

**Sailing Instructions**

**1. RULES**

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

1.2 No national prescriptions will apply.

1.3 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

**2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice boards. If notices have been posted, code flag “L” will be flown at the location listed below to indicate that a notice has been posted. If susequent notices are posted, a coresponding numeral pennant will be flown to indicate that a new notice has been posted. The location of the official notice board and flag pole for each venue are listed below:

 Key West: Dante’s near the stage

 Varadero: To be announced as boats finish MGM Cup

 Havana: Club Nautico back pavilion

 All notices will also be posted [www.yachtscoring.com](http://www.yachtscoring.com/)

**3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

3.1Any amendments to the sailing instructions or Notice of Race will be posted on the official notice boards no later than 2100 hours on the day before they are to take affect.

3.2 Oral changes to the sailing instructions may be made on the water. If the race committee intends to provide oral changes, it shall display code flag “L” from the Signal boat and attempt to hail competitors on VHF channel International 68.

**4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpoles described in section 2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with 120 minutes for all venues. If your boat is not within eyesight of the venue, the RC will announce any signals on VHF International 68 on the hour and half hour until the AP flag is dropped or Abandonment is signaled.

**5. SCHEDULE**

5.1 Registration, Check-In and Competitors’ Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday 1/27 1630 to 1830 Registration & Check-In at Dante’s

 1730 Competitors’ Meeting at Dante’s

 1800 to 2000 Welcome party at Dante’s

Thursday 1/28 1030 to 1230 Registration & Check-In at Dante’s

Saturday 1/30 1700 Competitors’ Meeting for Varadero Cup and Cuba Coast

 Challenge, at Marina Gaviota

 1800 Welcome Party at Marina Gaviota

Sunday 1/31 1800 Awards Party for Michele Geslin Memoral Cup & Varadero Cup

Tuesday 2/2 1700 Competitors’ Meeting for Castillo Del Morro Cup & Havana to Key West Cup

 1800 Welcome Party at Marina Hemingway

Wednesday 2/3 1800 Awards Party for Cuba Coast Challenge & Castillo Del Morro at Marina Hemingway

Saturday 2/6 1800 Awards Banquet at Dante’s for Key West Cup & overall trophy for Conch Republic Cup

5.2 Racing Schedule:

Thursday 1/28 1700 First Warning for Michele Geslin Memorial Cup (Key West to Varadero)

Sunday 1/31 1100 First Warning, Varadero Cup. 3 races scheduled for

 PHRF A & B fleets only. All other fleets 1 race.

Monday 2/1 0900 First Warning Cuba Coast Challenge (Varadero to Havana)

Wednesday 2/3 1100 First Warning, Castillo Del Morro Cup. 3 races scheduled

 For PHRF A & B fleets only. All other fleets 1 race.

Friday 2/5 1700 First Warning for Havana to Key West Cup

A total of 9 races are scheduled for PHRF divisions A & B. A total of 5 races are scheduled for all other divisions.

5.3 When 3 races are scheduled in one day, the second race will begin shortly after the finish of the first race and the third race shortly after the finish of the second race. The starting order may be changed to accommodate those fleets that are ready to begin the next race of the day. No Warning Signal will be made after 1500 hours.

**6. CLASS FLAGS**

 Classes will be assigned the following class flags:

 White with “B” PHRF “B” (phrf 99 & under)

 White with “A” PHRF “A” (phrf 100 and over)

 White with “C” Schooner

 White with “D” Multihull

 White with “E” Main & Jib (cruiser) & Caribbean Class\* (Cuban boats only)

 \*Cuban Class is eligible for Main & Jib Class trophies as well as Caribbean Class trophies.

**7. RACING AREAS**

7.1 The intended starting area for each distance race will be located in the vicinity of the following LAT/LONs:

 Key West: 24°31.71N 81°49.44W

 Varadero: 23°12.79N 81°09.46W

 Havana: 23°08.63N 82°22.47W

7.2 The intended starting area for buoy races will be located in the vicinity of the following LAT/LONs:

 Varadero: 23°11.32N 81°11.00W

 Havana: 23°08.42N 82°22.21W

**8. COURSES AND MARKS**

8.1 For the distance races, the finish line will be located in the vicinity of the following Lat/Lons:

 Key West to Varadero: 23°14.98N 81°06.54W

 Varadero to Havana: 23°05.42N 82°30.27W

 Havana to Key West: 24°31.71N 81°49.44W

 Hail the race committee 30 minutes prior to your expected finish for exact finish location

8.2 **Attachment A (Courses):** Describes the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

8.3 The course to be sailed will be designated by numerical pennants flown from the race committee Signal boat.

8.4 Rounding marks will be green tetrahedrons for courses 1 and 2. Rounding marks for courses 3-6 will be orange tetrahedrons.

**9. START**

 The starting line shall be between the staff/halyard displaying an orange flag on the Signal boat and a yellow tetrahedron, or a staff/halyard displaying an orange flag on a starting line boat that replaces the yellow tetrahedron.

**10. CHANGE OF NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will set a mark of a different color (or move the finishing line), and remove the original mark(s) as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

**11. FINISH**

11.1 For the Key West to Varadero race, the finishing line shall be between the staff/halyard displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and the Cabezo de Coral mark (FLG 5s), or a yellow tetrahedron left to port.

11.2 For the Varadero to Havana and the Havana to Key West races, the finishing line shall be between the staff/halyard displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and a yellow tetrahedron left to port.

11.3 For all buoy races, the finishing line shall be between the staff/halyard displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and a yellow tetrahedron left to port.

**12. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

12.1 For the three distance races all boats must finish by the time limit below:

 Key West to Varadero (Michele Geslin Memorial Cup): 1500 hrs. on January 29th.

 Varadero to Havana (Cuba Coast Challenge): 2000 hrs. on February 1st.

 Havana to Key West (Havana to Key West Cup) 1500 hrs on February 6th.

 Boats not finishing within the posted time limit will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) without a hearing and will be assigned points equal to the number of boats sailing the course and finishing within the time limit plus 2 points. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

12.2 For buoy races (Varadero Cup and Castillo Del Morro Cup) the time limit is 90 minutes. Boats not finishing within thirty (30) minutes after the first boat in her division sails the course and finishes, and not thereafter retiring, being penalized or given redress, will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) without a hearing and will be assigned points equal to the number of boats sailing the course and finishing within the time limit plus 2 points. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

**13. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

13.1 Protest forms will be available at the Regatta Table in the clubhouse or area announced at the Competitor’s Meeting for that venue. Protests shall be delivered to the race committee representative at the Regatta Table within the protest time limit. The protest time limit shall be 90 minutes after the Race Committee signal boat returns to the dock. The return time will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

13.2 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties.

13.3 Notices of protests by the race committee or jury will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

**14. SCORING**

One race must be completed to constitute a series. No races will be excluded. Races will scored time on distance. The low point scoring system will be used. This changes RRS A2.

**15. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

15.1 Boats are required to check in with the race committee by VHF radio on International 68. A response from the race committee is required to confirm check in. The check in window will begin 1 hour before the scheduled First Warning and end 15 minutes before the First Warning signal.

15.2 Boats leaving the racing area prior to the conclusion of racing are required to notify the race committee on VHF International 68. Boats must continue to hail the race committee until a reply from the race committee is received.

15.3 Boats are required to maintain a watch on VHF International 68 at all times while racing.

15.4 Failure to comply with 15.1 through 15.3 may cause race committee to file a protest against the non-compliant boat.

**16. ADVERTISING**

 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

**17. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

17.1 The race committee may communicate times, signals, OCSs, and other information on VHF channel International 68. The failure of a hail, the failure to hear a hail, or the order of hails shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

17.2 Except in an emergency a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats.

**18. PRIZES**

18.1 Trophies will be given to the top three finishers in each division. For buoy race days the trophies will be awarded based on a boat’s overall score for the day.

18.2 The Conch Republic Cup will be presented best score for the 3 distance races.

**19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority 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.

Regatta Chair: Jeff Drechsler

Principal Race Officer: Jeff Zarwell