

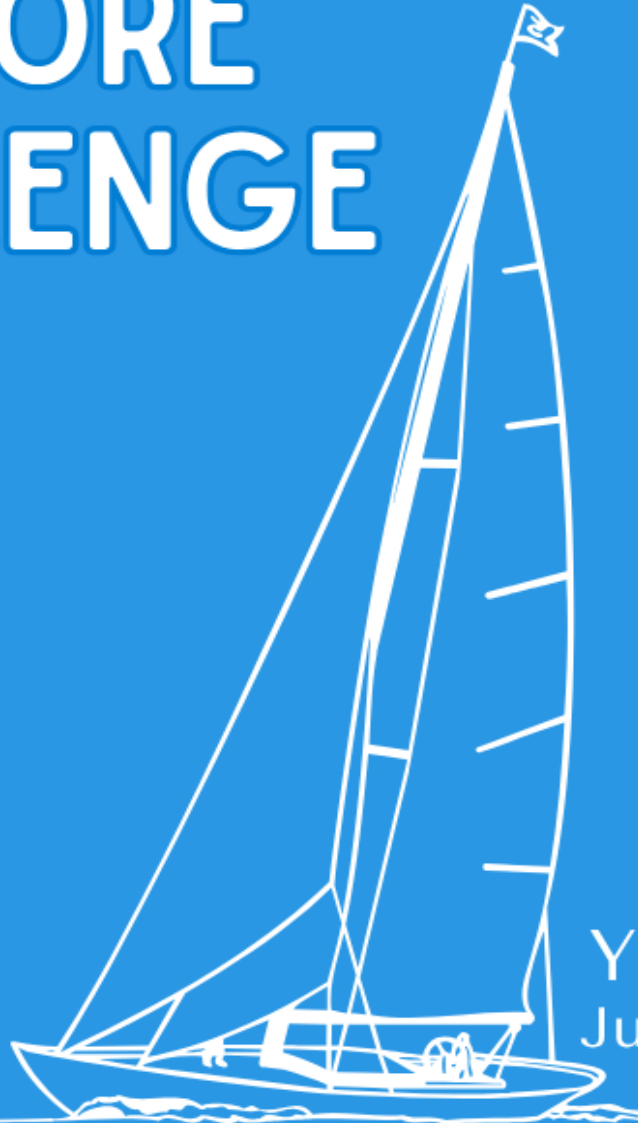
Official Event Program

2025



Gulf Yachting Association

OFFSHORE CHALLENGE CUP



Hosted by:

Gulfport
Yacht Club
June 20, 21, 22



Gallagher

Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting



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**MATTHEW J.
MURRAY, MD**
INTERNAL MEDICINE

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**SAILING THE SOUND
SINCE 1902**

FLAG OFFICERS

Commodore	Hal Kaigler
Vice Commodore	Joey Beattie
Rear Commodore	Pearce Hopkins
Fleet Captain	Justin McGuffee
Fleet Surgeon	Dr. Paul Mace
Treasurer	James Kaigler
Secretary	Donna Clausen
Past Commodore	Brian Sullivan

Sailing Committee Chairperson -
Anne Hewes Wolford
General Manager - Steve Chatelain

REGATTA OFFICIALS

Regatta Chairman: Gayle Weatherly
Principle Race Officer: Michael Hage

GULF YACHTING ASSOCIATION



Allen McMillan
GYA Commodore,



On behalf of the GYA, its Executive Committee, Board of Directors and all the GYA Past Commodores, welcome to the 2025 GYA Challenge Cup.

Our host club, the Gulfport Yacht Club, Commodore Hal Kaigler, Board, Staff and members are ready to give their traditional outstanding hospitality. The Gulfport Challenge Cup Regatta Committee will provide excellent race management. We will have close competition, good camaraderie and sportsmanship.

The Offshore Council has proposed, and the Board of Directors has approved a Challenge Cup regulation change that is intended to increase competition by allowing clubs to join as a team. This regulation change allows more clubs to compete by combining to field a team when certain class boats, skippers or crews may not be otherwise available to meet past Challenge Cup requirements. We expect this change to increase competition which is the goal for all GYA competition.

Finally, it is you, the competitors who make the commitment to participate, that makes this regatta such a great GYA tradition. So, to all the sailors, be they skippers, crew or support teams, good luck and good sailing.

Alan McMillan

Commodore, GYA

*Program Design by
Virginia Anne Wolford, GYC Junior Sailor*

WELCOME TO GULFPORT YACHT CLUB!



Hal Kaigler,
GYC Commodore



On behalf of our GYC members, Governing Board, and Flag Officers, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Gulfport Yacht Club for the 2025 Gulf Yachting Association Offshore Challenge Cup. We are honored to host this prestigious event. Please know that our board, committee members, volunteers, and staff have worked countless hours to ensure that this year's Challenge Cup lives up to the standards of our current GYA Commodore, Alan McMillan, his executive committee, you the competitors, and the rich history of the Gulf Yachting Association.

We hope that you and your family enjoy your time at Gulfport Yacht Club. Please, make yourselves at home here, but remember, outside food and beverage is not allowed on Club property. The Anchor Bar, located on the first-floor deck, is a prime spot to experience all the racing and festivities while you also enjoy a bite to eat or your favorite beverage. If you have any questions about our Club's facilities or services, please ask any of our staff or volunteers. For other Club matters, our General Manager Steve Chatelain has an office on the main floor, and he will be happy to assist you.

Special thanks to all the sailors and supporters around the GYA who have worked diligently to get their teams ready to compete. We hope that this year's event is remembered for great competition, fair weather, sportsmanship, and, of course, a fantastic time! Good luck to everyone!

Sincerely,

Hal Kaigler

Commodore, GYC



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday - June 19, 2025

1100-2000	Anchor Bar, Food & Beverage served
1700	Check-In, Regatta Room, 2nd Floor
1900	Competitor's Meeting, Regatta Room, 2nd floor
1930	Complimentary Hors d' oeuvres, Chart Room

Friday - June 20, 2025

0800 -1030	Breakfast Buffet \$15, Regatta/Chart Room, 2nd floor
0900-2300	Anchor Bar, Food served until 1500
1155	Warning Signal - Distance Race
1100-1400	Lunch served, Chart Room
1700	Anchor Bar & Live Entertainment
After Racing Deck Party with Complimentary Taco Bar for Sailors & Race Committee	

Saturday - June 21, 2025

0800-1030	Breakfast Buffet \$15, Regatta/Chart Room 2nd Floor
1100-1400	Regular Lunch Menu, Soup & Salad Bar, Chart Room
0900-2300	Anchor Bar, Food served until 1500
1155	Warning Signal - First Race of the day
1100-1400	Regular Lunch Menu, Chart Room
1600	Anchor Bar & Live Music
After Racing Deck Party with live Music & Complimentary Sloppy Joe's	

Sunday - June 22, 2025

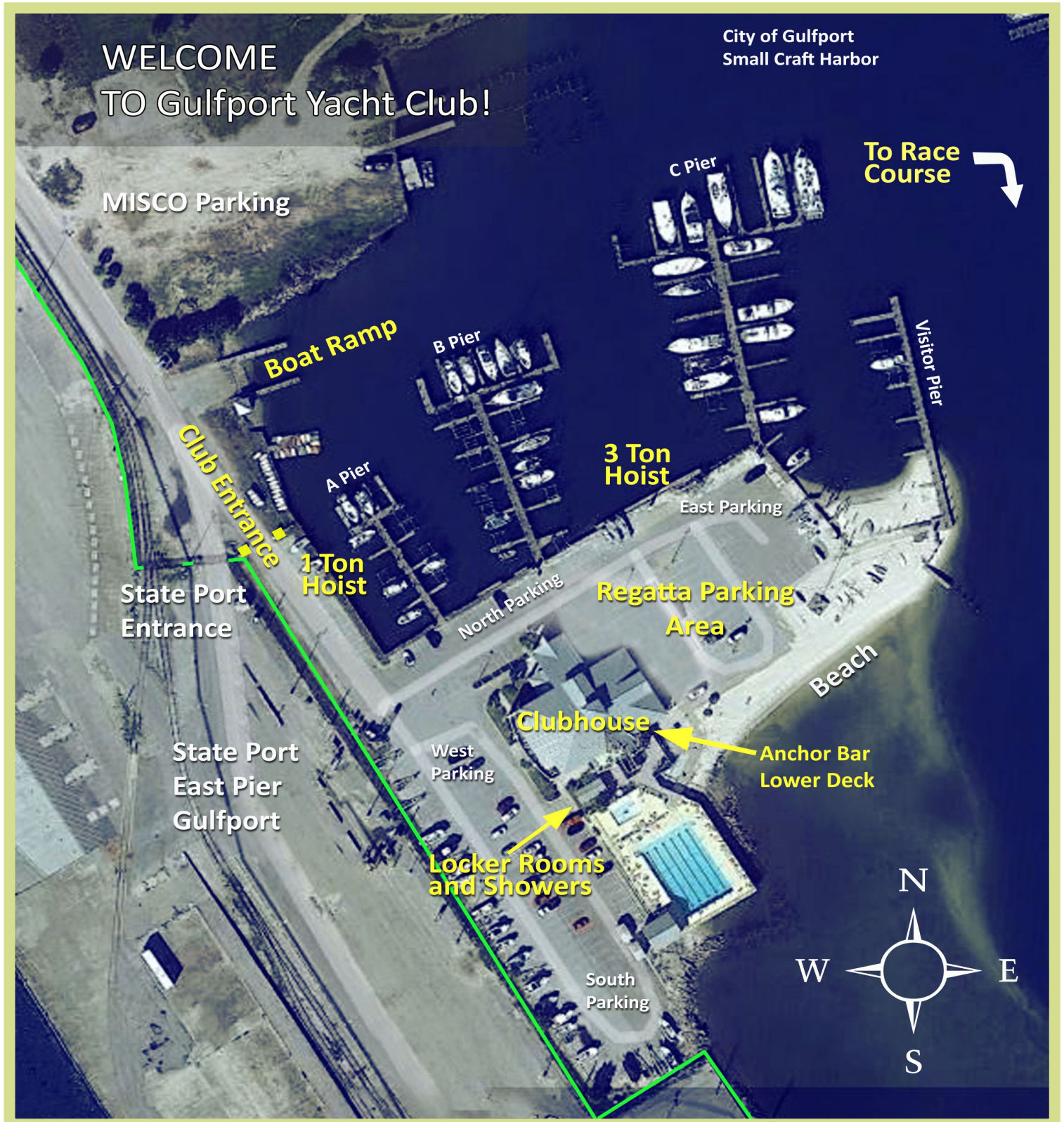
0800-1030	Breakfast Buffet \$15, Regatta/Chart Room
0900-2000	Anchor Bar, Food & Beverage served
1055	Warning Signal - First Race of the day
1100-1400	Bottomless Champagne Brunch, Regatta/Chart Room
Trophy Ceremony following races with Complimentary Hors d' oeuvres, Ball Room	

Purchases may be made with GYC Member Charge or by Credit Card.
Sales include Gratuity and Sales Tax.

Thank you, Challenge Cup Sponsors!

Allen Beverages, Gallagher Insurance, Chimney's, Black Jack Beef,
Matthew J. Murray, MD, GYC Ladies Auxiliary, F.E.B. Distributing,
Matthew J. Murray, & Beau Rivage

GUIDE TO GYC FACILITIES



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



Regatta Website



Notice of Race

The Notice of Race contains all other regatta information.

EXHIBIT A:

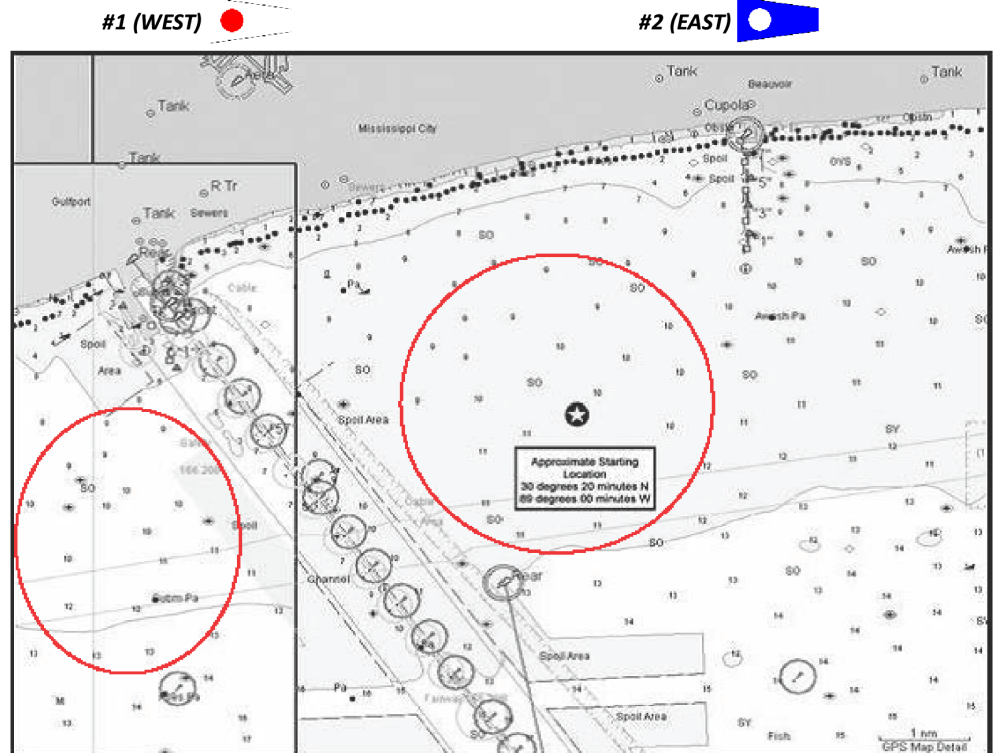
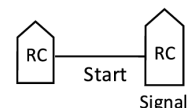
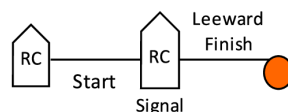
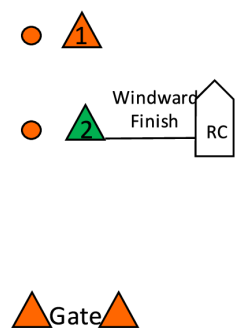
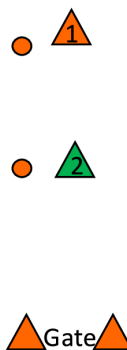


EXHIBIT B:



GYA 2025 OFFSHORE CHALLENGE CUP

EXHIBIT C: GYA Challenge Cup Distance Race Courses

NOTE: IN THE EVENT THAT ANY MARK BELOW IS MISSING AN ORANGE TETRAHEDRON WILL BE PLACED IN THE GPS LOCATION OF THE MISSING MARK.

Course 1 - 23.08NM

Leg	Heading	Distance	Rounding
Start to Inbound Range	140°	4.29NM	Port
Inbound to USCG Piling	67°	2.57NM	Starboard
Piling to ICW 4	158°	2.35NM	Port
ICW 4 to Biloxi 1	31°	5.22NM	Port
Biloxi to Finish	270°	8.65NM	

Course 2 - 30.23NM

Start to J	119°	11.52NM	Starboard
J to Outbound Range	251°	5.98NM	Starboard
Outbound to ICW 4	27°	3.52NM	Port
ICW 4 to USCG Piling	338°	2.35NM	Port
Piling to Inbound Range	247°	2.57NM	Starboard
Inbound to Finish	320°	4.29NM	

Course 3 - 16.67NM

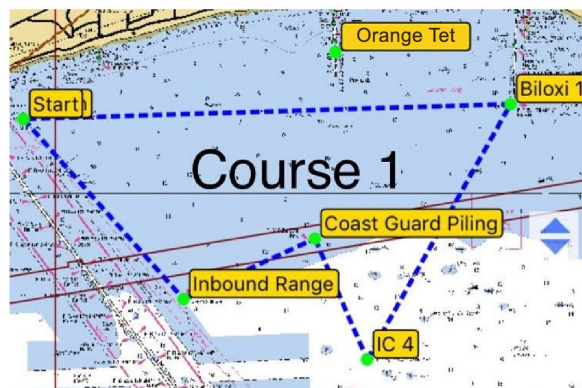
Start to ICW 4	127°	7.46NM	Port
ICW to USCG Piling	338°	2.35NM	Port
Piling to Inbound Range	247°	2.57NM	Starboard
Inbound to Finish	320°	4.29NM	

Course 4 - 20.43NM

Start to Inbound Range	140°	4.29NM	Port
Inbound to USCG Piling	67°	2.57NM	Starboard
Piling to ICW 4	158°	2.35NM	Port
ICW 4 to Orange Tet	356°	5.54NM	Port
Orange Tet to Finish	259°	5.68NM	

Waypoints:

Start/Finish	089°04.226'W	30°21.321'N
Biloxi 1	088°54.211'W	30°21.589'N
Orange Tet	088°57.815'W	30°22.517'N
ICW 4	088°57.161'W	30°17.027'N
Inbound Range	089°00.935'W	30°18.108'N
J	088°52.420'W	30°15.944'N
Outbound Range	088°58.897'W	30°13.844'N
USCG Piling	088°58.234'W	30°19.188'N



2025 Gulf Yachting Association Challenge Cup - Sailing Instructions

The Notice or Race has all other information for the regatta.

EXHIBIT A:

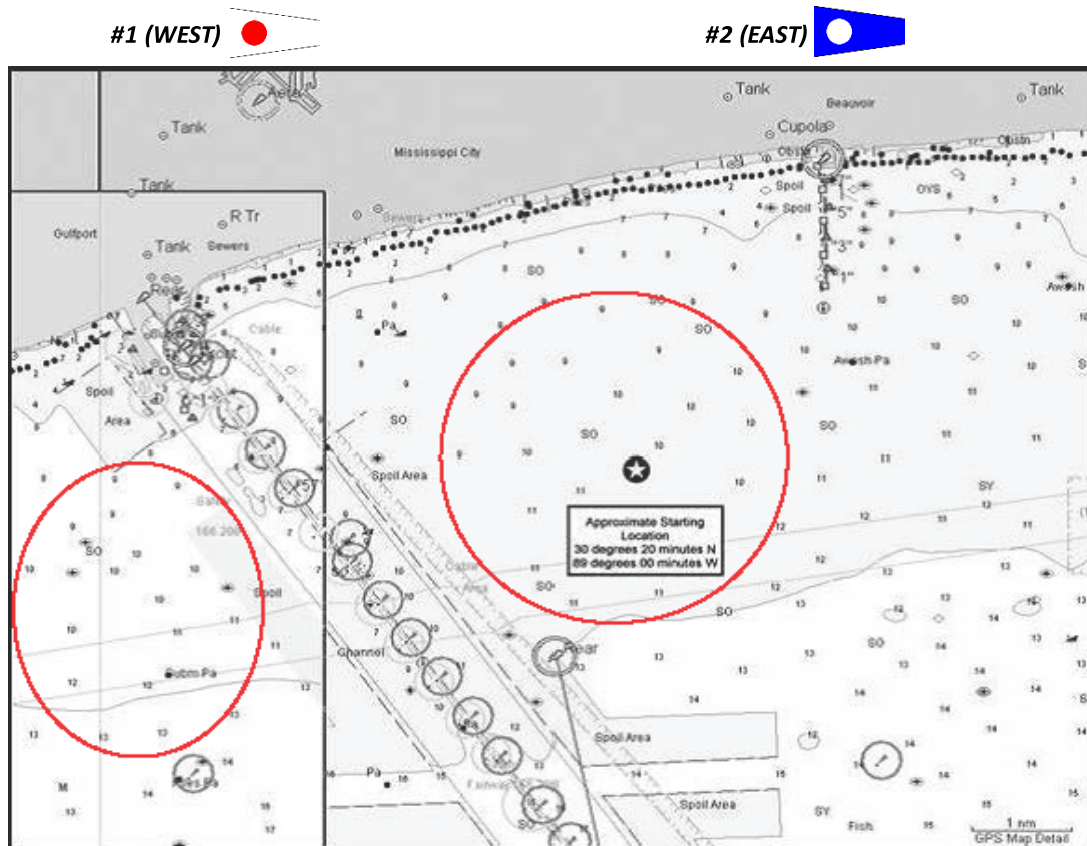
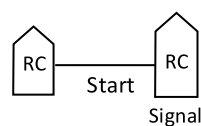
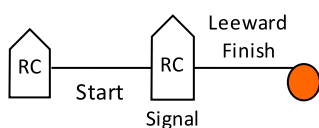


EXHIBIT B:





GYA OFFSHORE CHALLENGE CUP HISTORY

In 1978 Gulf Yachting Association PHRF Chairman John Oerting (PYC) recognized that the GYA had many "larger boat" sailors but no GYA championship series. John felt strongly that a championship series should be developed, similar to the GYA Lipton's Cup held in Flying Scots. John Oerting approached then GYA Commodore, Lewis "Buddy" Pollak, with his idea for a championship series for offshore type boats. Commodore Pollak was receptive to the idea and paved the way for John to make a presentation to the GYA Board of Directors. The GYA Board of Directors approved John's recommendation for the establishment of the GYA Offshore Challenge Cup.

In 1979 Father Paul Tipton, President of Spring Hill College and Chairman of the GYA Offshore Council, deeded to the Gulf Yachting Association the perpetual trophy for the overall winning club. The deed of gift was given to then GYA Commodore Michael S. Johnson. The trophy is officially named "The Spring Hill College Gulf Yachting Offshore Challenge Cup. The name of the winning club will be appropriately engraved on this trophy each year and is entrusted to the winning club for one year. A replica keeper trophy will be permanently awarded to the winning club.

Pensacola Yacht Club hosted the first GYA Offshore Challenge Cup in 1979. Participating clubs entered three boats in different classes. Class A was scored under the IOR rating system. Class B was scored under the MORC rating system and Class C was scored under the GYA PHRF rating system. The club with the lowest score won the Spring Hill trophy. The format called for the winning club to host the regatta the following year, similar to the GYA Lipton Cup format. Mobile Yacht Club won the first Offshore Challenge Cup. IOR – Mike LaSarge, Creekmore 22 "Dividend", MORC – Don Brennan, Creekmore 22 "Blew Bayou", and PHRF – Paul Tipton, C&C 33 "Stella Maris". In 1980 the second Offshore Challenge Cup was hosted by Mobile Yacht Club and was won by New Orleans Yacht Club.

A decision was made to move the location of the Challenge Cup to Gulfport Yacht Club and have the regatta one (1) week before the Gulfport to Pensacola Race. This was done to maximize the participation in both regattas as many of the boats sailing in the Challenge Cup would also sail in the Gulfport to Pensacola Race. IOR and MORC rating systems now had minimal participation from the Gulf Coast. In 1982 the format was changed to score all classes under the GYA PHRF System. In 1985 a fourth class was added and each club could participate in each of the four classes but only their best

three (3) scores for each race would be counted for the team total.

In 1991 David and Pat Bolyard (Pontchartrain Yacht Club) deeded a perpetual trophy for the winning boat of "A" Class in the Challenge Cup, in memory of G. S. "Buddy" Friedrichs, a true offshore "Blue Water" sailor of great renown throughout the GYA. Only the name of the winning boat and yacht club the boat represented were to be engraved on the trophy. The first winner of the G. S. "Buddy Friedrichs Memorial Trophy in 1991 was the yacht "Heartbeat" from Southern Yacht Club. Mobile Yacht Club Commodore Robert T. Kurzweg in 1993 deeded the Mobile Yacht Club Trophy to the Gulf Yachting Association. This trophy is presented to the best three boat team participating in the GYA Challenge Cup. The first winner of the Mobile Yacht Club Trophy was Mobile Yacht Club: Trip Tease – Bobby Kurzweg, Jazz – John Marshall, and Grand Illusion – Greg Smith, Jr. Jackson Yacht Club won the Mobile Yacht Club trophy in 1997. The original trophy was lost in the fire that destroyed the yacht club. Jackson Yacht Club replaced the trophy in 1998. The Spring Hill College trophy was damaged during hurricane Katrina but was completely restored in 2006 by Southern Yacht Club, through the efforts of Johnny Curren.

In 2009 Commodore Janet R. Miller-Schmidt donated a Trophy for the winner of Class "D". In 2010 Commodore David Bolyard donated the Commodore Thomas D., Beery, Jr. Trophy for the winner of class "B" and friends of Bobby Bailey donated The Commodore Bobby Bailey Trophy for the winner of class "C"

The format of the GYA Offshore Challenge Cup is unique in the world and has been conducted every year since 1979. 2008 will be the 30th Annual event and the series is returning to Gulfport Yacht Club in celebration of their recovery from hurricane Katrina. Pensacola Yacht Club, the original host, graciously hosted the event in 2006 and 2007 while Gulfport Yacht Club was being rebuilt.

One man's idea and perseverance in 1978 was the beginning of one of the most successful interclub championship series for "larger boats" the world has known. The Gulf Yachting Association is proud to be the continuing sponsor of this renowned event.

At the 2019 GYA Winter Meeting the Offshore Council voted to switch A & B Classes to be scored using the rating rule of ORRez.

The 2020 event was not held due to the COVID Pandemic.



GULF YACHTING ASSOCIATION

OFFSHORE CHALLENGE CUP

NOTICE OF RACE

(A GYA Sanctioned Interclub Event)

Hosted by GULFPORT YACHT CLUB

JUNE 20-22, 2025

Organizing Authority: Gulfport Yacht Club

AMENDED JUNE 16, 2025

1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current revision of the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), Including US Sailing Prescriptions and:

1.1.1 The GYA Regulations for Sanctioned Events, available at:

<https://www.gya.org/documents/bylawsregs/racingregs.pdf>

1.1.2 The United States Coast Guard safety equipment regulations, available at: <https://www.uscgboating.org/assets/1/AssetManager/Boaters-Guide-to-Federal-Requirements-for-Recreational-Boats-20231108.pdf>

1.1.3 World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Appendix B (Special Regulations for Inshore Racing), available at: <https://d7qh6ksdplczd.cloudfront.net/sailing/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/24175301/2024-2026-Offshore-Special-Regulations-published-v1.13.docx.pdf>

1.2 The RRS changed by this NOR are listed below:

<u>RRS</u>	<u>NOR Section</u>	<u>RRS</u>	<u>NOR Section</u>
60.1	1.3	35	22.1,22.2
A5.1	2.3	A5.1	23.2
Race Signals	5,8,13,20.3	A8	24.4
32.1	14.6	A4	24.5
A5.1	16.3	63.1	26.1
61.4(b)(1)	6.4,6.6,6.7,17	36	27.12.3
32	19		

1.3 The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SI's) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

2 ELIGIBILITY.

2.1 Entries shall be by Teams, made up of GYA clubs, who are current members of the Gulf Yachting Association.

2.2 Each competing Team shall enter three (3) or four (4) boats, each in a different class. A Team shall be made up of a single GYA Club or two (2) GYA Clubs, neither of which placed in the top 3 of the prior year's Challenge Cup. A GYA club may only represent one Team.

2.3 NOTE: The word skipper and helmsperson are interchangeable for this event. The skipper and helmsman and at least one half of the crew racing on each boat (including the skipper and helmsman) must be a members of the GYA club the boat represents. The skipper must be a member of the club they represent for not less than six (6) consecutive months, immediately prior to the event. The balance of the crew need not be GYA club members. Each team captain shall submit a written statement on the form provided that his team is meeting this eligibility requirement along with a list of all potential crew for the event. This statement and crew list shall be submitted with the team registration package by the deadline in Article 3 CLUB ENTRIES. If a team is found not to be in compliance with this requirement, the team shall be scored DSQ for the race(s) in which non-compliance took place without a hearing. This changes Racing Rule A5.1.

2.4 A boat shall represent only one Yacht Club in this event.

2.5 Each boat shall be a monohull no less than 20 feet LOA and have a valid ORR-Ez rating certificate.

2.6 All registered boats must show proof of liability insurance for that competing vessel. This proof can be either a hard copy or a digital copy and must be available upon request.

3 TEAM ENTRIES.

All entry forms must be accompanied by a valid 2025 ORR-Ez certificate number (e.g. EZ12345) for each boat and a complete crew list. All information required on the official entry form must be completed. Each participating GYA team shall pay \$175.00 per boat entered to participate in the GYA Challenge Cup, to be submitted with the entry form by June 19th, 2025. **Entry forms can be found on the regatta web page at;**

<https://www.nextsailor.com/app/page/regatta/895>

4 BRIEFING FOR COMPETITORS.

A briefing for the competitors will be held in the Ballroom at Gulfport Yacht Club on Thursday June 19th, 2025 at 1900. All questions regarding the sailing instructions must be submitted in writing to the judges by placing such questions in the protest box located under the notice board, no later than 0900 hours, Friday June 20th, 2025. Responses, if any, will be posted on the official regatta notice board no later than 0945 hours, Friday, June 20th.

5 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS.

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located on the lower deck. At the end of each day of racing the race committee will post its docking time as well as any boats that it intends to score in other than a finishing position. Notices of hearings will be posted here within 30 minutes of the expiration of protest time (flag "L" will NOT be displayed with this notice.) This changes RRS Race Signals.

6 COMMUNICATION

6.1 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channel 72. Channels 68, 69, and 71 may be used.

6.2 On the water, the Race Committee (RC) will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio channel 72. Channels 68, 69, and 71 may be used.

6.3 [DP] From the warning signal until the last boat finishes the race, except in an

emergency or as required by a rule, a boat shall not make voice nor data transmissions and shall not receive voice nor data communication that is not available to all boats.

- 6.4 The RC may broadcast the course, bearing and distance information before the warning signal, start times, starting infractions, and information important to racing. Failure of the transmission, failure of any boat to receive or properly interpret this information, or any errors or omissions on the part of the hailed messages shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. (This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1))
- 6.5 **[NP]** Individual recalls and boats penalized under RRS 30.2 or RRS 30.3 may be broadcast on the designated VHF channel using bow/sail numbers.
- 6.6 Failure of the RC to make any broadcast or broadcast in a timely manner will not be grounds for a request for redress. (This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1))
- 6.7 The RC may broadcast any course changes over the designated VHF channel. Failure of a boat to hear such notification or failure to broadcast will not be grounds for redress. (This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1))
- 6.8 The RC intends to broadcast its intentions for the day at 0900 each morning on channel 72 VHF. Channels 68, 69, and 71 may also be used.

7 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS.

The Sailing Instructions may change some of the Rules in accordance with RRS 86.1(b). Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be made in accordance with RRS 90.2(c). Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board not later than two (2) hours prior to the scheduled warning signal for the first class to start on the day the change will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted not later than 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.

8 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE.

- 8.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the signal mast at Gulfport Yacht Club.
- 8.2 Flag AP with two sound signals (one when lowered) means, the next race is postponed. The warning signal will be made not less than 45 minutes after AP is lowered. This changes RRS Race Signals.

9 RATING SYSTEM.

- 9.1 Corrected times for all classes will be calculated using ORR-EZ Performance Curve Scoring (PCS). Boats shall only declare one valid ORR-EZ certificate for the regatta.
- 9.2 ORR-Ez rule III.E. Crew Weight shall apply for both the Maximum and Minimum crew weight allowed while racing. The Maximum shall be the Rated Crew Weight (RCW) shown on the registered certificate; and the Minimum shall be 75% of the RCW.

10 CLASSES.

The boats will be divided into the following classes based on their 2025 ORR-Ez benchmark IR# TOD Rating:

	ORR-Ez IR#
Class A	NONE – 609.9
Class B	610.0-649.9
Class C	650.0-689.9
Class D	690.0-NONE

11 SCHEDULE OF RACES.

The Race Committee has scheduled seven (7) races. A minimum of two (2) races must be completed to constitute a series. On Sunday, June 23rd, no warning signal shall be made later than 1530 hours.

- 1155** **FRIDAY, JUNE 20** – Distance Race
*WARNING SIGNAL RACE #1 -
Party with Live Music & Daily Trophies after racing.
Free Beer during Protest Time*
- 1155** **SATURDAY, JUNE 21** - Windward-Leeward Courses
*WARNING SIGNAL—Race #2
WARNING SIGNAL NEXT RACE(S) – as soon as possible
Party with Live Music & Daily Trophies after racing.
Free Beer during Protest Time*
- 1055** **SUNDAY, JUNE 22** - Windward-Leeward Courses
*WARNING SIGNAL FIRST RACE OF THE DAY.
WARNING SIGNAL NEXT RACE(S) – as soon as possible
Trophy Ceremony following races (GYC Ballroom)
Free Beer during Protest Time*

12 CLASS FLAGS AND ORDER OF START.

Class flags (streamers) will be issued at the briefing for competitors. Each boat shall conspicuously display its class flag (streamer) on its backstay while racing.

CLASS FLAGS

- A** *White*
- B** *Pink*
- C** *Green*
- D** *Purple*

13 RACING AREA.

The racing areas are shown in Sailing Instruction Exhibit A and are designated 1 and 2. The Race Committee will display numerical pennant #1 or # 2 from the Race Committee Signal Boat along with Flag "L" on departure to the racing area each day. The number displayed will indicate the racing area where the Race Committee plans to set the initial course of the day. In the event racing area # 1 (West) is signaled, the Gulfport Ship Channel should not be crossed north of Channel Marker # 61, in order to avoid possible shoal water. The approximate location of starting area # 2 (East) will be 30° 20" N and 89° 00" W, conditions permitting. This changes RRS Race Signals.

14 THE COURSES.

14.1 The Course layout is shown on Sailing Instruction Exhibit B. Course "W2" will be a four (4) leg Windward-Leeward courses with offset marks. All windward marks shall be left to port.

Classes A and B will sail: Start – 1-offset – Gate – 2-offset – Finish.

Classes C and D will sail: Start – 2-offset – Gate – 2-offset – Finish.

14.2 Course “W2½” will be a five (5) leg Windward-Leeward courses with offset marks. All windward marks shall be left to port.

Classes A and B will sail: Start – 1-offset – Gate – 2-offset – Gate – (Finish (2)).

Classes C and D will sail: Start – 2-offset – Gate – 2-offset – Gate – (Finish (2)).

14.3 The initial windward mark (1) for classes A & B will be located approximately 125 to 175 percent of the distance to the initial windward mark (2) for classes C & D.

14.4 The course identifier and approximate compass bearing from the starting line to the windward mark will be displayed from the race committee signal boat before or with the warning signal.

14.5 The approximate distance in nautical miles from the starting line to the initial windward mark for each class will be displayed from the race committee signal boat before or with the preparatory signal.

14.6 The course shall not be shortened to less than two legs. This changes Rule 32.1.

14.7 Courses for the long distance race are reflected on Sailing Instruction Exhibit C. Courses will be displayed by number on or before the warning signal for each class.

15 MARKS.

15.1 Mark 1 and the Gate Marks will be **orange** tetrahedrons. Mark 2 will be a **green** tetrahedron. Off set marks will be an **orange** ball.

15.2 New marks, as provided in instruction 18, CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE, will be **yellow** tetrahedrons. (Note: Mark 1 cannot be changed.)

15.3 The finish mark in course "W2" will be an **orange** ball.

16 START.

16.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end of the line and a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat at the port end.

16.2 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

16.3 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored “Did Not Start”. This changes Rule A5.1.

17 RECALLS.

Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.1, with the addition that the race committee will endeavor to hail the boat’s sail number on VHF channel 72. Channels 68, 69, and 71 may be used. The delay of such a hail or the failure of a competitor to hear such a hail shall not

be grounds for redress. This changes Rule 61.4(b)(1).

18 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE.

A change of the next leg of the course after the start will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not then be in position.

19 ABANDONING AFTER THE START.

Rule 32 is changed to additionally provide that the race committee, with the approval of the judges, may, in accordance with GYA regulation 5.2(b), abandon a race in progress when conditions have made the race an unsatisfactory test of skill.

20 THE FINISH.

20.1 When finishing to leeward the finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and the nearby orange ball.

20.2 When finishing to windward the finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and Course Mark (2).

20.3 Flag "L" when displayed from the Race Committee Signal Boat at the finish indicates additional races to follow. This changes RRS Race Signals.

21 PENALTIES.

21.1 Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply and be in effect for this regatta.

21.2 Appendix V1, Alternative Penalties, will be effect for this regatta.

22 TIME LIMIT.

22.1 The time limit for the long distance race will be six (6) hours. The time limit will be 2.5 (2 1/2) hours for windward-leeward races.

22.2 Boats failing to finish within one (1) hour after the first boat in their division finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes RRS 35.

23 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS.

23.1 Protests and requests for redress shall be in writing. Protest Forms will be available in the Protest Box located below the Official Notice Board on the lower deck. Completed Forms must be delivered to the protest room on the second floor for time stamp and registration not later than one hour after the Race Committee Signal Boat docks for the day and makes one sound signal. The docking time will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

23.2 The time and place for hearings and the sail numbers of the boats involved will be posted on the Official Notice Board within thirty (30) minutes following the expiration of the time to file protests. Additionally, the Race Committee will post the sail numbers of boats it intends to score OCS within thirty (30) minutes of the Committee Boat's docking time. Such posting shall constitute notice as required by rule **A5.1**. No signal will be made when this notice is posted. The protest committee will hear protests and requests for redress in approximately the order of receipt with hearings beginning as soon as possible.

23.3 Rule 60.2(a) is changed to add the following requirements for a valid protest: "A boat shall inform the finish line race committee boat of her intent to file a protest and the sail number (or other identification) of the protested boat(s) either at the first reasonable opportunity after finishing, or if the protesting boat does not finish, at the first reasonable opportunity, and she must receive confirmation from the race committee." This changes RRS 60.2(a)

23.4 **Protest hearings maybe held virtual via "ZOOM" or Microsoft "Teams", if required, due to location / availability of designated Judges. The link will be made available and posted on the Official Notice Board if needed.**

24 SCORING

24.1 Places will be determined by handicap correction per NOR 9. Scoring for all classes will be according to the low point system of Appendix A with no races excluded.

24.2 A team's points for a race will be the sum of the scores of the best three boats of that team in the race. The team with the lowest total points overall for all races wins.

24.3 Ties for overall class standings will be broken using the method described in Appendix A 8. Should a tie on corrected time occur in the last race, the same procedure will be applied to the next to last race, and so on until the tie is broken.

24.4 Ties for overall team standings will be broken in favor of the team which has the most firsts, seconds, etc., until all places have been exhausted, using the team's best three boats in each race. Should a tie still exist it shall be resolved in favor of the team which scored better in the last race in the fastest rated class in which the tied teams had boats entered and scored differently, regardless of whether the boats' scores counted for the team. Should ties exist in all classes where both team had boats entered in the last race, the same procedures will be applied to the next to last race, and so on until the tie is broken. This changes Appendix A8.

24.5 The long distance race scores will be adjusted by a multiple of 1.5. This changes RRS A4

25 TROPHIES

25.1 The Spring Hill College Gulf Yachting Association Offshore Challenge Cup

The winning team with the best four (4) boat entry will be awarded "The Spring Hill College Gulf Yachting Association Offshore Challenge Cup" trophy and will be given this trophy for one year. A keeper trophy will also be awarded to the winning team. In addition, trophies for the second and third teams overall will be awarded.

25.2 The Mobile Yacht Club Trophy

The team with the lowest point total among teams with three boat teams will be awarded "The Mobile Yacht Club Trophy" and will be given this trophy for one year. A keeper trophy will also be awarded to the same team.

25.3 The "G. S. 'Buddy' Friedrichs" Trophy

The boat that places first in the "A" fleet will be awarded the "G. S. 'Buddy' Friedrichs" trophy and will be given this trophy for one year for display at the winner's Club.

/ operator of the drone. This rule does not apply to the OA drones.

27.8 Support persons shall declare which boat or boats to which they are attached and shall declare proof of insurance and provide photo ID of the driver. Vessels shall comply with local laws and regulations regarding their operation.

27.9 The starting area is a rectangle with its borders 100 meters to windward and leeward and 100 meters to pin ends of the starting line.

27.10 Under all circumstances, support vessels are expected to assist any boat in danger.

27.11 A boat shall report for a safety inspection when asked to do so by the RC or Protest Committee.

27.12 A boat and its crew shall, at all times, keep clear of all commercial vessels and shall not maneuver in any manner which would cause a commercial vessel to be unable to sail their proper course or carry out their commercial functions in a normal manner.

27.12.1 A boat whose actions or maneuvers result in a Danger Signal (5 Horns or Sounds) from a commercial vessel, shall be protested.

27.12.2[NP] A boat in violation of 27.12 can only be protested by the RC.

27.12.3 The penalty for breaking this 27.12 shall be disqualification from the entire regatta in which case rule RRS 36 will not apply. (This changes RRS 36))

28 FURTHER INFORMATION:

Link to Regatta Website:

<https://www.nextsailor.com/app/page/regatta/895>

Link to Hearing Request Form:

https://www.gulfportyachtclub.org/files/US_Sailing_Hearing_Request_Form_20210301_Fillable.pdf

Link to GYA Information:

<https://www.gya.org>

For questions regarding the 2025 GYA Offshore Challenge Cup please contact:

Principle Race Officer, Michael G. Hage, 228-697-8880 or email at mhage@allsignsgulfport.com

GYC Waterfront Director, by email at GYCWaterfrontDirector@gmail.com

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