



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2025 THOMAS MEMORIAL REGATTA



October 11, 2025
Fort Walton Yacht Club
Fort Walton Beach, Florida

1. RULES

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).

2. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

2.1 The race committee will broadcast/monitor VHF channel 72.

2.2 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

3. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Smack Point flagpole.

3.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 5 minutes” in the Race Signals for AP.

4. SCHEDULE

4.1 A single race is scheduled for each fleet.

4.2 Race Day Events:

Registration/Check-In	11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Patio
Skippers Meeting	12:00 PM	Patio
First Warning	12:55 PM	
Awards Ceremony	ASAP After Racing	Lounge

5. CLASS FLAGS

The class flags and starting order will be announced at the Skippers Meeting.

6. COURSES

Courses will be available prior to the Skippers Meeting.

7. MARKS AND LINES

The starting and finishing marks and lines will be briefed at the Skippers meeting.

8. THE START

In the event of individual recalls, the race committee will endeavor to hail offending boats. Failure to broadcast, broadcast in a timely manner, or be heard by the offending boats will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

9. PENALTY SYSTEM

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

10. TIME LIMITS

10.1 The time limit for the race is four (4) hours.

10.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in their fleet sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 36, A4, and A5.

11. HEARING REQUESTS

Hearing request forms are available on the bulletin board and must be filed within one (1) hour after the last boat finishes. The protest period time limit, and the times and locations of protest hearings will be posted on the FWYC bulletin board