



HELLY HANSEN SAILING WORLD REGATTA SERIES ST PETERSBURG

including:

29er Midwinters East
J/22 Midwinter Championship
L30 North American Championship
Melges 24 Midwinter Championship
ORC Midwinter Championship
Sonar Midwinter Championship
Windmill Midwinter Championship

St. Petersburg Yacht Club
February 13-15, 2026
St. Petersburg, FL

NOTICE OF RACE

The Organizing Authority (OA) for this regatta is Sailing World in cooperation with the St. Petersburg Yacht Club (SPYC). The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest or request redress under this rule. This changes Rules 60.4(a) and 61.3 as stated below.

1. RULES

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

1.2 In addition to other rules changed in this document, the following rules are changed:

1.2.1 [NP] RRS 60.4 (a) adds, "(4) if the protest is by a boat and is based on a rule with the notation

1.2.2 RRS 60.5(c) adds, "(5) the protest is based on a rule with the notation [DP] and the protest committee decides the penalty shall be more or less than a single Disqualification."

1.2.3 RRS 61.3 adds, "or is a request by a boat and is based on a rule with the notation [NP]."

1.2.4 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: (2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or...

1.3 All US One Design Class Rules apply with the following exceptions:

(a) [DP] For the J70 Class: Class Rules Part III Sections I.3 (Support Boat) and I.4 (Corinthian Division) will apply.

1.4 RRS Rule 63.1 shall not apply.

1.5 The ORC Rules (found at www.orc.org/rules) will apply for ORC classes.

1.6 The US Sailing prescriptions to the preamble of Part 5, Section B and 63.1(b) shall not apply.

1.7 Personal flotation shall be worn as required by class rules. Competitors should be aware that the race committee may display Flag "Y" in accordance with RRS 40.

1.8 [DP] Competitor boats shall not fly drones, which includes support boats.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB), located on the

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regatta website, prior to the event.

2.2 Amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board located on the race website. It is the responsibility of each competitor to check the Official Notice Board for any amendments or notices.

2.3 Separate Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be available for the Distance Races.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1 The Official Notice Board [ONB] is online at:

<https://www.sailingworld.com/regatta-series-st-petersburg/>

3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on US channels. This may change a class rule. Some classes may request an exemption from this requirement.

3.3 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel(s) will be stated in the SIs.

3.4 [DP] While racing, except when requesting outside assistance, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 The following are eligible to enter:

- (a) Classes invited by the OA,
- (b) boats in good standing and current members of a one-design class association whose class is invited by the OA,
- (c) Level class, determined by OA,
- (d) ORC
- (e) PHRF

4.2 A minimum of eight boats is required for a class to remain eligible for one-design, level, or rated class. The OA reserves the right to modify the minimum number of entries in a class. The OA reserves the right to invite additional classes at its sole discretion. To enter the event, the helmsman of the boat shall be a member in good standing of the class association.

4.3 RRS 76.3 is deleted.

4.4 RRS 61.2 is changed to, "A request for redress is invalid if it does not comply with rule 61.2."

4.5 Invited one-design classes include: 29er, Fish Class, Ideal 18, Sonar, J/22, J/70, J/111, L30, Lightning, Melges 15, Melges 24, S2 7.9, Hobie 33, Windmills. If a class is not listed, email regattas@sailingworld.com to propose inclusion in the event.

4.6 Invited rated classes (1 day distance + 2 day buoy races) ORC or Level. PHRF for the Saturday and Sunday distance racing division.

4.7 ORC Spinnaker Class is open to any boat of 20 feet LOA or greater that holds a valid ORC certificate from 2025. If a certificate is needed go to <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/orc/>. A boat sailing under ORC shall be assigned to a division and class according to its rating and at the discretion of the organizing authority. All decisions of the OA regarding class assignments shall be final.

4.8 Due to the number of classes anticipated at this event, classes may be started together but scored separately.

4.9 The Distance Racing division (Saturday and Sunday only, 1 race per day) is open to Spinnaker or Non-Spinnaker boats of 20 feet LOA or greater that holds a valid ORC or WFPHRF Certificate.

4.10 Entries shall be completed online at <https://www.sailingworld.com/regatta-series-st-petersburg/>

4.11 Classes shall meet eligibility requirements no later than January 25, 2026. Fees for new and incomplete entries after January 15 will increase by \$75.00, this includes any unpaid entries.

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4.12 A representative of each eligible boat shall register with race management in person at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club during the allotted registration times. All skipper and crew waivers must be completed.

4.13 Waiver of liability: As part of the entry process, all skippers and crew waivers must be completed and submitted before registration to be a valid entry. Crew names shall be identified by the close of registration.

4.14 In the event of a crew member substitution during the regatta, the new crew member must submit a signed waiver of liability online prior to racing on that boat.

4.15 For Entries to be considered valid, all registration items must be completed including but not limited to online crew waiver submission, paid fees, rating certificates submitted, etc. All incomplete registrations will be considered withdrawn from the regatta if incomplete on or after 1900 on Thursday, February 12, 2026.

4.16 When a boat signs up, if appropriate, designated as a subclass for **Youth Team** (under 21 years of age), and Mixed + (50% female+). Awards will be given to one-design classes with a minimum of 12 boats registered.

REGISTRATION DETAIL	DATE
Entry Open for All Classes	October 15, 2025
Deadline for Early Entry Discount - All Classes	By 2359hrs on January 15, 2026
Deadline for Class Formation (8 paid entries)	By 2359hrs on January 25, 2026
Online Entry Closes	At 2359hrs on February 11
Registration - All competitors (Buoy & Distance)	1600 - 1830 on February 12 0730 - 0830 on February 13 1600 - 1830 on February 13 0730 - 0830 on February 14

5. FEES

5.1 The entry fee will be based on the LOA as follows:

LOA	Early Entry Fee	Entry Fee after 1/15/26
up to 19'	\$220	\$295

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20' - 24'	\$275	\$350
25' - 30'	\$295	\$370
31' - 39'	\$310	\$385
40' and over	\$350	\$425
Distance Race (Saturday & Sunday)	\$175	\$250

5.2 The entry fee includes: docking and use of facilities at St. Petersburg Yacht Club from Thursday, February 12 to Sunday, February 15, and race management. To request docking, please contact SPYC by February 3. Space is limited, please make your reservation in advance. Refer to 13.1.

5.3 Entries may be accepted solely at the discretion of the OA. An entry is not valid until the entry form and fees are accepted by the OA. To withdraw your entry for a refund less a \$25 admin fee, please email regattas@sailingworld.com no later than February 3, 2026. In the event that the regatta is canceled all entry fees will be credited less a \$25 admin fee..

5.4 The Regattas Socials are open to sailors, members, and guests for events on Thursday to Sunday. The Regatta Social Pass fee is inclusive of Friday light bites and drinks, Saturday Party, dinner buffet and live music. Social passes may be purchased in advance on the race website.

6. ADVERTISING

6.1 Boats are urged to refrain from displaying advertisements for businesses or products competing with those of the primary and support sponsors of the event.

6.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA, e.g., bow stickers, boom stickers, and/or flags.

6.3 At the discretion of the OA, bow numbers may also be required for some classes. If required, they will be provided and shall be placed on both sides of the boat's bow with the front edge of the forward number no more than 12 inches from the bow stem.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

7.1 A Competitors' Welcome will be held at 1830 on Thursday, February 12, 2026 at SPYC.

7.2 The first warning signal is scheduled for 1000 each day. There will be no warning signal after 1500 on Sunday.

7.3 The race committee will run as many races as viable each day, throughout the weekend.

7.4 Post race socials are scheduled for 5:30pm on Friday - Sunday at St Petersburg Yacht Club. Additional social activities include Friday light bites and Cocktail Contest, Saturday Live Music and Dinner.

8. MEASUREMENT/WEIGH-IN

8.1 Measurement is not required, but each boat shall have a valid measurement certificate at



registration if required by the class.

8.2 Neither the OA nor the SPYC shall be responsible for conducting or administering weigh-ins or measurements. Local or national class association representatives shall be responsible for conducting weigh-ins and/or measurement if needed.

9. VENUE

Racing areas will be in Tampa Bay, East of the St. Petersburg harbor entrance. The Distance Racing area will be in Tampa Bay and adjacent waters.

10. COURSES

The number of racing areas, specific locations, and courses to be sailed will be provided in the Sailing Instructions.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1 RRS Appendix T- ARBITRATION, will apply.

11.2 US Sailing Prescription Appendix V1 - PENALTY AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT, will apply.

12. SCORING

12.1 Each boat's regatta score will be the sum of her scores for all races with no race scores excluded. One race will constitute a series.

12.2 Boats entered under WFPHRF will be scored using time-on-time (TOT) scoring. Boats entered under ORC will be scored using time-on-time (TOT) system with a five-band range. All other boats will be scored without handicap.

13. BERTHING/HAUL OUT

13.1 All visiting boats and trailers must obtain docking information from the SPYC Waterfront Team. All visiting boats using SPYC facilities for launching, docking, etc. must email dockmaster@spyc.org by February 3, 2026 for a reservation. Docking fees at SPYC are included in the entry fee and confirmed upon the completion of registration (waivers, fees). Docking will be provided from Wednesday, February 11 to 15, 2026.

13.2 Registered boats participating in the regatta may be moored at the SPYC or the SPYC Sailing Center, as assigned by the SPYC Dockmaster, February 12 to 15, 2026.

13.3 [DP] Once launched, boats shall not be hauled out for the duration of the regatta without written permission from the OA. Lightnings, and boats stored on local beaches are exempt from these haul-out restrictions.

13.4 For boats below 6,000 pounds intending to launch from the SPYC Sailing Center, the majority of launching will take place on Thursday, February 12 and nearly all the boats haul out after racing on Sunday, February 15. Anyone who is able to launch earlier in the week, or haul on Monday is strongly encouraged to do so to avoid long lines. For boats above 6,000 pounds, check with Davis Island Yacht Club as an option.

13.5 The Lightning Fleet will launch at the Sailing Center prior to the start of the day's racing and will haul at the conclusion of racing each day. These fleets may arrive at the Sailing Center on Thursday, February 12, and must vacate the Center by Monday, February 16.

13.6 The 29er and Melges 15 fleets will be stored and launched at Elva Rouse Park (901 North Shore Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701) from Wednesday, February 11, and must vacate the park on Sunday, February 15. Please note, vehicles are not allowed on parkland grass and overnight RV parking and/or camping is not permitted.

13.7 Event Dockage: The SPYC docks and services are new and the layout should be reviewed in advance. Familiarize yourself by referring to dockage maps for the division of fleets. Competitor dockage will be distributed between the St. Petersburg Sailing Center and the SPYC docks. Refer to "Docking, Launch & Haul Out Logistics" on the ONB.



14. RISK STATEMENT

14.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. The OA and SPYC 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.

14.2 The Skipper/Owner of each boat participating in the regatta shall be responsible for the behavior of each member of the crew of his/her boat both on the water and while ashore. The destruction of property, the breach of reasonable standards of good sportsmanship by any crew member, or any other person associated with the boat, or the failure of any of those persons to comply with the state and local laws, guidelines and recommendations as well as the host club's restrictions or with any reasonable request of the Organizing Authorities, Race Officers, Regatta Committee members, or their representatives, may result in the disqualification of the boat, and its exclusion from the regatta.

14.3 It is the skipper's obligation to ensure that each crew member's waiver is reflected on the waiver list prior to closing of on-site registration and check-in.

15. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$500,000 per incident or the equivalent. Competitors shall be prepared to supply proof of insurance upon request by the OA.

16. PRIZES

16.1 Prizes will be awarded, after racing on Sunday, to the top three finishers of each qualifying class.

16.2 Class Trophy: Boats in classes participating in three or more events of the Series will qualify for the **Sailing World Regatta Series Class Champion award**, which will be based on cumulative race scores from three events:

(i) The same boat must be used in all three events

(ii) The helmsperson must be the same for all three events

(iii) A boat's series score will be the total of her points in her three best events. If there is a tie between two or more boats, each boat's finishing position in her three best events will be listed in order of best to worst. At the first point(s) where there is a difference, the tie shall be broken in favor of the boat(s) with the best score(s). If a tie remains between two or more boats, they shall be ranked in order of their last qualifying event.

16.3 Additional prizes may be awarded to the top **Youth Team** (under 21 years of age), and top **Mixed Plus Team** (50% + female) in any one-design class with a minimum of 12 boats registered.

17. PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TV RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission to the OA for any photographs or video footage taken of themselves or their competing boat to be published in any media whatsoever; for either editorial or advertising purposes, or to be used in press information.

REGATTA CONTACT

For further information please contact:

Sailing World Regatta Series

regattas@sailingworld.com



<https://www.sailingworld.com/regatta-series/>