

LOW COUNTRY HOOK 2017 OCEAN RACE

July 28, 29 and 30, 2017

Skidaway Island Boating Club and The Yacht Club of Hilton Head

Hilton Head Island to Skidaway Island

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

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

2. ENTRIES

2.1 The race is open to all non-planing monohull sailboats having an overall length of at least 22 feet and not longer than 50 feet.

2.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing a registration form and sending it, together with the required fee, to Skidaway Island Boating Club.

2.3 There will be separate classes for spinnaker and non-spinnaker boats.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITOR

Notice to competitors will be announced at the Skippers meeting and over the VHF hailing channel 72 in advance of the start of the race. Notices may also be emailed.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be announced at the Skippers meeting (if made by that time) and over the VHF hailing channel prior to the start of the race.

4.2 Oral changes to the sailing instructions may be made on the water over the VHF hailing channel prior to the start of the race.

4.3 Any schedule change will be emailed to the boat owner by 8:00 pm on the day before it will take effect.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the docked signal boat and announced over the VHF hailing channel. When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes". This changes race signal AP.

6. SCHEDULE

6.1 Friday, July 28 at Harbour Town Yacht Club, 6:30 pm, Skippers' meeting

6.2 Saturday, July 29, 9:55 am, Warning Signal non-spinnaker B class

7. CLASS FLAGS

CLASS	FLAG
Non-Spinnaker B	Number 1
Non-Spinnaker A	Number 2
Spinnaker	Number 3

8. RACING AREA

The racing area will be the Atlantic Ocean, Wassaw Sound and the Wilmington River

9. THE COURSE

9.1 The marks, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left are indicated below.

Start near Green 3 south of Hilton Head Island

Mark	Leave Mark to:	Coordinates
Green 7 (Tybee Roads)	Starboard	
Red 2W (entry to Wassaw)	Starboard	
Red 8 (uncharted mark)	Starboard	31 52.534; 080 53.566
Green 9 (Wassaw Sound)	Port	
Red 22 (Wilmington River)	Finish	

9.2 All government navigation buoys and day marks in Wassaw Sound and the Wilmington River must be honored and passed on their required side.

10. THE START

10.1 As a courtesy to the competitors, the race committee may announce upcoming signals over VHF hailing channel.

10.2 Before the warning signal, boats intending to race shall check in by sailing past the stern of the signal boat on starboard tack hailing their sail number or boat name if no sail number [DP].

10.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and the starting mark G3.

10.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other racers.

11. THE FINISH

11.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat or between a staff displaying an RC flag on another race committee boat and R22.

11.2 The course may be shortened. In that event, the finish line will be as described above except R22 will be replaced with another red or green buoy or day mark in the Wilmington River. The shortened course will be announced over the VHF hailing channel. This changes rule 32.

11.3 Boats without sail numbers shall contact the finish boat on the VHF hailing channel approximately 10 minutes before crossing the finish line and immediately after crossing the finish line. [DP]

11.4 The time limit to finish will be 5:00 pm.

11.5 Boats not finished by 5:00 pm shall be scored based on their position on the water at 5:00pm.

12. RETIREMENT

A boat which retires from the race shall notify the signal boat over the VHF hailing channel as soon as practicable. [DP]

13. PROTESTS

13.1 Protests shall be delivered to the signal boat or committee boat within 30 minutes of its docking at Landings Harbor.

13.2 Protests shall be heard as soon as practicable in the approximate order received.

13.3 Protest time limit will be announced over the VHF hailing channel. Protests will be announced over the VHF hailing channel within 10 minutes of the protest time limit expiring, else "No Protests Filed" will be announced at the end of the protest time limit.

14. SCORING AND PRIZES

14.1 The scoring handicap system will be PHRF Time on Time using TCF 650/550 + PHRF. In the event of a downwind port – port course, the denominator will be 450 + PHRF.

14.2 The RRS low point scoring system will apply.

14.3 A trophy will be awarded to the top three finisher of each class.

15. SAFTY

15.1 All boats shall carry an operating VHF radio. The hailing channel will be 72. [DP]

15.2 All boats shall be sailed by at least 2 persons. The maximum number of crew is N people, where N is: $(LOA \times .3) - 2$, with all fractions rounded up.

16. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the race entirely at their own risk. See RRS 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 race.

17 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance sufficient to cover liability for loss, damage, injury or death.