



CAPE HENRY CUP
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS v1.0
SATURDAY, May 18, 2024

- 1 **RULES.** The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, the Fleet rules (PHRF of the Chesapeake and ORC Performance Cruiser of the Chesapeake), the Notice of Race, and these Sailing Instructions. Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the event website page at www.broadbaysailing.org.
- 2 **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS.** Any changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Cape Henry Cup section of the BBSA website NLT 0700, May 18, 2024: [Broad Bay Sailing Association - BBSA Cape Henry Cup](#).
- 3 **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE.** No signals will be made ashore.
- 4 **SCHEDULE.** The warning signal for the first class is scheduled for 0930 hours. (1000 hours for high wind Alternate start/finish).
- 5 **SAIL NUMBERS.** Boats in Cruising Fleet that do not have sail numbers will be assigned temporary sail numbers by the race organizing committee. These numbers must be carried on both sides of the main sail but do not need to be carried on any other sail. These numbers may be made of electrical tape or similar removable material and must be at least 12 inches high. This modifies RRS G1 and G2. Only the Race Committee may protest a breach of this rule.
- 6 **CLASSES.**
PHRF A, B, C, N (1 HS) with [valid PHRF certificate](#) .
ORC Performance Cruiser (spinnaker) with [Certificate](#). All ORC Performance Cruiser Division boats will use their ORC Standard Rating. ORC Non-Spinnaker and ORC Double-Handed ratings will not be used in this race.
Cruising (non-spinnaker - single headsail only). For all boats that do not have a valid PHRF rating and/or skippers who race only occasionally, a courtesy rating shall be assigned by the Race Committee and shall not be subject to redress.

Classes with 4 or fewer entries may be combined for awards and/or starting.
7. **RACING AREA.** The intended racing area will be in Southern Chesapeake Bay. Hampton Roads Harbor (Area) may be used as an alternative in case of severe weather. An announcement will be made on VHF Channel 72 at approximately 0830 hours if there is a cancellation or if the alternative racing area will be used.

Boats are warned to stay well clear of rocks in the vicinity of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge tunnel.

8. MARKS

Chesapeake Bay Marks:

- "K" - Fl R 4s R "2T" / Tail of the Horseshoe (CCV Bay Mark "K")
- "L" - CC Q G Green #15 / Chesapeake Channel (CCV Bay Mark "L")
- "M" - Fl 10s 55'19M Horn / Thimble Shoals Light (CCV Bay Mark "M")
- "Q" - Q R R "22" / East of Old Point (CCV Bay Mark "Q")
- "V" - FL G 4s "1 BR" / Back River Entrance (CCV Bay Mark "V")
- "X" - Fl G 2.5s "3" / Salt Ponds Entrance (CCV Bay Mark "X")
- "Y" - Day Beacon R "2" / Off Buckroe (CCV Bay Mark "Y")

Hampton Roads Harbor Marks:

- "C" - R N "14" / Hampton Bar (CCV Harbor Mark "C")
- "H" - Nun R N "20" / Hampton Flats (CCV Harbor Mark "H")
- "N" - R N "22" / Hampton Flats (CCV Harbor Mark "N")
- "O" - FL R 4s R "10" / Newport News (CCV Harbor Mark "O")
- "W" - ISO 6s 52ft R "12" / Middle Ground Light (CCV Harbor Mark "W")
- "X" - FL R 6s R "12" / Norfolk Harbor Reach (CCV Harbor Mark "X")

- 9. CLASS FLAGS and ORDER OF STARTS.** Classes Flags shall be flown from the backstay; boats without backstays may fly their flag from a starboard shroud. Depending on the number of entries and other circumstances, the order of starts may be adjusted and fleets combined.

- Cruising (1HS) (*White Flag 12"x12"*)
- PHRF N (1HS) (*Code Flag 5*)
- ORC Performance Cruiser (*Green Flag 12" x 12"*)
- PHRF B/C (Combined) (*Code Flag 7 or Code Flag 6*)
- PHRF A (*Code Flag 9*)

- 10. COURSES.** Courses will be designated by a board displayed on the Race Committee boat. Each fleet will be shown on the board, along with the course number to be sailed by that class. The course board codes are as follows:

- Course Board Code "A" - PHRF A (Flag 9)
- Course Board Code "B" - PHRF B/C (combined) (Flag 6 or Flag 7)
- Course Board Code "N" - PHRF N (1HS) (Flag 5)
- Course Board Code "O" - ORC-Performance Cruiser (Green Flag 12" x 12")
- Course Board Code "Cr" - Cruising (1HS) (White Flag 12"x12")

Course Number	Course Details	Length (NM)
1	Start - "K" to STARBOARD (via the Chesapeake Channel of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel) - "Y" to PORT (via the Thimble Shoal Channel)	27.9
2	Start – east through the Chesapeake Channel Opening – west through the Thimble Shoal Channel - "Y" to PORT to Finish	24.8
3	Start - "L" to PORT – "X to PORT - "Y" to STARBOARD	20.3
4	Start - "V" to STARBOARD - "M" to STARBOARD - "Y" to PORT	12.7
5	Start - "X" to STARBOARD - "M" to STARBOARD - "Y" to PORT	8.0
6	<i>Alternate Start</i> – "C" to STARBOARD - "W" to STARBOARD – "O" to STARBOARD – "X" to PORT - "N" to STARBOARD	14.0
7	<i>Alternate Start</i> – "C" to STARBOARD - "W" to STARBOARD – "O" to STARBOARD	9.3

Only the course number will be shown if all fleets are sailing the same course.

11. STARTING AND FINISHING LINES; STARTING SYSTEM; CHECK-IN. The Starting System described in RRS 26 will be used.

The starting line will be between an orange flag on the R/C Boat and Day Beacon R “2” / Buckroe (CCV Bay Mark “Y”) off Buckroe Beach. The finish line will be between R “22” Q R (CCV Bay Mark “Q”) and an orange flag on the shore of Fort Monroe bearing approximately 280 degrees from R “22” Q R. The orange flag is a change from the finish line signal shown in the RRS.

Observers will be on shore from 1300 to 1800 hours. Boats finishing in another time period are responsible for recording their own finish time and reporting it to the Race Committee on cell phone 757-348-4026.

All boats are **required to check in** with the RACE COMMITTEE boat. Pass by the transom of the Race Committee boat with your mainsail hoisted and hail your sail number and be acknowledged by the Race Committee. Do not check in by radio.

Finishing: Each skipper is responsible for calling the sail number of his/her boat to the Race Committee on Channel 72 before crossing the finish line.

The **Alternate starting/finishing line** if designated will be between Nun R N “20” / Hampton Flats (CCV Harbor Mark “H”) and an orange flag on the committee boat. The orange flag is a change from the finish line signal shown in the RRS. An announcement on VHF channel 72 at approximately 0830 hours on race day will be made if there is a cancellation or change to the race venue.

Any boat dropping out of the race is required to notify the Race Committee on Channel 72 or by cell phone at 757-348-4026 and receive an acknowledgment.

12. TIME LIMIT. The time limit for each class is 1730 hours for the first boat to finish. The finish of one boat by 1730 hours shall make the race valid for all boats in that class.

13. PROTESTS. A boat intending to file a protest shall notify the Race Committee of the name or sail number of the protesting boat and the name or sail numbers of the protested boat (s). This notification shall be by verbal or VHF channel 72 hail and must be acknowledged by the Race Committee. Notification shall occur immediately after the protesting boat finishes or retires. Protests shall be delivered electronically to racing@broadbaysailing.org. The time limit for filing written protests is May 18 at 2100 hours. Hearings will be held on Monday, May 20 at 1830 hours at a location to be determined.

14. SCORING.

The Low Point System of Appendix A of the racing rules will apply. If no boats in a fleet have finished before the time limit, the race will be abandoned for that fleet.

All classes other than ORC-Performance Cruiser will be scored Time on Distance (ToD). Scores will also be used to calculate awards for the Southern Bay Distance Racing Series for each eligible class; individual class scores will be reported regardless of whether classes were combined in this race (for example, PHRF B/C).

ORC Performance Cruiser Scoring: Prior to the warning signal for the ORC Performance Cruiser Fleet, the Race Committee will announce on Channel 72 the wind criteria for scoring based on the race course configuration and wind conditions: (1) Five Band All Purpose, or (2) Single Number All Purpose.

If Five Band All Purpose criteria is used, wind speed for determining the applicable ToT factor will be calculated by using the appropriate National Weather Service reporting station(s) as chosen by the Race Committee, averaged over the period from the ORC Performance Cruiser start to the last finish of this Fleet. Based upon calculated wind speed over the period of the race, ToT factors from each racer’s ORC certificate will be used in scoring. These decisions shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1 (b).

15. SAFETY REGULATIONS/REQUIREMENTS

Coast Guard regulation 165.501 prohibits vessels drawing less than 25 feet from entering the main Thimble Shoals Channel, except for perpendicular crossings. Participants are encouraged to review this regulation to understand the exact requirements.

Boats racing in or near a shipping channel have no rights over commercial and/or military vessels operating in the channel and are required to KEEP CLEAR of those vessels!!

Any attempt by a competitor to exercise the right-of-way over, to cross in close proximity to, or to interfere with the reasonable transit of the race area by commercial or military traffic will be grounds for protest. Should such a protest occur, the burden of proof is on the vessel allegedly interfering to show that she in no way interfered with that commercial/military vessel! Such protest may also be filed by a Protest Committee as a result of a report received from the offended vessel or local port authorities/pilots; the protest time limit for this circumstance is 48 hours after the time limit of the race. Competitors **must** take evasive action well in advance of any potentially dangerous situation.

If a dangerous situation develops, as per RRS 42.3(i), a boat in a shipping channel may use her engine to clear the channel, provided she does not gain any advantage in the race. Communication directly with vessels in the channel via VHF-16 is advised.

Boats shall conform to the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements for Near Shore with the addition of Sections 1.6, 2.1.4, 2.2.2, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 2.5.1, 2.7.2, 3.15, 3.29.2, 3.35, and 3.36. These requirements can be viewed at: <https://broadbaysailing.org/resources/Documents/Racing/Monohull-SER-2023.0.pdf>

16. SEVERE WEATHER PLAN. Sustained winds of 20 knots or greater are grounds for postponing or canceling the race at the discretion of the Race Committee. The Race Committee may cancel or postpone a race for lightning depending upon the location and direction of the storm. Delays or cancellations before racing will be by the VHF channel 72 and announced 30 minutes prior to the first warning if time permits. Updates will be provided every 15 minutes until it is determined to race or abandon. Cancellations while racing due to weather will be made by VHF channel 72. Competitors shall respond with an acknowledgment. Any decision to cancel or postpone is based on the judgment of the Race Committee and is not subject to redress.

17. TROPHIES. Trophies will be awarded based on the number of entries in each class that finishes: 1st for 2-3 entries, 2nd for 4-5 entries, 3rd for 6-8 entries, 4th for 9 or more entries. Classes may be combined to qualify racers for the Cup competition. The Cape Henry Cup will be presented to the first-place boat with the greatest corrected time differential (figured as a percentage of the first-place boat's corrected time) over the second-place boat in her class (four boats starting and two boats finishing minimum).

If all classes have fewer than four starters, the Cup will be presented to the first-place boat with the greatest corrected time differential (figured as a percentage of the first-place boat's corrected time) over the second-place boat in her class, regardless of the number of starters.

Details for the Awards Ceremony on May 21st are described in the Notice of Race,