



# **2024 Columbus Day Regatta-Miami, Florida**

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **1. RULES**

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

### **2. ENTRIES**

The regatta will be open to classes outlined in the NOR and any amendments to the NOR. Entries received after 6:30 pm October 10,2024, will not be accepted. Assignment of classes will be at the discretion of the Race Committee. A scratch sheet will be available on nextSailor.com for this regatta. The Columbus Day Regatta web site will refer you to the nextSailor.com site. Please refer to both web sites for all official information. There will be no ORC and no PHRF classes this year.

### **3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors and announcements to the competitors will be posted on nextSailor.com or the Columbus Day Regatta web site for this regatta. Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on or before 7:00 am on Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 on both websites. <http://www.columbusdayregatta.net> and/or <https://www.nextsailor.com/app/page/regatta/748>

**Cancellation:** Should severe weather threaten the safety of the Regatta, announcements will be announced on VHF channel 72 and we will attempt to contact all boats by email or phone call.

### **4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE - None**

### **5. SCHEDULE**

A competitor's meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:35 pm via zoom. The Zoom ID is: Meeting ID: 426-765-4588

No passcode needed.

The meeting will be held in the Coral Reef YC boat house on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. You are also welcome to attend in person. Nothing said at the meeting can or will change the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions or any posted amendments.

The regatta shall consist of one race only on Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. There will be just one start for all classes and the warning signal will be at 10:00 am. The awards ceremony will take place at Shake-a-Leg at 6:30 pm the same day.

### **6. FINISH INSTRUCTIONS**

Boats will be identified by their sail numbers for the purposes of recording finishes. If a boat does not have a sail number or has the same number as another entrant on the scratch sheet, the boat shall hail the race committee on VHF Channel 72 or sail close to the signal boat to identify themselves. Failure to notify the race committee via VHF or by acknowledged hails may result in the boat not being scored. Please make sure we know who you are when you finish.

### **7. RACING AREA AND STARTING SEQUENCE**

The starting area will be in the vicinity of about 1 nm north of government marker "Q," An orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat and adjacent yellow or white inflatable marks will designate the two sides of the starting lines. The signal boat will be in the center of the starting line displaying a large blue RC flag in addition to the single orange flag. There shall be two white or yellow inflatable marks, one to the east and the other to the west of the signal boat. The white marks may have a Bacardi logo on them. All **multihulls** will start between the **west** starting mark and

the orange flag on the signal boat. All monohulls will start between the east starting mark and the orange flag on the signal boat. All course(s) will be posted on a white board on the Signal Boat. Any boat that starts more than 15 minutes after the start time will be scored DNC.

Any boat that starts early after the warning and does not comply with RRS 28 and 29, and is in the triangle between their first mark, the start boat and their start mark after the prep flag is raised and does not return and start properly per RRS 28 and 29 will have 15 minutes added to their finish time and if in one design, will be penalized by adding 5 positions to their score.

**Bill Beavers/Gunkhole Class will start and go directly to the finish at some marker designated on the course board. Keep in mind that the Bill Beavers/Gunkhole class may be finishing at the same marker that may be used by other classes as a rounding mark.**

**A Red Rectangular Flag with Bacardi Logo in the center shall be the class flag for all classes.**

10:00	Warning: Raised –Class Flag
10:01	Prep flag Raised
10:04	Prep flag lowered
10:05	Start – Class Flag lowered

## **8. COURSES AND MARKS**

The course will be designated by notes on the course board on the signal boat which identify the course to be followed. The course board may identify different classes to sail different courses. The Bill Beavers/Gunkhole class will sail directly to a finish at a turning mark, designated on the course board for the day (chosen based on wind velocity), all other classes return to finish approximately where the startline was located. There will be only one finish line for all classes other than the Bill Beavers/Gunkhole class.

**Course 1:** Start, sail to the featherbed marker, round it to port and return to the finish.

**Course 2:** Start, sail to marker “C,” round it to port and return to the finish.

**Course 3:** Start, sail to a white or orange mark approximately 3.0 miles south (180 degrees) from the start and round it to port and return to the finish.

**Bill Beavers/Gunkhole Class:** Start, sail to the finish mark which will be a chosen turning mark for the day and an adjacent committee boat displaying a RC flag and an Orange Flag.

### **NOTE**

**Marker “C” IS MOST LIKELY NO LONGER IN THE BAY, a WHITE OR ORANGE DROP MARK in the vicinity of: N25- 36.090/W80-13.080 will replace Marker “C” unless the “C” marker is replaced.**

**Featherbed maker** is: “Featherbed Bank East Light” government marker “#2” (25°32.308’N 80°12.821’W)

Each competitor is responsible for finding water deep enough for his/her boat. Do not damage environmentally sensitive areas in the Biscayne National Park. We have been told but, cannot verify that if you don’t swing very wide away from the Featherbed marker, you should not run aground. The organizing authority and all involved cannot recommend that any vessel, regardless of size, not honor all relevant government day markers. It is up to the individual competitors to obtain current approved navigational reference tools, charts, and chart plotters, to

verify day marker positions. Marks may be missing or damaged so, it is the competitor's obligation to refer to current notice to mariners provided by the United States Coast Guard for all information available to the competitors.

## **9. FINISH LINES**

The single finish line for all classes other than the Beavers/Gunkhole class will be between an orange flag on the Finish Boat and an adjacent white or yellow inflatable finish mark that may be displaying a Bacardi logo. The finish mark shall be west of the signal boat. Keep the finish boat to starboard when finishing. Except the Beavers Class, all monohulls and multihulls will use the same finish line.

The separate finish line for Beavers/Gunkhole class shall be between an orange flag on the Race Committee Boat and chosen turning mark for the race. This mark will be designated on the course board on the starting boat. The Gunkhole class shall keep the finishing mark to port and the RC vessel to starboard when finishing.

## **10. TIME LIMIT**

The time limit for finishing is 4:00 pm. Boats not finishing by 4:00 pm will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35. Whether or not the finish boat is on station, all competitors should note their finish time as they pass by the finish mark and the names and sail numbers of boats around them when they finish. If the RC boat is not on station at the finish of any fleet, competitors shall record the time that they finish and transmit that information to the RC as soon as possible.

## **11. PROTESTS**

Protests must be emailed to [MCatalanoLaw@gmail.com](mailto:MCatalanoLaw@gmail.com) by 6:00 pm the day of the regatta to be timely. Any protest hearings will be held at Shake-a-Leg at 6:45pm.

## **12. SCORING**

We will use the time-on-time method of scoring except for one design classes.

## **13. AWARDS**

Awards will be awarded to the top three finishers in each class.

## **14. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

A boat that retires from the race **shall** notify the race committee as soon as possible. To notify the Race Committee of withdrawal or failure to finish, please call Mike Catalano at 786-390-0301 or send an e-mail to: [MCatalanoLaw@gmail.com](mailto:MCatalanoLaw@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Notification can also be made using VHF channel 72 if the RC acknowledges the call.

The use of water balloons, funnelators or any other water balloon throwing device, or any obscene acts committed in open view will result in a protest by the Race Committee and possible exclusion from participating in any future Columbus Day Regattas. Boats observed purposefully discharging trash into the water may be disqualified or be subject to other suitable disciplinary action, DP or both by the protest committee. Remember, this is a fun race. If you see someone in peril, stop and help. We can give you redress after offering assistance. Safety is far more important than winning. If you see a beach cat capsized, please have a crew member on your boat, if possible, watch the people involved and make sure they are OK before you leave the area.

## **15. COMMUNICATION**

The Race Committee will communicate on VHF channel 72. The Race Committee will attempt to hail the sail numbers of boats over early but, the failure to make a hail or hear a hail or sound signal shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.

**16. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, or during or after the regatta.