



**2020 THISTLE MIDWINTERS EAST
NOTICE OF RACE
St. Petersburg Yacht Club 11
Central Avenue
St. Petersburg, FL 33701 March 1 - 6, 2020**

1. Rules

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

1.2 As allowed by RRS88.2, the US Sailing prescriptions to RRS60, 63.2 & 63.4 do not apply.

1.3 RRS63.7 shall be replaced by, "If there is a conflict between the Notice of Race (NOR) and the Sailing Instructions (SIs), the Sailing instructions shall apply." This changes RRS 63.7.

2. Eligibility

2.1 The event is open to all competitors who meet the Thistle Class Association eligibility requirements.

2.2 Eligible boats may register by completing the entry form on the St. Petersburg Yacht Club Website at www.spyc.org, click Regattas then scroll to Thistle NOR and Registration, and paying the required fees or going to www.yachtscoring.com and scroll to find this event.

2.3 Competitor Registration will be held on Sunday, March 1st, 2020 in the SPYC Regatta Room from 1300 - 1630. All competitors shall sign a waiver online at Yacht Scoring.

3. Fees

3.1 The entry fee is \$250 per boat, for boats entering on, or before, February 17, 2020. The entry fee from the February 18th until the entry deadline on February 26, 2020 is \$300 per boat. Entries after February 26, 2020 MAY BE accepted solely at the discretion of the OA with an explanation note of why, and pay an additional non-refundable late fee of \$50.

3.2 The entry fee includes: 5 days of racing, 1 hosted keg party, Shuffleboard Night, 3 Welcome Party tickets, 3 Award Banquet tickets, regatta trophies & 7% FL Sales Tax.

3.3 The final deadline for entries will be February 26, 2020.

3.4 Boats that entered and withdraw in writing prior to February 18, 2020 will receive a refund of their entry fee less an Administrative fee of \$35. Boats withdrawing after February 18, 2020 will not receive a refund.

4. Schedule

Sunday, March 1st

1300 - 1630 Registration & Competitor Check-in at the SPYC Regatta Room
1800 Welcome Party SPYC Tiki Deck

Monday, March 2nd

0830 Competitors Meeting at SPYC Sailing Center
1000 Warning, 1st Race of the day
1900 Shuffleboard at the St. Pete Shuffleboard Club
559 Mirror Lake Dr. North, St. Pete

Tuesday, March 3rd

1000 Warning 1st Race of the day

Wednesday, March 4th

1000 Warning 1st Race of the day
Pub Party (location t/b/d)

Thursday, March 5th

1000 Warning 1st Race of the day

Friday, March 6th

1000 Warning 1st Race of the day
There will be no warning after 1430
1800 Awards Banquet SPYC Ballroom

5. Sailing Instructions

5.1 Sailing Instructions will be available on line and at check in.

6. Venue

6.1 Boats will be launched from the SPYC Sailing Center on Demen's Landing, 250 2nd St. SE. The racing area will be on Tampa Bay, east of the St. Petersburg Pier.

7. Courses

The courses may be Windward - Leeward, or Windward - Leeward Triangles.

8. Scoring

8.1 The scoring system will be the low point scoring system of Appendix A, except that no score will be excluded.

8.2 Three races will constitute a regatta.

9. Prizes

9.1 Prizes will be awarded to skippers and crews placing first through fifth in the A fleet (A fleet includes skippers who have placed eighth or higher in a chevron event), and first through third in the B fleet. The following perpetual trophies will be awarded: Miami Sunshine Regatta Trophy (top finisher overall), Bruce Watters Trophy (top finisher from Florida), Ol' Thistling Tom Trophy (top skipper over 50 years old) and the new Old Salt Trophy (top skipper 60 years, or older).

10. Electronic Communications

10.1 RRS 41 is changed to allow the use of hand held VHF radios, but only for receiving communications from the Race Committee, and in emergencies. Use of any other electronic communication devices, including cellular phones, is prohibited.

10.2 The following additional stipulations apply to the Thistle Class Association's Chief Measurer's Ruling 65 and 74: VHF radios may be utilized to monitor weather channels at any time. The Race Committee may communicate safety, or race related information on a designated channel. Competitors are encouraged to monitor the safety channel throughout the race when conditions warrant. Communications between competitors regarding any race information not related to safety is expressly prohibited.

10.3 Electronic, or electronic devices, shall not be used except as follows:

A. Digital electronic compasses are permitted provided that the devices do not have the capacity to provide any information other than the digital compass heading.

B. Electronic starting timers and stop watches are permitted.

C. Position sensing devices are permitted provided that the information is recorded or output is not used on board.

11. Disclaimer of Liability

11.1 Competitors participate in this regatta at their own risk. See RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority, the sponsors, the race committee, officers and board of directors of SPYC, and all those involved in these organizations will not accept any responsibility for material damage, or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after this regatta.

12. Further Information

12.1 For further information contact John Deermount at jdeermount@gmail.com,

12.2 For accommodations please visit the SPYC website at www.spyc.org - click Regattas, then click on "Local Accommodations."

12.3 SPYC Guest Cards can be ordered in advance by clicking on "Regattas", then "Guest Card" on the SPYC site at www.spyc.org. Fill out the information and your card will be available at registration. SPYC requests that this be done at least 48 hours before arrival.

12.4 Access to the SPYC Sailing Center will be available beginning Saturday, February 29th at 1200 hours. Any boats, vehicles, or trailers left in the SPSC for more than 24 hours after termination of the regatta may be towed at the owner's expense unless prior arrangements have been made with the SPSC Waterfront Director.