late Entry Fee	$215^{00}	- Opti Green

Online Late Entry Fee $265^{00} - RWB Optis, ILCA
Online Late Entry Fee $305^{00} - C420s

6.4. Sailors who own a Vakaros device will receive a $50 discount

6.5. Coach and spectator vessels – $1 per vessel.

6.6. Refund Policy:

6.6.1 100% refund (less $20 processing fee) if the regatta is canceled due to State, County or City guidelines.

6.6.2 All other refunds are by request emailed to sherman@dlawton.com
Refunds will be processed by submitted date as follows:

6.6.2.a 75% refund if written request received by October 3rd^{h}, 2026

6.6.2.b 50% refund if written request received between October 4th and October 20th. No refund requests will be accepted after October 20th

7. FORMAT OF THE REGATTA

7.1. Optimist RWB Boats will **race as a single fleet with a single start**.

7.2. **Green Fleet will be divided into two divisions, and each division will have its own start.**

7.3. Six (6) Races are scheduled for all fleets.

7.4. Sailors will sail no more than three races per day.

7.5. One completed race shall constitute the regatta.

7.6. When fewer than six (6) races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When six (6) or more races have been sailed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. This modifies Rule A2.1

7.7. Green Fleet will not be scored.

7.8. Full Schedule

Day	Time (24hr)	Activity	Location
Friday, October 23rd	1600-1900	Competitor Registration and Spectator/Coach registration	CGSC Upstairs
Saturday, October 24th	0800-1000	Competitor **late registration and** check-in & spectator, support & coach vessel registration	**CGSC Upstairs**
	0800-1030	Continental Breakfast for Competitors and Coaches	**CGSC Lawn**
	0930-1130	Mandatory safety sign-out to race area for all competitors	**Green @ CGSC; Others @ Seminole Ramp**
	1000	Coaches and Competitors and Support Boat Meeting	**CGSC Lawn**
	1030	**Harbor Launch C420**	**Seminole Ramp**
	1045	**Harbor Launch ILCA**	**Seminole Ramp**
	1100	**Harbor Launch Opti RWB**	**Seminole Ramp**
	1130	Harbor Launch Opti Green	**CGSC**
	1200	1st Warning, Opti RWB, C420, ILCAs	Biscayne Bay
	1230	1st Warning, Green Fleet	Biscayne Bay

	Post Racing	Mandatory safety sign-in for all competitors	**Green @ CGSC; Others @ Seminole Ramp**
Sunday, October 25th	0800-0930	Continental Breakfast for Competitors and Coaches	**CGSC Lawn**
	0900	Mandatory Safety Sign-out for all competitors	**Green @ CGSC; Others @ Seminole Ramp**
	0900	Coaches Meeting	**CGSC Lawn**
	0945	Harbor Launch RWB, C420, ILCAs	**Seminole Ramp**
	0945	Harbor Launch Opti Green	**CGSC**
	1100	1st Warning, Opti RWB, C420, ILCAs	Biscayne Bay
	1115	1st Warning, Green Fleet	Biscayne Bay
	1430	No Warnings after this time	
	Post Racing	Mandatory safety sign-in for all competitors; Return trackers	**Green @ CGSC; Others @ Seminole Ramp**
	.	Awards Ceremony after racing pending protest	CGSC Lawn

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND NOTICE BOARD

8.1. Sailing Instructions will be available at https://theclubspot.com/regatta/BiPbrVl6Wh/#notice-board the week of October 19, 2026.

8.2. The Official Notice Board will be electronic, and can be accessed through https://theclubspot.com/regatta/BiPbrVl6Wh/#notice-board

9. SAILING AREA AND COURSES

9.1. Racing will be held in Biscayne Bay, south of the Rickenbacker causeway, in the vicinity of Brennan Channel and surrounding area. See Sailing Instructions for specific racing areas.

9.2. The courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions, Addendum **1, 2 and 3**.

10. SPECTATOR AND COACH VESSELS [DP]

10.1. Coach boats and Spectator Vessels are permitted and referred to as Support Vessels (SV). Each SV must register online in advance of the regatta to ensure that we have adequate contact information. Support Vessels will receive an ID flag at registration, which must be displayed while on the water and be readily visible from the RC boats. Support vessels will be charged $80 for flags which are not returned.

10.2. There is **no** berthing available at CGSC for non-CGSC SV. SV that have registered with CGSC may berth at the dock at **Seminole Ramp** **after** all Youth boats are out of the water. Their Coach/Support flag must be visible on the vessels. SV must carry a VHF radio and while on the water monitor the channel provided for their sailors' circle in the Sailing Instructions.

10.3. SVs shall not be within 150 feet from boats racing or about to start in the next flight from the time of the warning signal for the first class to start until all boats in the same flight have finished racing or the Race Committee signals postponement, general recall or abandonment. If the jury receives a report of a violation of this rule, it may call a hearing to investigate the incident and may report the infraction to their Club and US SAILING or

penalize boats associated with the SV who do so.

10.4. Any SV being operated singlehandedly in the immediate vicinity of, and associated with, this event shall have a kill switch lanyard attached to the operator as long as the engine is running.

10.5. The conduct of coaches, parents serving on Race Committee (including safety patrol), registered support vessels, and all other vessels will be governed by the SI and RRS.

11. BERTHING AND TRAILER STORAGE AND LAUNCHING [DP]

11.1. Berthing and Launch Locations are as follows. See NOR Addendum A for a picture.

11.1.1. Green Fleet Optis will be berthed at the CGSC parking lot, and launched from a ramp on the CGSC property.

11.1.2. RWB Optis will be berthed at Myers Park, outside adjacent to CGSC . They will be launched from Seminole Ramp.

11.1.3. ILCA and C420 will be berthed in the Seminole Parking lot, and will launch from Seminole Ramp.

11.2. Each boat on the **Seminole Ramp or Myers Park or CGSC premises** shall have a marked dolly with name and fleet.

11.3. Trailers will be stored at **Myers Park**, North West near sculptures

11.4. All boats shall be kept in their assigned area until their respective harbor launch times (see NOR **7.8**). RWB will launch before Green Fleet.

11.5. All skippers and crews must properly dispose of trash while ashore at **Myers Park or Seminole Ramp or CGSC**. Trash left on the ground will not be tolerated.

11.6. While ashore, all skippers and crews are to promptly comply with instructions from the CGSC Staff.

12. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS [DP]

12.1. All boats must come out of the water every day, back into their assigned area.

13. WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INJURY

13.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 3 Decision to Race and Rule 4 Acceptance of the Rules. Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors participate in the Regatta entirely at their own risk. Coconut Grove Sailing Club, Organizing Authority, Sponsors, Support Facilities, Volunteers, Agents, Employees and Service providers, the PRO and the Committee will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the Regatta for both on the water and on land activities. By participating in this event, each competitor (owners, skippers, and crews) agrees to release the race organizers and all persons and groups listed above from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

14. HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

14.1. The safety of sailors and volunteers is paramount. All skippers, crews and interested parties at CGSC and Regatta Park must comply with all CGSC Health protocols. Anybody who is feeling unwell shall stay away from the regatta premises and competitors. While ashore, all skippers and crews are to promptly comply with instructions from the CGSC Staff.

14.2. All skippers and crews must properly dispose of trash while ashore at CGSC **or Myers**

Park or Seminole Ramp or afloat. Trash left on the ground will not be tolerated.

15. PRIZES

15.1. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

Opti Green	Medals for entire fleet, plus gift for best sailor of the day
Opti RWB	Top 5 RWB Overall Top 3 Red, Top 3 White, Top 3 Blue
ILCA 6	Top 3
ILCA 4	Top 3
Top Girl RWB	Top Red, Top Blue, Top White
Top Girl ILCA 4 and 6	Top Girl
C420	Top 3, skipper and crew

15.2. Additional awards may be provided at the discretion of the OA.

16. MEDIA RIGHTS

16.1. Competitors, crew members of competing yachts, parents and adult guardians of competitors grant, at no cost, organizers, sponsors, regatta photographers, videographers and affiliated companies the absolute right and permission to use their name, voice, image, likeness, biographical material and representations of the boats in any media World-wide (including but not limited to television, video, print and electronic media), for the purposes of advertising, promoting, reporting and disseminating information regarding the event and all participants therein.

17. REGATTA MERCHANDISE

17.1 **Each sailor will receive the Event Special shirt, Register before October 3rd in order to assure correct size and pick up at the regatta.**

EVENT MANAGEMENT

Howler is managed by the Coconut Grove Sailing Club,
2990 S Bayshore Dr Miami FL 33133, TEL (305) 444-4571

Event Chair	Priska Urban	priskaurbancgsc@outlook.com
Youth Racing Director	Maru Urban	director@CGSCIC.org
CGSC Regatta Chair	Steve Herman	CGSCrace@gmail.com

ACCOMODATIONS

Overnight camping at or in the vicinity of CGSC is not permitted. Nearby hotel info is below.

Arya Hotel (old Sonesta)	2889 McFarlane Rd.	866-539-0036	One block away
The Ritz Carlton	3300 SW 27th Ave	305-644-4680	Two blocks away
The Mutiny Hotel ***	2951 S Bayshore Dr.	866-539-0036	Across street
Mayfair Hotel & Spa	3000 Florida Ave.	305 441-0000	Walking distance
Courtyard Marriott ***	2649 S. Bayshore Dr.	305-858-2500	Walking distance
Hampton Inn	2800 SW 28th Terrace	305-448-2800	1.5 miles
Holiday Inn	1350 S. Dixie Hwy.	305-667-5611	2.5 miles

***Check out the Special Hotel Rates brought to you by Zig Travel. Please contact Elizabeth Kratzig for more information at: bookings@Zig-Travel.com to reserve hotel rooms at the Mutiny Hotel and the Courtyard Marriott.

Addendum A – Berthing and Launching locations

