

**NORTH FLORIDA CRUISING CLUB
NOTICE OF RACE AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**



Herb Elphick Memorial Race

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 03, 2005

**Atlantic Ocean beginning 1 mile north of
St. Johns River Entrance Buoy R4**

1.0 RULES

The race will be governed in order of precedence by (1) this Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions; (2) the rules of the First Coast Sailing Association (FCSA); and (3) *The Racing Rules of Sailing, 2005-2008* (RRS).

2.0 MANAGEMENT

This race will be under the management of the North Florida Cruising Club, which is also the organizing authority.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

3.1 The race is open to all yachts with a valid PHRF certificate from the FCSA. (PHRF Club Handicapper is Bubba Futch on Isle Sea Ya.) A yacht participating in the Spinnaker or Non-Spinnaker Class shall have her sail number on the mainsails, spinnakers, and all headsails with an LP exceeding 130% of J. A yacht sailing in the Cruiser Class shall have an identifying sail number on her mainsail.

3.2 Yachts that do not have a current PHRF rating assigned by the FCSA may obtain a new rating (\$35.00 first-time annual fee) or may renew their rating (\$30.00 fee) at the Race Committee boat staging area the evening before the race.

4.0 REGISTRATION and ENTRY FEE

4.1 The standard FCSA race entry form must be filed with the Race Committee before 2200 hrs September 02, 2005. The entry form may be found on the FCSA website (www.sailjax.com). Click on "Regatta Entry Form".

4.2 Participants are encouraged to register in advance by sending the completed form with the appropriate fee to: Adam Norwood, NFCC Race Captain, 2149 Minerva Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32207. Registration may also be completed on the evening before the race at the Race Committed boat staging area (Sisters Creek Marina).

4.3 The entry fee is \$25.00 for NFCC Members, and \$30.00 for non-members (\$25.00 if U.S. Sailing Member). Make checks payable to North Florida Cruising Club.

5.0 CLASSES

The fleet will be divided into three classes: Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker, Cruiser. Classes may be further divided into Divisions if the number of entries permit.

6.0 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Pre-Registration:	By mail (see 4.2) or at the Aug 18 th NFCC General Meeting
Registration:	R/C arrival at staging area until 2200 hours Sep 02, 2005
Competitors Meeting:	None
Announcement of Changes to the Sailing Instructions:	0950 hours Race Day via VHF channel 72
Warning signal for first start:	1025 hours Race Day

7.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

7.1 Notices to competitors and changes to this Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions will be announced on VHF channel 72 at 0950 hours race day.

8.0 THE COURSE

8.1 Start approximately 1 mile north of St. Johns entrance buoy "R4" (N 30° 23.89' - W 81° 21.60'). Course will likely be a triangle including the starting pin, the Nassau Sound Approach Buoy "6A" (N 30° 29.40' - W 81° 22.90'), and the St. Johns River Entrance Buoy "STJ" (N 30° 23.58' - W 81° 19.13'), depending on sea conditions. Course will be announced on VHF channel 72 after the race committee boat has positioned the pin-end buoy at the start line.

9.0 THE START and FINISH

9.1 Once the race committee boat is on station at the start (indicated by display of the orange start line flag), yachts shall check in with the race committee prior to the warning signal of the first class by sailing past the stern of the race committee boat on starboard tack and hailing her sail number. Alternatively, yachts may hail the race committee boat on VHF channel 72. Yachts failing to check in prior to their class's warning flag will be scored DNC.

9.2 The race will be started in accordance with RRS 26 with the warning signal given five minutes before the starting signal. The warning signal for each succeeding class will be made 5 minutes after the starting signal of the preceding class.

9.3 The warning/class flag for the combined start of the Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker classes will be green. The warning/class flag for the Cruiser class will be yellow. The determination of which group will start first will be made by the Race Committee after the start line is set.

9.4 The preparatory flag for all classes will be the "P" flag.

9.5 Yachts whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid interfering with yachts preparing to start.

9.6 Individual and general recalls will be in accordance with RRS 29. In addition, the race committee will attempt to announce over VHF channel 72 the sail numbers of premature starters. If a general recall is signaled, the order of starts will not change; all subsequent starts will be delayed correspondingly. *(All VHF announcements are only an aid to competitors and are supplementary to any flag signals. Failure by the race committee to make any such announcement will not be grounds for redress.)*

9.7 A yacht failing to cross the starting line within 45 minutes of her start signal will be scored DNS.

9.8 If a postponement is signaled by display of the "AP" flag, the warning signal for races not yet started will be made not more than 10 minutes after "AP" is lowered.

9.9 The race committee will attempt to set the finish line at the same location as the start, unless the course is shortened or changed due to sea conditions. The finish line will be between an orange flag on the race committee boat and a pin end buoy.

9.10 **If the race committee boat is not on station at the finish (unlikely scenario for rough sea conditions), a yacht shall record her own finish time (to the second) with the finish pin to starboard, when she is within two boat lengths of the pin, and when the finish pin bears 90° to the helm station. All three conditions shall be met to have a valid finish. Do not use GPS time.** As a courtesy, the finishing yacht should simultaneously sound a horn to indicate she has finished racing. When possible, note the sail numbers and times of yachts finishing ahead and behind (hence the courtesy horn). As soon as practical after the yacht's finish, a yacht's timekeeper shall report their time to the Race Committee via VHF channel 72. Be prepared to count down your clock timing for time correlation with the official Race Committee clock. If unable to communicate with the race committee by radio for this purpose, a yacht's timekeeper may telephone the race committee at 904-237-7785.

10.0 PENALTIES AND PROTESTS

10.1 The two-turns penalty will apply in accordance with RRS 44. Any yacht which exonerates herself from a minor foul in this manner shall notify the Race Committee of such action after finishing.

10.2 All protests shall be submitted in writing on a standard US-Sailing Protest Form to the Race Committee within 72 hours of the race start. The Race Committee will make blank forms available. Notice of protest must also be given immediately after finishing by hail on VHF channel 72, and acknowledged by the Race Committee. If unable to communicate with the Race Committee by radio for this purpose, a yacht should telephone the race committee at 904-237-7785.

11.0 TROPHIES

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies with yacht name will be awarded in each class for which there are 5 or more entered yachts.

1st and 2nd place trophies with yacht name will be awarded in each class for which there are 4 entered yachts.

1st place trophies with yacht name will be awarded in each class for which there are 3 or fewer entered yachts.

12.0 POST-RACE

Race results will be posted on the NFCC website www.nfccsail.com and the FCSA website www.sailjax.com. Trophies will be presented at the NFCC General Meeting, Thursday, September 15th, 7:30 PM at the Florida Gun and Tackle Club on San Jose Blvd.

FURTHER INFO: Contact Adam Norwood, NFCC Race Captain, 2149 Minerva Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32207 904-398-7343 (home); 904-237-7785 (cell); 904-641-1834 (work); e-mail: ahnorwood@comcast.net

Special Notes Concerning Overnight Docking at Sisters Creek Marina

For yachts staying Friday night at Sisters Creek Marina, rafting 3-4 deep may be required to minimize interference with other users of this public facility - bring appropriate rafting equipment. Do not dock in the Yellow loading zones.