

2026 PCYC Birthday Regatta GYA J/22 & Lightning Class Championships

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The organizing authority is the Pass Christian Yacht Club.

Amended Attachment A - August 15, 2026

1. RULES

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028. The US Sailing prescriptions will apply. The J/22, Lightning, Melges 14, Optimist, & ORA EZ Class rules will apply.

2. CHANGES TO RACING RULES

1. RRS 44.2 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. This changes RRS 44.2.
2. RRS 60.4(a)(2) is replaced with 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 observe, the incident, or". This changes RRS 60.4(a)(2).
3. RRS A2.1 is changed to "When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score." This changes RRS A2.1
4. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not use or receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. This changes RRS 41.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the PCYC Bar.
2. The Race Committee will broadcast on VHF 68.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 9:00am on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 9:00pm on the day before it will take effect.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the PCYC Flagpole.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

SATURDAY, August 15th

9:00am-10:45am	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)

SUNDAY, August 16th

9:00am	Breakfast in the Bar
10:55am	Warning Signal (back-to-back races to follow)
2:00pm	No Warning Signal will be made after this time.
ASAP	After Racing - Trophy Presentation in the bar.

7. CLASS FLAGS

Class flags:

J/22 - J/22 Class Flag
Lightning - Lightning Class Flag
Melges 15 - Green Flag
Optimist - Optimist Class Flag

8. RACING AREA

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

9. COURSES

1. J/22, Lighting, & Melges 15 One Design Course:

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. Courses will be windward-leeward with the number of legs to be announced on the course board before the warning signal. The approximate compass bearing to the windward mark will be displayed on the official course board on the signal boat before the warning signal.

2. Optimist Course:

The course will be a Windward/Leeward once around with the Start/Finish Line in the middle of the course. The line is open when sailing downwind. Keep rounding marks to port.

3. PHRF:

The course will be posted online and on the official Notice Board by 11:00am on Saturday and 10:00am on Sunday.

10. MARKS

1. J/22, Lighting, & Melges 15 One Design Course:

Mark 1 will be orange tetrahedron. Mark 2 will be a green tetrahedron. Mark 3 will be an orange tetrahedron. The Finish Mark will be a yellow tetrahedron.

2. Optimist Course:

Marks 1 & 2 will be orange balls. The Start/Finish mark will be a small orange tetrahedron.

3. PHRF Course:

Will use fixed government marks.

11. THE START

1. J/22, Lighting, & Melges 15 One Design Course:

Races will be started using RaceSense. The starting line will be between Mark 3 and the orange flag on the Signal Boat. See SI Attachment B.

2. Optimist Course:

The Start and Finish line will be between the start mark and the orange flag on the Signal Boat.

3. PHRF Course:

The starting line will be between the orange flag on the PCYC Pier and the orange tetrahedron just off the pier.

12. RECALL

1. J/22, Lighting, & Melges 15 One Design Course:

Recalls will be signaled in accordance with SI Attachment B.

2. PHRF and Optimist Courses:

Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.1. General recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.2.

13. CHANGE OF COURSE

1. The Race Committee may make minor adjustments to the position any mark by up to 15° in bearing and 0.1 NM in range without signaling a course change. This changes RRS 33.
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.

14. THE FINISH

1. J/22, Lighting, & Melges 15 One Design Course and Optimist Course:
The finishing line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat and the Finish Mark.
2. PHRF Course:
The finish line will be between the orange flag on the PCYC Pier and the orange tetrahedron just off the pier.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

16. TIME LIMITS

There are no time limits

17. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

Protest forms are available at the race office located at the PCYC Office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the race office within [60] minutes of the last boat finishing the race or the race committee signals a postponement, abandonment or cancellation. Notices will be posted no later than [30] minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

18. SCORING

The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series. When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. This changes RRS A2.1

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

A boat retiring from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

20. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to 1st & 2nd Overall for each class. More prizes may be awarded.

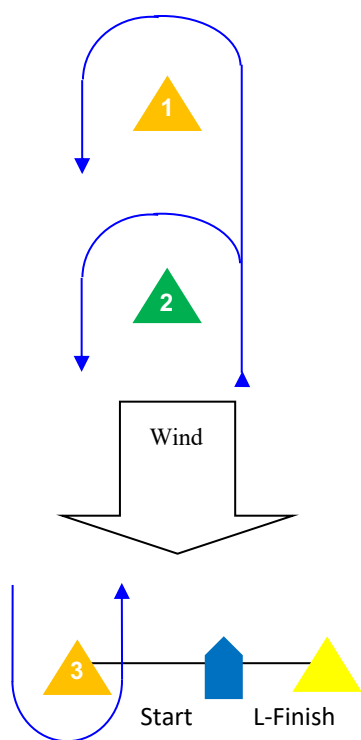
21. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact: Race Officer Samson Vasquez at 228-596-7686 samsonvasquez@gmail.com

23. DISCLAIMER

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, 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.

Attachment A – Course Diagram



Course 4: Leeward finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
Melges 15	Start – 2 – 3 – 2 – Finish
J/22 & Lightning	Start – 1 – 3 – 2 – Finish

Attachment B

[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.