

Herring Island Sailing Fleet – 2008
General Sailing Instructions

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1. Rules. The current edition of the Racing Rules for Sailing, the prescriptions of the US Sailing Association, and these General Sailing Instructions will govern the races, unless otherwise noted by special sailing instructions.

2. Entries.

2.1. Competition is open to all HISF registered sailboats that meet the standard sail and equipment specifications and the special regulations governing minimum equipment and accommodation standards of category 6P as required by PHRF of the Chesapeake, unless otherwise noted as to category in a special HISF Sailing Instruction, or unless waived as to equipment or accommodation by the HISF Appeals Board upon application by a skipper because of undue hardship.

2.2. Competitors must be a HISF member or registered guest to enter a sailboat in one or more of the HISF racing classes, which include:

1. PHRF RACING CLASS – SPINNAKER, NON-SPINNAKER or ASYMMETRICAL

2. JIB AND MAIN (JAM) RACING CLASS - The intent of the JAM races is to provide a format for cruising sailors, novice sailors, as well as racing sailors, to sail and race together in a relaxed, non-aggressive, casual manner. Jib and Main sails ONLY. Spinnakers prohibited. This class is scored using an adjustable handicap based on performance to give all competitors a chance to move up in the standings during the season.

2.3. Handicaps will be taken from certificates issued by PHRF, or if not available, PHRF handicaps in other regions will be averaged to provide one. If none are recorded, the Barracuda will assign a handicap. If a competitor is not satisfied with the assigned handicap, a PHRF certificate must be supplied.

2.4. Eligible competitors may enter by completing registration with the Herring Island Sailing Fleet. See www.hisf.org for form and fee

2.5. It is suggested that participants in boats without lifelines wear personal floatation devices.

3. Notices to Competitors.

- a. Notices of any changes to these sailing instructions or instructions for the

special races will be communicated by email to all members not less than 5 days before the race

- b. For notice of whether a race has been cancelled due to weather or any other reason, call the HISF HOT LINE at 1-410-745-6499 prior to the race.

4. Schedule of Races.

4.1. Series Races. There are four PHRF racing class series per year, Spring, Summer, Fall, and a Frostbite series. There is one JAM racing class series per year. . The schedule is distributed to all members and is available on the HISF website, www.hisf.org. Starting times are 12 noon, unless otherwise noted. PHRF racing class races will be held on Saturdays, and JAM races will be held on Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons, unless otherwise noted.

4.2. Special Races. The special races include: THE HERRING RUN REGATTA, THE LONG DISTANCE RACE, THE NIGHT RACE and the CRUISE RACE

4.3. Cruise Race. An annual Cruise Race is customarily scheduled on a summer or fall weekend. The Cruise Race is not part of any series. Boats race to a destination (usually on the western shore), raft-up on Saturday night near the destination, and cruise or race back to St. Michaels on Sunday. Dates and course will be communicated to all members by Special Sailing Instructions. This race is Jib and Main only.

5. Racing Area. The racing area is as shown on course sheets distributed to all members, or down loaded from the HISF web site. Mark "X" is the rendezvous for all races.

6.1. Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker limitations; Single Headsails;

Prohibitions: The standard sail specifications and definitions of PHRF of the Chesapeake shall apply. The use of spinnakers, whether symmetrical, asymmetrical, or cruising, or gennakers is prohibited when racing non-spinnaker, or in the JAM class races. Asymmetrical spinnakers shall be tacked to the bow to receive any increase in its rating under 15.1 Only one (1) headsail may be used at a time while racing in any class except for cutter rigs flying headsails in the normal configuration. Two (2) headsails may be flown during a sail change, which must be completed in a seaman-like manner.

6.2. Selection. For any race in the PHRF RACING CLASS series, a boat may elect to compete as Non-Spinnaker or by using an Asymmetrical Spinnaker, by hailing the committee boat prior to the 10-minute alert, and clearly displaying a dark blue flag or

a yellow flag, respectively, during the race . The flag must be large enough to be readily seen by other competitors and the race committee and flown throughout the race at the stern on the backstay or on the end of any boom that overhangs the stern. The committee boat should have flags available for emergency use.

7. The Course. A course number will be displayed on the committee boat prior to the Warning Signal. The course is selected from the list of numbered courses distributed to all members, unless special race instructions showing the course have been distributed. Marks "A", "B", and "C" shall always be passed on the channel side.

8. The Start. Single start for all classes unless noted by special sailing instructions

8.1. Starting Line. The starting line will be between the orange flag on the committee boat and the starting mark. The starting mark may be a hisf mark, course mark or government mark.

8.2. Timing. Races will be started according to Rule 26, with the modification that the committee boat will fly code flag "F" and sound a horn or gun as an ALERT, or PRE WARNING, 10 minutes before the start.

Races will be started as follows:

STARTING SIGNALS:	TIME	Flag	SOUND*
Pre warning	10 min	"F" flag up	1
Warning	5 min.	"F" flag removed CLASS FLAG (HISF BURGEE) Up	1
Preparatory	4 min.	"P" FLAG* Up ,(I, Z, Z with I,) or black flag	1
One-minute	1 min.	"P" FLAG removed	1 long
Start	0	Class FLAG removed	1

"F" Flag is white with a Red Diamond

* "P" Flag is white with a blue border

*Gun or horn sounded at this time

9. Shortened Course. Boats will be alerted for a shortened course. Shortened course is signified by the committee boat flying code flag "S", (Blue flag with wide white border) proceeding up the course and anchoring to establish a finishing line in accordance with Instruction 11. The committee boat SHALL hail competitors and/or announce the change on VHF Channel 11 when practical.

10. Twice Around.

10.1. Signal. The race committee may signal that a course is to be sailed twice around by the following:

- (a)** Flying code flag "R"(Red with yellow cross)
- (b)** Two blasts from the horn or gun, repeated as necessary;
- (c)** Notifying competing boats by hail and on Channel 11 broadcast.

10.2. Second Lap. If the committee boat has remained on station, boats shall begin the second lap by crossing the starting line in the same direction as they did when starting. If the committee boat is not on station, boats shall pass the starting mark on the same side as when starting.

11. The Finish. The finish line will be between an orange flag on the committee boat and (a) the starting mark, or (b) any mark of the course in the direction of the course from the last mark or (c) a line approximately 50 yards in length, ninety (90) degrees left of the direction of the leg on which the course is being shortened.

12. Time Limit. Three and a half (3 ½) hours. Boats finishing more than 60 minutes after the first boat finishes, or more than 3 ½ hours after the start, whichever is later, will be scored "Did Not Finish" (DNF).

13. Protests.

13.1. Procedure. The protesting boat shall fly a red protest flag through the completion of the race and inform the race committee via hail or VHF Channel 11, and shall obtain an acknowledgment from the committee. A complete written protest, shall be delivered or e-mailed to the Red Herring, copy to the Head Herring, on the day of the race. A protest hearing will be scheduled by the Red Herring. The Red herring may also call a hearing under section 69.1 of the Racing Rules

13.2. Protest Committee. The Red Herring may choose any two disinterested sailors to join him/her to form the protest committee. As most members are racers, this shall not constitute a conflict of interest. The decision of the Red Herring or the protest committee may be appealed to the appeal board within 7 days of its decision by delivering or e-mailing a notice of appeal to the Head Herring

13.3. Appeals. The appeal board will be a group of not less than three members appointed by the Head Herring. Their decision will be final.

14. Penalties.

14.1. HISF uses the Two Turns penalty turn to clear a penalty. A protested competitor may exonerate him/herself by promptly completing two complete turns, in

the same direction, each turn each consisting of a tack and a gibe, except when there is injury or serious damage, then the competitor shall retire.

14.2. Penalty without hearing. At any time before a protest hearing has been scheduled, if an infringing boat (which has not performed a 720 degree turn), acknowledges its infringement, its penalty will be the greater of 20 percent of the boats which started the race (all fractions rounded up) or three (3) places

14.3 Penalty after hearing. If the infringing boat does not acknowledge its infringement and if found to be at fault in a subsequent hearing, its penalty will be the greater of 30 percent of the boats which started the race (all fractions rounded up) or five (5) places

14.4 Boat Collisions. If a boat is found by the protest committee to be involved in, and at fault, in a collision causing injury or serious damage, it shall be disqualified from that race. Such disqualification shall not be excluded under 15.2

15. Scoring.

15.1. The Time on Distance (TOD) method will be applied. Each boat's elapsed time is computed according to its PHRF rating taking into account the total distance of the race, except that:

- A. Any competitor who elects to race Non-Spinnaker in the PHRF Racing Class shall be given an increase in its rating equal to 15% of that rating
- B. Any competitor who elects to race using an Asymmetrical Spinnaker tacked to the bow shall be given an increase in its rating equal to 7.5% of that rating
- C. For the Jib And Main (JAM) Racing class, to give all competitors a chance to move up in finishing position, the first 3 boats in each race shall receive a reduction in its rating of 9, 6, and 3 seconds respectively and cumulatively.

15.2. Series Throw outs

- (a) 3 races are required to be completed to constitute a series
- (b) When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's Series score will be the total of her race scores.
- (c) When more than 3 races have been completed, a boat's Series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her Worst score

(d) All efforts will be made to make up and complete each race scheduled for the series.

15.3. Committee Boat. Any boat acting as committee boat will be awarded points corresponding to its total points for the series (prior to the throw-out), divided by the number of races in the series, plus one point. A boat will be awarded committee boat points only once in each series.

15.4. Points. Low point scoring will be used. The winning boat will be awarded one point, second will get two points, and so forth. DNS, DSQ and DNF boats will receive one point more than the number of boats in that race. DNC boats will receive one point more than the number of boats in the series.

16. Communications. Boats so equipped may communicate with the race committee via VHF Channel 11

17. Awards and Trophies.

17.1. Series Awards. Prizes will be given to the first three boats in each PHRF racing class series, based on the points earned in each series. There must be 3 or more boats competing in the series in each class for a 1st place Trophy, 5 or more boats are required for a 2nd place trophy and 7 or more boats are required for a 3rd place trophy. Previous year series winners, except JAM, (1st, 2nd or 3rd) and the current year series winners, except JAM, are not eligible for JAM trophies in the current year.

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17.2. Season Award. The Season Trophy is awarded to the first three boats based on the points earned overall in the Spring, Summer and Fall series

17.3 Gordon Miles Past Commodores Perpetual Trophy. This trophy is to be awarded annually to best overall performance in all the PHRF racing series, including the special races, based on the number of first places in all. A tie will be decided by comparing the number of second place finishes, third place finishes, and so on.

17.4 Douglas Abbott Sr. Perpetual Trophy. This trophy is to be awarded annually to best overall performance based on points earned in the JAM series.

17.5 Yachtsman of the Year Award. This trophy is to be awarded annually to a member who has demonstrated great sportsmanship and exceptional contribution to HISF during the year

17.6. Frye Memorial Trophy. Jack Cane donated this trophy to HISF in honor of the late Jack Frye, an avid sailor, a former Head Herring, and tireless friend of all sailors. It

is awarded to the fastest boat of the season. The fastest boat is the boat, which finishes first across the line more often than any other boat, regardless of handicap. A tie will be decided by comparing the finishing time margins of each first-to-finish boat over the next-to-finish boat for each race.

17.7. Special Race Prizes. Prizes will be awarded to the first three boats in each of the following "special" races: Herring Run Regatta, Bloody Point Night Race, Long Distance Race, and Cruise Race.

17.8. Earle Pierce Bassett Memorial Trophy. This trophy is to awarded to 1st place in the Long Distance Race

17.9 Other Prizes. Other trophies or awards may be awarded by the HISF officers at any time.. All prizes and trophies will be presented at the annual awards dinner