

# 2024 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## 20th GOUGEON BROTHERS GREAT LAKES MULTIHULL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

August 23 - 25, 2024

Bay City Yacht Club

Bay City, Michigan



### 1. Rules

1.1. The races will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), International Sailing Federation, the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association and these Sailing Instructions.

### 2. Entry

2.1. Only yachts which have registered and paid the required fees as described in the Notice of Race may participate.

### 3. Requirements

3.1. All racing yachts shall have all the equipment required by government regulations. All races are considered to be Offshore Racing Council (ORC) Category 4 and it is recommended that each yacht has the additional equipment for such a category.

### 4. Notices to Competitors

4.1. Notices will not be posted on any bulletin board. Instead, changes to these Sailing Instructions and other notices and announcements will be made during the competitors' meeting or broadcast on VHF channel 72 prior to the beginning of the starting sequence.

## **5. Signals Made Ashore**

5.1. There will be no signals made ashore. Monitor VHF Channel 72 for any changes to the racing schedule.

## **6. Schedule of Races**

6.1. The schedule of races will be as described in the Notice of Race or announced at the competitors' meeting. Note that if no buoy races are held on Friday, buoy races may be substituted for Saturday's long-distance race at the discretion of the organizing committee.

## **7. Class Flags**

7.1. The class flag for Fleet 1 will be Numeral Pennant 1.

7.2. The class flag for Fleet 2 will be Numeral Pennant 2.

## **8. Racing Area**

8.1. The racing area will be in Saginaw Bay, Lake Huron using the BCYC race buoys and fixed government marks as described in these Sailing Instructions.

## **9. Courses**

9.1. The diagrams following in these Sailing Instructions show the courses. All fleets will race the same course.

9.2. The race course will be posted on a board located on the stern of the Race Committee signal boat, and the course will be announced by the Race Committee on VHF Channel 72 no later than the Warning Signal for Fleet One.

## **10. Marks**

10.1. The BCYC lettered marks are orange cylinders about ten inches in diameter that project approximately three (3) feet above the water line. Black letters indicate the identity of the mark.

10.2. The G1 and R8 marks are fixed government aids to navigation.

10.3. The "Black Hole" mark used for the long-distance race will be an orange or

yellow inflatable mark. The locations of these marks are listed later in these Sailing Instructions.

10.4. The Start and Finish mark will be an inflatable buoy for the buoy races *ONLY*. It will be placed in the vicinity of the BCYC “S” mark. Any reference to the starting, finishing, or “S” buoy in these Sailing Instructions refers to the inflatable buoy. The Start/Finish Line is ‘open’ during the race and the Start/Finish Line is not a required gate for leg 3.

10.5. The rigid BCYC “S” buoy does not have a required side and it is not considered a buoy or an obstruction.

## **11. The Start**

11.1. Races will be started using RRS 26.

11.2. Multiple sounds to alert the competitors of the impending Warning Signal will be made at 6 minutes prior to the first fleet start.

11.3. The race committee will make an effort to base the timing sequence on “GPS” time and to have the start coincide with a five minute increment of clock time (i.e. 2:30, 2:35, 2:40, etc.). The sequence for any subsequent races will begin as soon as practical after the last boat has finished.

11.4. The Starting Line will be defined by the designated BCYC buoy and an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat.

11.5. After the Warning Signal for Fleet 1, all other fleets must stay out of the starting area defined as 500 feet on either side of the starting line and 500 feet from each end of the starting line until the Warning Signal for their fleet.

11.6. The race committee will attempt to hail or announce on VHF Channel 72 premature starters (OCS). However, the onus to start properly is on each individual yacht. Failure to make a broadcast or to make it in a timely manner will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

## **12. The Finish**

12.1. The finish will be between the designated finish mark announced for the course and an orange flag or shape on the race committee boat.

12.2. Each finisher should record their finish time and the name of the yacht finishing

immediately ahead and behind.

## **13. Time Limits**

### **13.1. Buoy Races**

13.1.1. The time limit for each of the buoy races will be two and one-half hours. If no yacht finishes the course within two and one-half hours of their start, then the race will be abandoned for all fleets. The Race Committee, at their sole discretion, may abandon a race if, in their best judgment, no yacht will finish the designated course within the time limit. This changes rules 35, A4, and A5.

13.1.2. Yachts that have not finished within thirty (30) minutes of the finish of the first boat to finish in their fleet will be hailed by the Race Committee (VHF Channel 72), scored as "Did Not Finish" (DNF) without a hearing, and requested to promptly motor to the start area if another race is scheduled. This changes rules 35, A4, and A5.

### **13.2. Black Hole Distance Race**

13.2.1. There are no time limits for this race. However, the Race Committee may leave station at their discretion before all competitors have finished the race. If the Race Committee is not on station when you approach the finish, then pass within fifty (50) feet of the finish mark and record the GPS clock time when your boat passes the finish mark. Report your finish time to the Race Committee or a member of the regatta organizing committee at your first opportunity.

## **14. Protests**

14.1. Protests shall be lodged with the Race Committee within one hour of the Race Committee's return to BCYC.

14.2. Parties involved in any protests will be notified 30 minutes after the protest time limit of the time and location of the hearing for which they are interested parties or witnesses. The Protest Committee will hear protests in approximately the order of receipt beginning as soon as all parties can be contacted.

## **15. Scoring**

15.1. Elapsed times will be corrected using the GLMRA Time-on-Time correction

factor assigned to each yacht.

15.2. A yacht's score will be the total of her race scores. This changes rule A2.

15.3. Yacht standings will be determined using the low-point scoring system prescribed in Appendix A of the Racing Rules of Sailing.

15.4. One completed race constitutes the Great Lakes Multihull Championship.

## **16. Safety Regulations**

16.1. Prior to the first warning signal of the day, all competitors must check in at the race committee signal boat by sailing by the stern of the boat on starboard tack and verbally identify their sail number.

16.2. A boat that retires from racing shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

## **17. Awards**

17.1. Awards will be presented as described in the Notice of Race.

## **RACE COURSES**

### **Friday, August 23, 2024 Windward Leeward Courses First Race:**

**Start 1 (Fleet 1): Warning 1:55 PM, Start 2:00 PM**

**Start 2 (Fleet 2): Warning 2:05 PM, Start 2:10 PM**

The starting times for additional races will be announced by the RC on VHF 72.

All races will start at S-buoy. The Starting Line and the Finish Line will be between the S-buoy and the orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat.

The course to be sailed will be posted on a board on the stern of the race committee boat. The first letter (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, or H) displayed will indicate the Windward mark; the second letter (E, F, G, H, A, B, C, or D) will indicate the Leeward mark, which always will be the mark opposite the windward mark. The number (1 or 1.5) will indicate the number of laps. The race course will also be announced by the Race Committee on VHF channel 72 prior to the first Warning Signal for each race.

All marks will be taken to **port**.

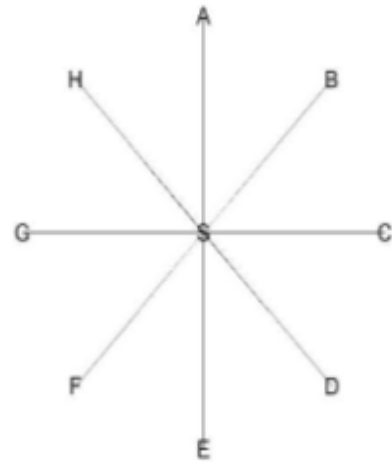
The Finish for the buoy races will be at "S" buoy unless the RC announces a change in the course.

All buoys not designated as turning marks and S-buoy when it is not part of the Start/Finish line have no required side and are not obstructions.

Examples of race courses are shown on the following page:

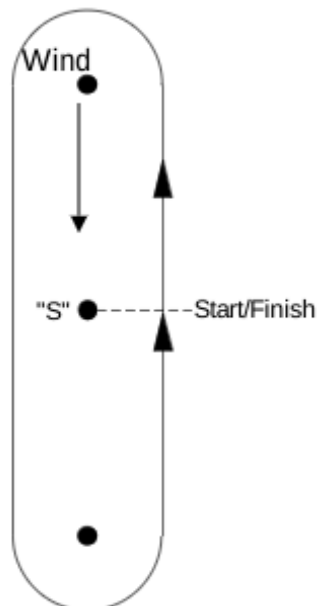
## Buoy Courses

Windward	Leeward
A	E
B	F
C	G
D	H
E	A
F	B
G	C
H	D



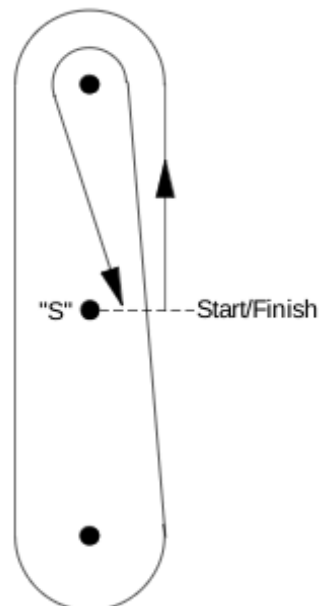
## Number Designations

**1**



1 lap, 5 nm

**1.5**



1.5 laps, 7.5 nm

**Saturday, August 24, 2024**

## **Long-Distance Course**

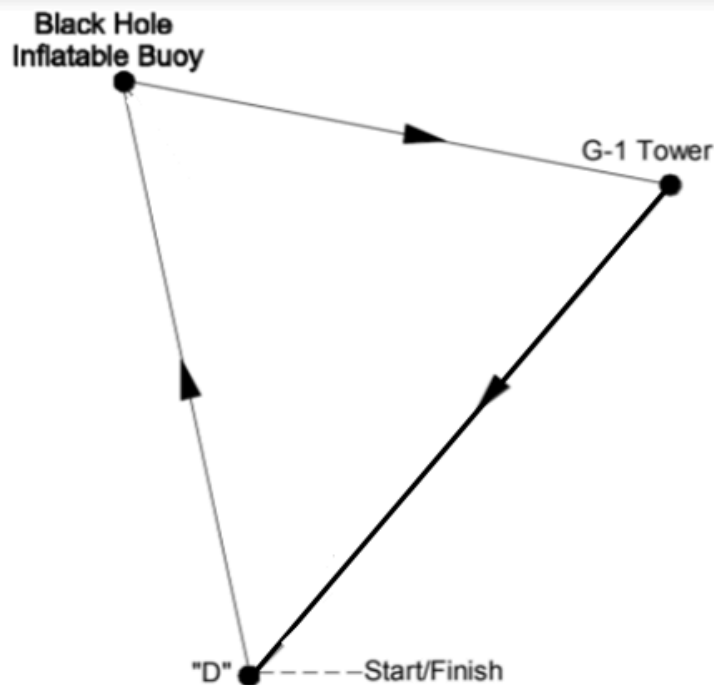
**Start 1 (Fleet 1): Warning 10:55 AM, Start 11:00 AM**

**Start 2 (Fleet 2): Warning 11:05 AM, Start 11:10 AM**

Note: BCYC monohull racing fleets will start at 10:00, and 10:05 AM. Please stay out of the starting area during their starts.

The long-distance race will be run as part of the BCYC Black Hole Bash. The starting line will be set up between the Race Committee boat and D-buoy. From the starting line, racers will proceed clockwise around the course defined by the Black Hole inflatable buoy, the "G1" Saginaw River Channel Tower, and the Finish Line established between D-buoy and the orange flag on the RC boat. The total length of the course is approximately 22.4 nm.

The turning marks are to be rounded to **starboard**. Any other BCYC Racing buoys or government marks in the racing area have no required side and are not considered obstructions.





**Sunday, August 25, 2024**

**Windward Leeward Courses First Race:**

**Start 1 (Fleet 1): Warning 9:55 AM, Start 10:00 AM**

**Start 2 (Fleet 2): Warning 10:05 AM, Start 10:10 AM**

The starting times for additional races will be announced by the RC on VHF 72.

The courses and requirements will be the same as described for Friday's races.

No races will start after 1:30 PM.

**BCYC Navigation Aid Target Positions**

Mark	Name	Lat	Lon	Comment
Alpha	RACE BUOY A	43°43.845'	-83°50.275'	Orange Pipe Buoy
Bravo	RACE BUOY B	43°43.482'	-83°49.060'	Orange Pipe Buoy
Charlie	RACE BUOY C	43°42.600'	-83°48.552'	Orange Pipe Buoy
Delta	RACE BUOY D	43°41.718'	-83°49.060'	Orange Pipe Buoy
Echo	RACE BUOY E	43°41.355'	-83°50.275'	Orange Pipe Buoy
Foxtrot	RACE BUOY F	43°41.718'	-83°51.490'	Orange Pipe Buoy
Golf	RACE BUOY G	43°42.600'	-83°51.997'	Orange Pipe Buoy
Hotel	RACE BUOY H	43°43.482'	-83°51.490'	Orange Pipe Buoy
Sierra	RACE BUOY S	43°42.600'	-83°50.275'	Orange Pipe Buoy
BLCKHL	BLACK HOLE	43°48.800'	-83°52.400'	Orange or Yellow Inflatable Buoy
G1	TOWER 1	43°48.330'	-83°43.150'	Saginaw River channel outer fixed tower
R8	TOWER 12	43°43.940'	-83°46.990'	Saginaw River channel inner fixed tower