



2026 HOUND DOG REGATTA

THE GRAND TRAVERSE YACHT CLUB ANNUAL REGATTA

Organizing Authority: Grand Traverse Yacht Club

Race Director: Jordan Owen manager@gtyc.org

Sailing Instructions w/ Amendment #1*

SATURDAY

Tour of the Bay Races,
All Sections

SUNDAY

ISLAND TROPHY RACES
Around The Island Either Way,
To the Island and Back

THESE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS SUPERCEDE INFORMATION THAT MAY DIFFER FROM THE NOTICE OF RACE

** 8.1 Has been added to allow for different courses for different sections on Saturday*

1 - Rules

1.1 – The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.

1.2 – The USSailing Prescription to Rule 63.4 will not apply. The USSailing Prescriptions are available at www.ussailing.org/.

1.3 The Racing Rules will be changed as follows.

a) Race Signal AP – when displayed ashore, 'one minute' is replaced by 'thirty minutes'.

b) 44.1 – the 'Two-Turns Penalty' is replaced by the 'One-Turn Penalty', except a situation where RRS Appendix V1 will apply.

c) App A2 - A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores (no throwouts).

d) App A4.2 – A boat that does not finish (DNF) a race or retires after finishing (RAF) shall be scored one more point than the last boat to finish in that race.

2 - Notices To Competitors — will be posted on the official online notice board at gtyc.org/regatta/enD6qO1ubD. These will be also posted on the bulletin board opposite the heads in the GTYC clubhouse.

3 - Changes to Sailing Instructions — Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before ninety (90) minutes prior to the scheduled warning signal on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 hrs or the end of protest time, whichever is later, on the day before it will take effect.

4 - Signals Made Ashore —

4.1 - Signals made ashore will be displayed from the GTYC flag pole and communicated via VHF Ch 69.

4.2 - When Flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced by 'not less than thirty (30) minutes' in RRS. Race Signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signal AP.

5 — Schedule of Races —

Day	Time	Event	
Saturday	930	Optional Skippers Meeting	at GTYC
	10:30	Check-In , Signal Boat on Station	
	1100	Earliest First Warning	
		(no warning signal past 1600 hrs)	
		Races #2 & #3 to follow	
	15:00	No Starts after 15:00	
	1700	Hound Dog Party	at GTYC
	1900	Regatta Awards	at GTYC
Sunday	1100	First Warning for Island Trophy Races	
		(no warning signal past 1300 hrs)	
	1530	Around The Island Awards	at GTYC

TOUR OF THE BAY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

6 — Check-In — All Grand Touring Division competitors must check in with the Race Committee on the starboard side of the Signal Boat. The Signal Boat will be in position for check-in beginning at 1015 hrs.

7 — Racing Area — will be West Grand Traverse Bay. (see Attachments A)

8 — The Courses — The Grand Touring Section courses will be a combination of designated marks, displayed on the signal boat with the direction of mark rounding indicated. The course will be broadcast on VHF 69 as a courtesy.

8.1 - The Race Committee may designate separate courses for sections and will display those courses separately.

9 — Marks —

9.1 - Primary marks will be the GTYC Club Marks (R, Y, & B), plus the temporary **“Z” mark which will be the first mark of the course**, plus temporary marks at “HD”, “L”, & “P”, + government mark R8,

9.2 — On the instruction of the Race Committee, marks maybe rounded either to **Port or Starboard as specified by the RC in the course descriptions**

9.3 — **Race Marks** (for approximate locations of fixed marks — see Attachment A)

- “X” — Start/finish pin & non-fixed mark (orange inflatable cylinder)
- “B” — Bryant Park club mark (white/orange pin)
- “S” — Sandpit club mark (white/orange pin)
- “Y” — Yacht Club club mark (white/orange pin)
- “R” — Red 8 government mark
- “H” — Hound Dog (blue inflatable can) half way between “Y” and “R”
- “P” — Pathfinder (orange tetrahedron) approx .5 nm north of “R8” on west half of the bay
- “L” — Lookout Point (orange tetrahedron) mark approx. .5 nm north of “SP” on east shore of bay
- “Z” — Upwind of the start line — Bright Orange inflatable can

10 — **The Start** —

10.1 — Sequence Order & Section Flag

- 1) Melges 24 (Class Flag)
- 2) PHRF Spin (Blue Flag)
- 3) GT Spin/JAM (Green Flag)

10.1 — The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange/white checkered flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of the orange inflatable start/finish pin

10.2 — A boat starting later than four (4) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes RRS A4.1

10.3 — Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area while others are in sequence.

11 — Recalls — Individual Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.1. The RC intends to make an attempt to hail OCS competitors on VHF channel 69. The following are not grounds for redress: failure of the RC to hail any or all boats; failure of the RC to accurately hail one or more boats; failure of a boat to hear its hail; timeliness of the hail; or the order of boats within the hail.

11.1 - General Recalls — The section which has been signaled for a general recall will have its next sequence after the last section starting

12 — **The Finish**

12.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag with an orange stripe shape on signal boat at the Starboard end and the course side of finish pin at the port end. The finish will be the opposite side of the signal boat from the start line. The finish direction will be specified by the RC as upwind or downwind, and the correct side of finish in relation to the “X” mark (start/finish pin) will be included in the course.

12.2 - In the absence of an RC boat at the finish, boats shall take their own times when their

bow crosses a line perpendicular to the last leg and within 50 yds of the finish

13 — Time Window

13.1 - For all courses the time limit for the first boat to finish will be 75 minutes.

13.2 - Any boat failing to finish within thirty (30) minutes after the first boat in their fleet sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired(TLE).

13.3 — if the first boat fails to reach the first weather mark 20 minutes after the start, the race will be abandoned

SUNDAY ISLAND RACES

14 - CHECK-IN

14.1 All participating yachts must check-in by personal hail with the Signal Boat prior to the First Warning once the Signal Boat is on station

14.2 Yachts racing in the PHRF JAM division must declare that they are sailing in "JAM" configuration at check-in.

15 - START

15.1 - There will be three Rule 26 starts in the following order:(section flag)

- 1) Melges 24 (Class Flag)
- 2) PHRF Spin (Blue Flag)
- 3) GT Spin/JAM (Green Flag)

15.2 - The line will be set on an east/west axis regardless of wind direction with the signal boat on the east end of the line and an orange inflatable cylinder

16 - FINISH - The finish will be through a gate of two yellow inflatable cans set on an east/west axis in front of the club

16.1 - Finish times, yacht ahead & yacht behind must be noted and available at the request of the Race Committee

17 - TIME LIMIT - There will be a 4 hour time limit. Yachts which have not finished 4 hours after the start will be scored TLE.

18 – COURSES —

18.1 The RC will signal the race course for the Melges 24 and PHRF Spin sections by course board on the aft end of the signal boat. The RC may also broadcast the course selection by VHF radio (Ch. 69) and/or by text.

18.2 The PHRF JAM section will sail Course 2. There will be no course display for JAM

COURSE 1: EITHER WAY AROUND THE ISLAND

Choice of:

Circumnavigating Power Island east to west (counter-clockwise)

1. Start between the signal boat and the orange inflatable cylinder in front of the club
2. Red "8" to Port heading north
3. Power Island left to port
4. Red N "2" (Bassett Island) left to port
5. Red N "6" left to port
6. Red "8" to Starboard returning
7. Finish between gate of two yellow inflatable cans in front of the club

Or

Circumnavigating Power Island west to east (clockwise)

1. Start between the signal boat and the orange inflatable cylinder in front of the club
2. Red "8" to Port heading north
3. Red N "6" left to starboard
4. Red N "2" (Bassett Island) left to starboard
5. Power Island left to starboard
6. Red "8" to Starboard returning
7. Finish between gate of two green inflatable balls in front of the club

COURSE 2 (JAM COURSE): TO THE ISLAND AND BACK

1. Start between the signal boat and the orange inflatable cylinder in front of the club
2. Red "8" to Port heading north
3. Green Can "7" to port
4. Red "8" to Starboard
5. Finish between gate of two yellow inflatable cans in front of the club

19 — Hearing Requests —

19.1 — Protests shall be filed within the protest time limit at GTYC where forms will be available.

19.2 — The protest time limit will be 60 minutes after the Signal Boat docks. This time will be posted on the Official Notice Board and will be announced on VHF Channel 69.

19.3 — Notices will be posted within thirty (30) minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Location of hearings will be in the Commodore's Room of the GTYC clubhouse

20 — Scoring —

20.1 — All races for the PHRF Sections will be scored using PHRF Random Mark Handicaps. Entrants that do not have a valid MW-PHRF certificate will be assigned a rating.

20.2 - Up to four races are scheduled and one race shall be completed to constitute a series.

20.3 - A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. This changes App A2.

20.4 - A boat that does not finish a race (DNF), time limit expired (TLE), or retires after finishing (RET) will be scored one more point than the last boat to finish in that race. This changes RRS App A4.2

20.5 - Three boats are required to form a section

21 — Prizes — will be awarded to first, second, & third place overall for each fleet. Award hats will be provided with a maximum distribution of five hats. If award winners would like additional hats, they may be ordered at their own expense

22 - SAFETY REGULATIONS — Signal Boat cell number is **231-883-5741**

22.1 - A boat that retires from a race or leaves the racing area is requested to notify the RC on VHF Ch 69, by cell phone, or by hailing any RC boat. A boat that subsequently returns to the racing area is asked to check in with the RC Signal Boat as in 17.1 or via VHF Ch 69. There will be no penalty for not checking out or back in.

23 — The primary communication for all medical emergencies is 911

24 - Radio Communication — A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. VHF Channel 69 will be monitored by the RC and they will only respond to competitors who identify themselves.

25 - CODE OF CONDUCT -

25.1 Competitors shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, and shall not behave so as to bring the event or the sport into disrepute.

25.2 Competitors shall not obstruct Race Management vessels as they conduct operations including setting marks, anchoring, and judging the start/finish line. Repeated incidents by individuals or teams shall be reported to the protest committee.

26 — Disclaimer Of Liability — Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

TOUR OF THE BAY FIXED & INFLATABLE MARKS

“X” is a mark set by the RC As the Start/ Finish Pin

