



## 2027 HELLY HANSEN SAILING WORLD REGATTA SERIES ST. PETERSBURG

Organized by Sailing World in cooperation with the St. Petersburg Yacht Club

**St. Petersburg Yacht Club**

**February 12–14, 2027 · St. Petersburg, FL**

### NOTICE OF RACE

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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 another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1. The notation '[DP]' means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

#### 1. RULES

- 1.1** The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2** All US One Design Class Rules apply with the following exception:
  - (a) [DP] For the J/70 Class: Class Rules Part III Sections I.3 (Support Boat) and I.4 (Corinthian Division) will apply.
- 1.3** The ORC Rules (found at [www.orc.org/rules](http://www.orc.org/rules)) will apply for ORC classes.
- 1.4** The following US Sailing prescriptions do not apply: the prescription to the preamble of RRS Part 5, Section B.
- 1.5** ELECTRONIC STARTING AND FINISHING (RaceSense)
  - (a) J/70 Class Rule C5.2 is modified to add the Vakaros Atlas 2 (or subsequent Atlas versions) as required equipment for the purpose of starting and finishing with the RaceSense system. Each boat shall provide a working Atlas 2 at check-in for configuration with RaceSense. Detailed requirements for the mounting and use of the device will be posted on the Official Notice Board and are incorporated by reference into this rule.
  - (b) Melges 24 Class Rule CR 5.1(B)(1) will be in effect, requiring the use of the Vakaros Atlas 2 for the purposes of starting and finishing with the RaceSense system.
- 1.6** Cruising spinnakers are permitted for the PHRF Cruising division when permitted by the boat's WFPHRF certificate. All cruising boats intending to use a cruising spinnaker shall declare so by email to [regattas@sailingworld.com](mailto:regattas@sailingworld.com) at least (2) two days prior to the event.
- 1.7** Personal flotation shall be worn as required by class rules. Competitors should be aware that the race committee may display code flag "Y" in accordance with RRS 40.
- 1.8** [DP] Competitor boats shall not fly drones, which includes support boats, unless authorized by Sailing World.

## 2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB), located on the regatta website, prior to the event.
- 2.2 Amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board. 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 Race fleets.

## 3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The Official Notice Board (ONB) is online at: <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50953>
- 3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a working 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 in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 3.5 At registration, all skippers or persons-in-charge shall provide a reachable cell phone number to be kept on file with the OA.

## 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, as determined by the OA;
  - (d) boats holding a valid ORC certificate;
  - (e) boats holding a valid WFPHRF certificate.
- 4.2 A minimum of eight (8) boats is required for a class to be 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 helmsperson of the boat shall be a member in good standing of the class association.
- 4.3 Invited one-design classes include: **Sonar, J/22, J/24, J/70, J/111, J/88, L30, Lightning, Melges 15, 29er, Melges 24, Melges 19, S2 7.9, Hobie 33, Windmill**. If a class is not listed, email [regattas@sailingworld.com](mailto:regattas@sailingworld.com) to propose inclusion in the event.
- 4.4 Invited rated classes: ORC (one day distance race plus two days of buoy racing); Western Florida PHRF for the Saturday and Sunday distance racing division.
- 4.5 ORC Spinnaker Class is open to any boat of 20 feet LOA or greater that holds a valid 2026 ORC certificate. If a certificate is needed, go to [www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/orc](http://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 OA. All decisions of the OA regarding class assignments shall be final.

- 4.6** The Distance Racing division (Saturday and Sunday only, one race per day) is open to WFPHRF Cruising, Spinnaker and Racer Cruiser boats of 20 feet LOA or greater holding a valid WFPHRF certificate.
- 4.7** Due to the number of classes anticipated at this event, classes may be started together but scored separately.
- 4.8** Entries shall be completed online at <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50953>
- 4.9** RRS 76.3 is deleted.
- 4.10** Classes shall meet eligibility requirements no later than **January 25, 2027**. Fees for new and incomplete entries after **January 13, 2027** will increase by \$100; this includes any unpaid entries.
- 4.11** 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 shall be completed.
- 4.12** Waiver of liability: as part of the entry process, all skipper and crew waivers shall be completed and submitted before registration for an entry to be valid. Crew names shall be identified by the close of registration.
- 4.13** In the event of a crew substitution during the regatta, the new crew member shall submit a signed waiver of liability online prior to racing on that boat.
- 4.14** For an entry to be considered valid, all registration items shall be complete, including but not limited to online crew waiver submission, paid fees and rating certificates submitted. All incomplete registrations will be considered withdrawn from the regatta if incomplete on or after **1900 on Thursday, February 11, 2027**.
- 4.15** When a boat signs up it may, if appropriate, be designated a subclass for Youth Team (all crew under 21 years of age) and Mixed Plus (50%+ female crew). Awards will be given in one-design classes whose class rules explicitly define those categories. See Sections 6 and 21.

| REGISTRATION DETAIL                              | DATE                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Entry opens for all classes                      | <b>September 28, 2026</b>                                                                                                                        |
| Deadline for early entry discount — all classes  | By 2359hrs on <b>January 13</b>                                                                                                                  |
| Deadline for class formation (8 paid entries)    | By 2359hrs on <b>January 25, 2027</b>                                                                                                            |
| Online entry closes                              | At 2359hrs on <b>February 9, 2027</b>                                                                                                            |
| Registration — all competitors (buoy & distance) | 1600–1830 on Thursday, February 11<br>0730–0830 on Friday, February 12<br>1600–1830 on Friday, February 12<br>0730–0830 on Saturday, February 13 |
| Distance Race registration                       | 1600–1830 on Thursday, February 11<br>0730–0830 on Saturday, February 13                                                                         |

## 5. FEES

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

| LOA       | Entry Fee By Jan. 13, 2027 | Entry Fee after Jan. 13, 2027 |
|-----------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Up to 19' | \$230                      | \$330                         |
| 20' – 24' | \$285                      | \$385                         |
| 25' – 30' | \$305                      | \$405                         |
| 31' – 39' | \$320                      | \$420                         |

| LOA                               | Entry Fee By Jan. 13, 2027 | Entry Fee after Jan. 13, 2027 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 40' and over                      | \$365                      | \$465                         |
| Distance Race (Saturday & Sunday) | \$180                      | \$280                         |

- 5.2** The entry fee includes race management, docking and use of the facilities at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club from Wednesday, February 10 to Sunday, February 14, 2027. To request docking, contact SPYC at [dockmaster@spyc.org](mailto:dockmaster@spyc.org). Space is limited; please make your reservation in advance. Refer to Section 15.
- 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 an entry for a refund less a \$25 administrative fee, email [regattas@sailingworld.com](mailto:regattas@sailingworld.com) no later than **February 2, 2027**. After February 2, no refunds will be issued. In the event the regatta is cancelled, all entry fees will be credited less a \$25 administrative fee.
- 5.4** The regatta socials are open to sailors, members and guests for events on Thursday through Sunday. The Regatta Social Pass fee is inclusive of Friday appetizers and drinks, the Saturday party, dinner buffet and music, and Sunday appetizers and drinks. Social passes may be purchased in advance on the race website.

## 6. CREW LIMITATIONS

- 6.1** For J/22 competitors: Class Rule I.3 CREW LIMITATIONS will apply. There shall be no limit on total crew weight. This changes J/22 class rule C.2.1 per RRS 87.
- 6.2** For the purpose of subclass entry and prizes, a Youth Team is one in which all crew are under 21 years of age, and a Mixed-Plus Team is one in which 50% or more of the crew are female. See 4.15 and 21.3.

## 7. ADVERTISING

- 7.1** Boats are urged to refrain from displaying advertisements for businesses or products competing with those of the primary and supporting sponsors of the event.
- 7.2** Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA, e.g. bow stickers, boom stickers and/or flags.
- 7.3** [DP] At the discretion of the OA, bow numbers may 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.

## 8. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 8.1** A Competitors' Welcome will be held at 1830hrs on Thursday, February 11, 2027 at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club in the main ballroom.
- 8.2** One-design classes will race Friday, February 12, Saturday, February 13 and Sunday, February 14.
- 8.3** The Distance Racing division will sail one race per day on Saturday, February 13 and Sunday, February 14.
- 8.4** On Friday, February 12, the ORC division will sail one long-distance race, starting in the vicinity of Circle D and finishing in the vicinity of "G3". The full course will be posted to the Official Notice Board by 1900, Thursday February 11, 2027.
- 8.5** The first warning signal for one-design fleets is scheduled for 1000hrs each day.
- 8.6** The first warning signal for the Lightning class on Friday, February 12 will be 1200hrs.
- 8.7** The first warning signal for the ORC Friday long-distance race is scheduled for 1000.

- 8.8** The first warning signal for the Distance Racing division is scheduled for 1000 on Saturday and Sunday.
- 8.9** No warning signal will be made after 1430hrs on Sunday, February 14.
- 8.10** The race committee intends to run as many races as practicable each day.
- 8.11** Times and locations of all post-race socials will be shown on the Schedule of Events, posted to the Official Notice Board.

## **9. MEASUREMENT AND WEIGH-IN**

- 9.1** Measurement is not required, but each boat shall submit proof of a valid measurement certificate at registration if required by its class.
- 9.2** Neither the OA nor SPYC will 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 required.

## **10. VENUE**

- 10.1** 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. Specific locations will be defined in the Sailing Instructions and posted to the Official Notice Board.

## **11. COURSES**

- 11.1** The number of racing areas, specific locations, courses to be sailed and course patterns will be provided in the Sailing Instructions.
- 11.2** Courses for the Distance Race fleets, including the Friday ORC long-distance course described in 8.4, will be posted to the Official Notice Board by 1900.

## **12. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 12.1** RRS Appendix T — Arbitration will apply.
- 12.2** US Sailing prescription Appendix V1 — Penalty at the Time of an Incident will apply.
- 12.3** A penalty taken prior to arbitration shall be three places or 20%, whichever is greater.
- 12.4** RRS Appendix T1(b) is changed to read, "... a penalty is a 30% scoring penalty or four places, whichever is greater ..."

## **13. SCORING**

- 13.1** A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 13.2** Boats entered under WFPHRF will be scored using time-on-time (TOT) scoring. Boats entered under ORC will be scored using the time-on-time (TOT) system with a five-band range. All other boats will be scored without handicap.

## **14. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS**

- 14.1** [DP] Support persons and support person vessels shall register with the OA at the time of entry.

- 14.2** [DP] Support person vessels shall remain outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or retired, or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment — except when providing assistance, permitted by RRS 41.
- 14.3** For the J/70 Class, Class Rules Part III Section I.3 (Support Boat) applies — see 1.2(a).

## **15. BERTHING, LAUNCHING AND DOCKAGE**

- 15.1** All visiting boats shall obtain docking and trailer storage information from the SPYC Waterfront Team. All visiting boats using SPYC facilities for launching, docking, etc. shall email [dockmaster@spyc.org](mailto:dockmaster@spyc.org) for a reservation. Docking fees at SPYC are included in the entry fee and confirmed upon completion of registration (waivers, fees).
- 15.2** Dry-sailed and beach-stored fleets: The Lightning fleet will launch at the Sailing Center each day and may haul at the conclusion of racing. All other centerboard classes will launch from Elva Rouse Park. Vehicles are not allowed on parkland grass and overnight RV parking and/or camping is not permitted.]
- 15.3** For boats below 6,000 pounds intending to launch from the SPYC Sailing Center, the majority of launching will take place on Thursday, February 11 and nearly all boats haul out after racing on Sunday, February 14. Anyone 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.
- 15.4** Event dockage: competitor dockage will be distributed between the St. Petersburg Sailing Center and the SPYC docks. Familiarize yourself in advance with the dockage maps for the division of fleets. Refer to “Docking, Launch & Haul Out Logistics” on the ONB.

## **16. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

- 16.1** [DP] Once launched, keelboats shall not be hauled out for the duration of the regatta without written permission from the OA or the Principal Race Officer. Classes that are permitted to dry-sail, and boats stored on local beaches, are exempt from these haul-out restrictions.

## **17. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS**

- 17.1** [DP] Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keelboats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

## **18. MEDIA RIGHTS AND DATA PROTECTION**

- 18.1** 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 editorial, media or advertising purposes, or to be used in press information.
- 18.2** By entering the event, competitors consent to the OA and SPYC collecting and processing the personal data supplied during registration for the purposes of organizing and running the event, publishing entry lists and results, and communicating with competitors about the event.

## **19. RISK STATEMENT**

- 19.1** 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. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling

errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes. 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.

- 19.2** 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 state and local laws, guidelines and recommendations as well as the host club's restrictions or with any reasonable request of the Organizing Authority, race officers, regatta committee members or their representatives, may result in the disqualification of the boat and its exclusion from the regatta.
- 19.3** It is the skipper's obligation to ensure that each crew member's waiver is reflected on the waiver list prior to the closing of on-site registration and check-in.

## **20. [NP] INSURANCE**

- 20.1** 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.

## **21. PRIZES**

- 21.1** Prizes will be awarded, after racing on Sunday, to the top-three finishers of each qualifying class.
- 21.2** Additional prizes may be awarded to the top Corinthian team, the top Youth Team (all crew under 21 years of age) and the top Mixed-Plus Team (50%+ female) in any one-design or handicap class whose class rule(s) explicitly define those categories.

## **22. FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information please contact:

Sailing World Regatta Series

[regattas@sailingworld.com](mailto:regattas@sailingworld.com)

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

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*Posted by the Organizing Authority: September 28, 2026*