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The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Bermuda Ocean Race Association, Inc. supported by the Eastport Yacht Club and the Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club.

Sailing Instructions

1 RULES

- 1.1 The race shall be governed by the *rules* as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), and the 2018 Annapolis to Bermuda Offshore Safety Requirements (A2BOSRs).
- 1.2 The notation [DP] in these sailing instructions (SIs) means that the penalty for a breach of this rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 1.3 For all classes power-driven winches and mechanical or electro-mechanical steering devices are permitted. This changes RRS 52.
- 1.4 When boats meet between sunset and sunrise, for the purposes of keeping clear, they should act with the expectation that if they come within two of the longer boat's overall length of each other, the protest committee will conclude that the right-of-way boat needs to take avoiding action and the other boat is, therefore, not keeping clear.
- 1.5 Boats are strongly encouraged to review the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS or COLREGS) carefully before the race. The Chesapeake Bay includes narrow channels and traffic separation zones where the right-of-way rules between vessels are quite different than when racing boats meet under the RRS. Often under the IRPCAS, a sailing vessel is the give-way vessel and must take clear action well in advance to avoid close-quarters situations. Note also that the Chesapeake Bay is subject to inland rules until boats cross the COLREGS line at the mouth of the bay.
- 1.6 [DP] RRS 41(c) is replaced with: "Help in the form of information freely available to all boats even if that information is only accessible at a cost. However, such 'at a cost' help shall

not include private forecast or advice, or information customized for a particular boat or group of boats and/or her/their situation.”

- 1.7 RRS 63.7, Conflict between Rules, is replaced by, “If there is any conflict between any *rule* and a *rule* in the sailing instructions, the sailing instructions shall take precedence, subject to the restrictions of RRS 86.1.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board located at the Eastport Yacht Club (EYC) and Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club (RHADC).

Notices will also be posted on the Unofficial Notice Board on the Yacht Scoring web site:

<https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4373>

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the SIs will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board before 0900 EDT on the day of the race. As a courtesy, the A2B will attempt to notify the competitors of any posted changes by VHF channel 72 or during the mandatory boat position reporting. See SI 19.1.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE



- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the EYC flag pole yardarm before or at 1200 EDT on the day of the start, accompanied with an announcement on VHF channel 72.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than two hours’ in the race signal AP. The new scheduled first warning time will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board at EYC prior to lowering of AP.

5 STARTING LOCATION

The Start shall be near buoy R “2” (FI R 2.5s) at the entrance to the Severn River.

6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 There will be three classes:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Class Flag</u>	<u>Rating range</u>
Division 1	Pennant 1 	PHRF 1 (PHRF rating 85.0 or below)
Division 2	Pennant 2 	PHRF 2 (PHRF Rating greater than 85.0)
Division 3	Pennant 3 	CRCA

[DP] Boats shall fly their class flag from the backstay throughout the race.

- 6.2 [DP] Boats shall fly an A2B burgee supplied by the A2B committee from the backstay at least six (6) feet above the deck from one (1) hour before her Warning Signal until one (1) hour after her start.

7 CHECK IN

[DP] Each boat shall check-in prior to the first warning signal passing the stern of the Signal Boat and hailing their boat name and sail number. The Race Committee will acknowledge the boat upon check-in. Check in by VHF radio will not be recognized.

8 START

- 8.1 Starts will be per RRS 26. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first class is 1330 EDT.
- 8.2 The class starting will be announced on VHF channel 72.

9 THE COURSE

- 9.1 After the start, boats shall proceed southerly down the Chesapeake Bay, leaving Thomas Point Light to starboard, and exit the Bay via either Chesapeake Channel or Thimble Shoals Channel of the Bay Bridge Tunnel, and then finish per SI 14.
- 9.2 Upon exiting the Bay, boats shall log their exit time and during its next scheduled reporting time, shall report its exit time. If the boat exits the Chesapeake Bay through Thimble Shoals Channel, the time should be taken when buoy G "7" (Fl G 2.5s) bears 210° magnetic or 030° magnetic from the boat. If the boat exits the Chesapeake Bay through Chesapeake Channel, the time should be taken when buoy G "13" (Fl G 4s) bears 240° magnetic or 060° magnetic from the boat.
- 9.3 The race distance is 753 nautical miles.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 Boats may pass the island of Bermuda on either the south or north side of the island.
- 10.2 If passing Bermuda on the north side, the following marks near the Islands of Bermuda shall be passed on their seaward side:
 - 1) North Rock, Fl(4) 20s 21m 12M
 - 2) North East Breakers, Fl 22s 14m 12M
 - 3) Kitchen Shoals, Fl(3) 15s 14m 12M
 - 4) Mills Breaker, VQ (3) 5s
 - 5) Sea Buoy, Mo(A)W 6s

11. THE START

- 11.1 The starting line shall be between a staff flying an orange flag on the Signal Boat and buoy R "2" (Fl R 2.5s).
- 11.2 The Race Committee Signal Boat may set a stand-off buoy. When present, this stand-off buoy, the line attaching it to the signal boat, and the signal boat are all part of the starting mark.

12. POSITION REPORTING

- 12.1 [DP] A boat shall report its position daily between 0800 and 1000 EDT by calling the Communications Chair by satellite telephone. The number for reporting is: (410) 849-8523.
- 12.2 If a scheduled position report is missed twice in a row, the race committee will notify the U.S. Coast Guard of the absence of contact.
- 12.3 If the Race Committee has not confirmed a boat's arrival in Bermuda by 1200 ADT, Saturday, June 16, 2018 and has not been notified that the boat has withdrawn from the race, a report will be filed with the U.S. Coast Guard and the Bermuda Radio noting that the boat is overdue.

13 [DP] NOTIFICATION OF WITHDRAWAL

- 13.1 A boat withdrawing from the race shall, at the first available opportunity, notify:
- The Communications Chair by telephone at (410) 849-8523
 - The Duty Officer at the RHADC by telephone at (441) 297-8144
 - Bermuda Radio on VHF channel 16 or SSB 4125 kHz
- 13.2 The report should include:
- Her present position
 - Her intention to withdraw and the reason for her withdrawal
 - Her intended destination, and her estimated time of arrival.
- 13.3 After withdrawing from the race, a skipper shall fill out the Certificate of Compliance and file it with the Race Committee. This report may be sent by fax to RHADC at (441) 236-8561.
- 13.4 Any other boat in the race that hears of a boat's withdrawal shall log all information from the reporting boat and, at the first opportunity, pass the information on to the contacts in 13.1.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finish line is a line extending from Saint David's Light in the direction of 111° magnetic. This line divides the red and green sectors of the light. A boat finishes when she crosses the finish line from north to south and Saint David's Light bears 291° magnetic from the boat. A boat shall record their finish time.
- 14.2 The finish line is indicated by buoys at each end. The shoreward end of the line will be approximately 0.8 NM from St. David's Light, and may be marked by a green buoy with a flashing green light. The seaward end of the line will be approximately 1.2 NM from St. David's Light, and may be marked by a black buoy with a flashing white light.

These buoys are not directly on the finish line and may or may not be lit but are used as reference. RRS 34 and the US Sailing Prescription to RRS 34 do not apply to these buoys, as they are neither marks nor finishing marks. Boats must finish between the buoys and are advised to proceed well beyond their estimated crossing of the finish line to ensure that they have actually crossed the line.

- 14.3 [DP] If a boat estimates that she may finish before 1200 ADT Tuesday, June 14, 2016, the Race Committee requests that she contact Bermuda Radio on VHF channel 16 when approximately 25 NM from the finish line. This call serves as a valuable early alert for our shore-based personnel.
- 14.4 All communications with the A2B Race Finish Line Committee will be on VHF channel 72 which may or may not be monitored when a boat finishes.
- 14.5 [DP] When a boat is approximately five miles from the finish line, or passing Kitchen Shoal beacon, she shall contact the A2B Race Finish Line Committee by radio on VHF channel 72. She shall announce her name, sail number, and her position relative to the finish line.
- 14.6 [DP] Boats shall not at any time pass between the shoreward green buoy and St. David's Light as the buoy marks a dangerous reef.
- 14.7 [DP] Boats that have finished shall not re-cross the finish line, but shall turn to seaward of both buoys, keeping well clear of the line and all boats approaching the line.

15 CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE AND FINISH LOG FORM

The Certificate of Compliance and Finish Log Form shall be completed and signed by the skipper, navigator and each watch captain. To be recorded as a finisher, each boat must submit its Compliance Certificate and Finish Log Form to the Duty Officer at the RHADC Duty Desk, before 1200 ADT on the day after its finish. The Duty Officer will give the skipper a signed receipt as evidence of submission. Skippers are reminded they must clear customs before going to the Duty Desk to submit their Compliance Certificate.

16 TIME LIMITS

The time limit for all boats to finish is 0900 ADT on Saturday, June 16, 2018. The time limit may be extended at the discretion of the Race Committee due to weather conditions along the course.

17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 Protests, requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the race office at the RHADC Duty Desk within 24 hours after finishing, but no later than 1200 ADT on Saturday, June 16, 2018.
- 17.2 Notices will be posted to inform of the date, time, and location of hearings.
- 17.3 Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee, or protest committee

will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

18 PENALTY SYSTEM

18.1 The Race Committee will review each boat's Certificate of Compliance, and any other material it deems appropriate to verify each boat's compliance with the boat's Certificate of Compliance, and the A2BOSRs.

18.2 When the Race Committee determines that a boat does not comply with their Certificate of Compliance or with the A2BOSRs, it may assess a time penalty up to five hours without a hearing or protest the boat. This changes RRS 63.1.

18.3 The Race Committee will post its findings on the RHADC Official Notice Board not later than 2000 ADT daily.

18.3.1 A boat that wishes to discuss a posting may request a meeting with a representative of the Race Committee through the RHADC Duty Officer. Such a request should be made by 1200 ADT on the day after the posting is made.

18.3.2 The meetings will be held between 1400 and 1700 ADT as agreed between the boat and the Race Committee directly or through the RHADC Duty Officer.

18.3.3 A boat assessed a penalty may request a hearing in accordance with RRS 62.

18.4 The Race Committee will attempt to notify premature starters by announcing their racing numbers or boat name on VHF channel 72. The following are not grounds for redress: failure of a boat to hear its hail; timeliness of the hail, or the order of boats within the hail. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

18.5 A boat that crosses the starting line between her preparatory and starting signal, is identified as OCS, and fails to start properly, will be penalized by having 60 minutes added to her elapsed time without a hearing. For the purposes of RRS 28, A4, and A5, a boat so penalized shall be considered to have started properly. This changes RRS 28, 63.1, A4 and A5.

18.6 Any boat failing to report during the Daily Check-In may be penalized ten (10) minutes of elapsed time for each infraction.

19 SCORING

19.1 PHRF classes will be scored using Time-on-Time scoring. A boat's corrected time will be her elapsed time multiplied by $(650 / (550 + \text{PHRF Random Course Handicap}))$.

19.2 CRCA Boats will be scored using Time-on-Distance scoring with separate ratings for the Chesapeake Bay portion of the race and for the overall race.

20 INSPECTION

- 20.1 [DP] The A2B reserves the right to re-inspect any boat for compliance with race requirements before the start and before trophy presentation in Bermuda. The skipper, navigator or designee, shall, upon request of the Technical Committee, be available on board for a Compliance Inspection of the boat for up to 48 hours following completion of the race. The moored location of the boat plus name and full contact details in Bermuda for skipper, navigator or other responsible crew member, must be included on the Compliance Certificate.

21 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 21.1 [DP] Boats shall monitor VHF channel 72 on the first day of the race from 1200 EDT until twenty (20) minutes after her start. Thereafter, boats shall maintain a continuous radio watch on channel 16 and contact commercial traffic on channel 13 as may be required for safety.
- 21.2 Communication between other racing boats is permitted at 0800 and 1800 EDT on VHF channel 72. Boats may announce their positions if they wish. This changes RRS 41.
- 21.3 [DP] Boats shall log any other communication between boats report it to the A2B.
- 21.4 [DP] Boats shall notify Bermuda Radio of their approach when they are within 15 miles of Bermuda. Boats making an uncertain landfall should advise Bermuda Radio on VHF channel 16 or 27, before a problem develops.
- 21.5 To communicate with RHADC by radio, use VHF channel 67.

22 COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC

- 22.1 [DP] A boat shall not exercise right of way, cross in proximity to, or interfere with reasonable transit of the race area by commercial ships, tugs, or barges. Boats must take evasive action well in advance of a potentially dangerous situation. The US Coast Guard, ship captains, and bay pilots have been encouraged to report any incident they observe.
- 22.1 A boat without way may use any means of propulsion to avoid commercial traffic that is under way provided: (a) the boat does not gain an advantage; (b) use of the propulsion is the boat's only means of avoiding the commercial traffic; and (c) the boat submits a report to the race committee (in writing at the RHADC Duty Desk) by the protest filing deadline describing the incident and the boat's actions.

23 PRIZES

Trophies will be announced at the pre-race briefing on June 7, 2018 at Eastport Yacht Club.

24 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The A2B, EYC and/or RHADC 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.