

2024 GA-FL Ocean Challenge

NOTICE OF RACE – Revised Oct 20,2024

The GA-FL Ocean Challenge is an annual offshore sailing race from St. Simons Island, GA to Amelia Island, FL. The race on **Saturday, November 23, 2024**, is hosted by the Amelia Island Sailing Club (AISC). This is the reschedule from the original race date of October 12, which was postponed due to the effects of Hurricane Milton.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The 2024 GA-FL Ocean Challenge race shall be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024*, except as modified by this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions. The Amelia Island Sailing Club is the Organizing Authority for this race.
- 1.2 Rule 42 is changed so that engines may be used for propulsion with the incurrence of a motoring penalty as described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3 Rule 52 is changed so that races may be sailed with the assistance of self-steering gear, electric or wind.

2 ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

- 2.1 The race is open to insured monohull sailboats that are self-righting, properly rigged and fully seaworthy.
- 2.2 Eligible yachts may enter by [Registering Online at the AISC Website](#) (follow the link or click on the race on the AISC Website October Events page). Registration can also be done by completing the attached Registration Form and sending it together with the required fee to the address at the bottom of the entry form, to be received by the registration deadline.
- 2.3 Registration deadline is Tuesday, November 19, 2024.

3 FEE - The entry fee is \$35 per racing yacht.

4 CLASSES AND HANDICAPS - Classes will be established for PHRF Spinnaker and PHRF Non-spinnaker. PHRF ratings will be assigned to each vessel. PHRF Ratings submitted with the registration are subject to review and final adjustment for this race by the organizing authority.

5 SCHEDULE

EVENT:	DATE:	TIME:	LOCATION:
Skippers' Meeting	Friday, November 22	7:00 PM	Morningstar Marina
Start of Race	Saturday, November 23	8:00 AM	St. Simons Channel
Awards Ceremony	Saturday, November 23	7:00 PM	Fernandina Harbor Marina

6 PRIZES - Pennants will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in each class.

7 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY - Competitors participate in the race entirely at their own risk. See Rule 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.

8 INSURANCE - Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance.

9 MARINA RESERVATIONS

Morningstar Marina – **Book Reservations via the [Dockwa website](#)**

206 Marina Dr.

St. Simons Island, GA 31522

(912) 634-1128

www.morningstarmarinas.com

www.dockwa.com

Fernandina Harbor Marina – **Book Reservations via the [FH Marina website](#)**

3 S. Front St.

Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

(904) 310-3300

www.fernandinaharbormarina.com

10 FURTHER INFORMATION - For additional information, please contact AISC Race Committee:

Wilby Whitt

Cell Phone: (904) 210-2087

Email: wilbywhitt@comcast.net

**2024 GA-FL OCEAN CHALLENGE RACE
REGISTRATION / ENTRY FORM**

Skipper's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Club Name _____

Boat Name _____ Sail # _____

Boat Make & Model _____ Year _____

Boat Length Overall (LOA) _____ Genoa size (%) _____

Boat Waterline Length (LWL) _____

Furling Main? (Y/N) _____ Furling Genoa? (Y/N) _____ Outboard

Engine? (Y/N) _____

Propeller type if Inboard (fixed # blades, folding) _____

Keel type (full, fin, wing, bulb) _____ Draft _____

Spinnaker Class? (Y/N) _____

PHRF Rating Spinnaker (if known) _____

PHRF Rating Non-Spinnaker (if known) _____

PHRF Rating Issuer _____

As Skipper, I acknowledge that there are inherent known risks as well as unknown risks associated with yacht racing, and I acknowledge and agree that the decision to start or to continue a race is solely my responsibility. I agree to be bound by *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and by all other rules that govern this event.

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail entry form and check for \$35 entry fee made payable to **Amelia Island Sailing Club** or **AISC** to:

Amelia Island Sailing Club
ATTN: 2024 Ocean Challenge Race
P.O. Box 16143
Fernandina Beach, FL 32035

2024 GA-FL OCEAN CHALLENGE

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS – Revised October 20, 2024

1 RULES

- 1.1 The 2024 GA-FL Ocean Challenge race shall be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024, except as modified by the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions. The Amelia Island Sailing Club is the Organizing Authority for this race.
- 1.2 Rule 42.3(h) is changed to allow the use of the engine to get clear after grounding or collision and, in accordance with Rule 42.3(i), if a collision is imminent the engine may be used just long enough to avert the collision provided the boat does not gain a significant advantage in the race. The appropriate penalty for the collision that was averted is still required. In addition, Rule 42 is changed to allow engine use with a motoring penalty as described in Paragraph 8 below.
- 1.3 Rule 52 is changed so the race may be sailed with assistance of self-steering gear, electric or wind.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS - Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting and/or on the water over VHF Channel 72.

3 SCHEDULE

EVENT:	DATE:	GPS TIME:	LOCATION:
Skippers' Meeting *	Friday, November 22	7:00 PM	Morningstar Marina
Roll Call	Saturday, November 23	7:45 AM	VHF Channel 72
Start of Race	Saturday, November 23	8:00 AM	St. Simon's Channel
Awards Ceremony	Saturday, November 23	7:00 PM	Fernandina Harbor Marina

* NOTE: If you do not plan to attend the Skippers' Meeting, please advise the Race Committee via text or email on Friday prior to 7:00 PM that you will participate in the race and confirm your class - Spinnaker or non-Spinnaker - so we will know who to expect for the 7:45 AM roll call on Saturday:

- Text to Wilby Whitt at (904) 210-2087 or email – wilbywhitt@comcast.net

4 COURSE

- 4.1 **Distance** - The approximate racecourse distance is 26.0 nautical miles.
- 4.2 **Start Line** - An imaginary line between Green markers "3" and "5" in the St. Simons Channel.
- 4.3 **Turn 1** - At St. Marys Channel, yachts must leave Red marker "12" (N 30°42'70" / W 81°22'39") to starboard.
- 4.4 **Finish Line** - An imaginary line between Yellow markers "C" and "D" in the St. Marys Channel (east end of the Turning Basin).

5 START

- 5.1 The race will be started using a 5-minute sequence, preceded by an alert signal.
- 5.2 Horn signals will be broadcast over VHF Channel 72.

Warning Signal	Horn	5 min to start – ENGINES OFF
Preparatory Signal	Horn	4 min to start
One-minute Signal	Horn	1 min to start
Start Signal	Horn	Start

6 FINISH

6.1 A yacht finishes when, after starting, any part of her hull crosses the finish line from the course side, regardless of when its crew, sails or other equipment crosses the line. Bowsprits and other pieces of equipment attached to the hull are not part of the hull.

6.2 Record your own finish time USING YOUR GPS time.

6.3 Report your time to the Race Committee via text or by email:

- Text to Wilby Whitt at (904) 210-2087 or email – wilbywhitt@comcast.net

7 TIME LIMIT

7.1 The race ends at 5:00 PM. Yachts finishing after that time will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS 35.

7.2 Yachts withdrawing from the race before finishing shall notify the Race Committee by text or email:

- Text to Wilby Whitt at (904) 210-2087 or email – wilbywhitt@comcast.net

8 MOTORING PENALTY

8.1 So that yachts may finish within the time limit in the event of unfavorable wind or current, the engine may be used for propulsion with the following stipulations.

8.2 Motoring is allowed no sooner than 30 minutes after the start of the race, and any time thereafter. A vessel's speed in knots may not exceed its hull speed while the engine is in gear propelling the boat. Hull speed is defined as $1.34 \times \text{Square Root (LWL)}$, where "LWL" is the length of the waterline in feet.

8.3 The skipper shall record the GPS Latitude and Longitude position of the boat and the GPS time on each occasion when the engine was put in gear and was taken out of gear. A minimum of 30 minutes shall be recorded each time the engine is put in gear.

8.4 Record the total engine in-gear propulsion time (Motoring Time) in MINUTES and report that value to the Race Committee with your finish time.

- Text to Wilby Whitt at (904) 210-2087 or email – wilbywhitt@comcast.net

8.5 A motoring penalty equal to $(0.40 \times \text{Square Root (LWL)} \times \text{Motoring Time})$ will be added to the corrected finish time.

9 SCORING

9.1 The Low Point Scoring System, rule A4, will apply.

9.2 The PHRF Handicap System will be used for calculation of corrected finish times.

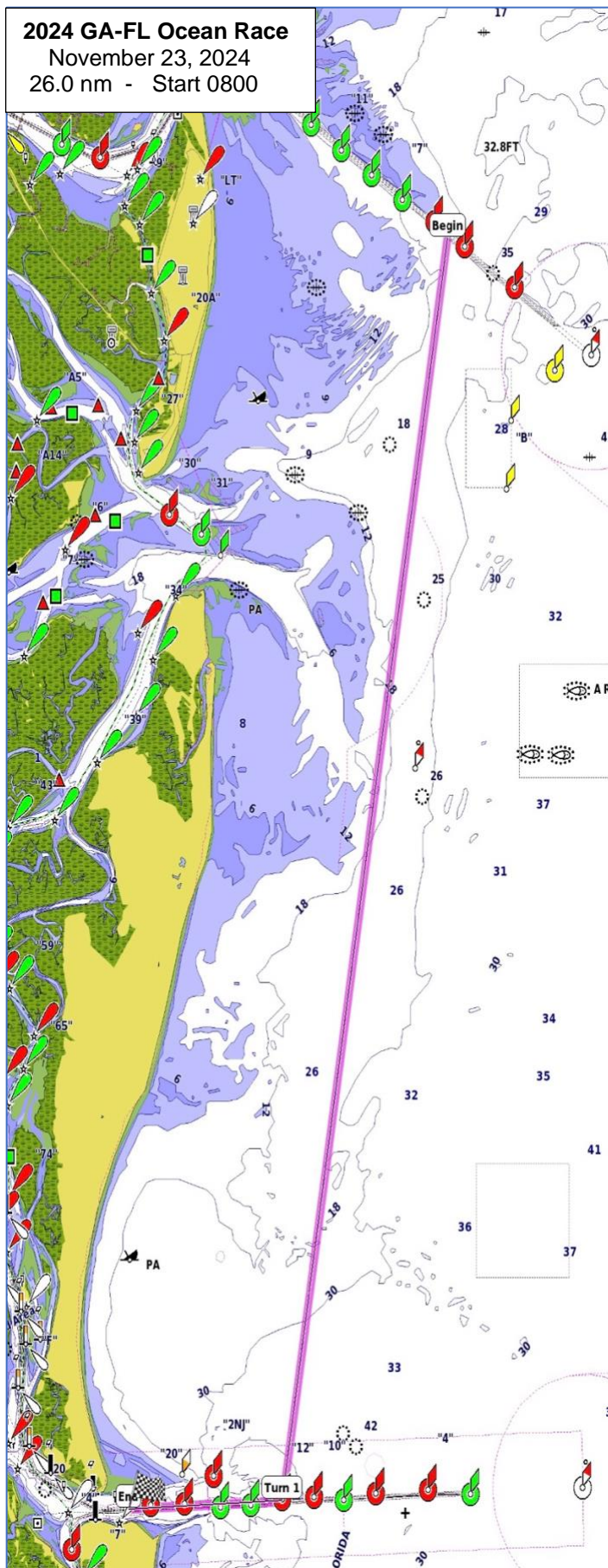
9.3 Individual boats placing first, second and third in each class will receive award pennants.

9.4 For boats which are members of Golden Isles Sailing Club (GISC) and Amelia Island Sailing Club (AISC), the clubs which founded this race, there will also be a winning club determined by adding the top finish places of an equal number of boats from each club in each class. The club with the lowest total score is the club winner.

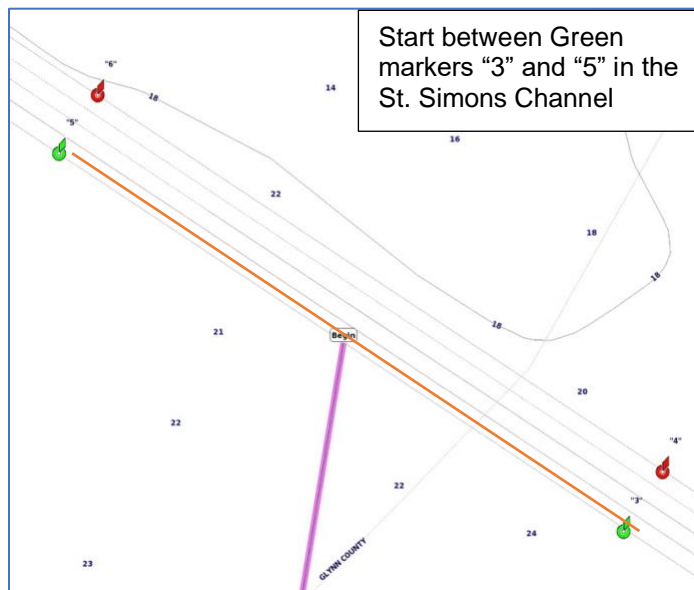
2024 GA-FL Ocean Race

November 23, 2024

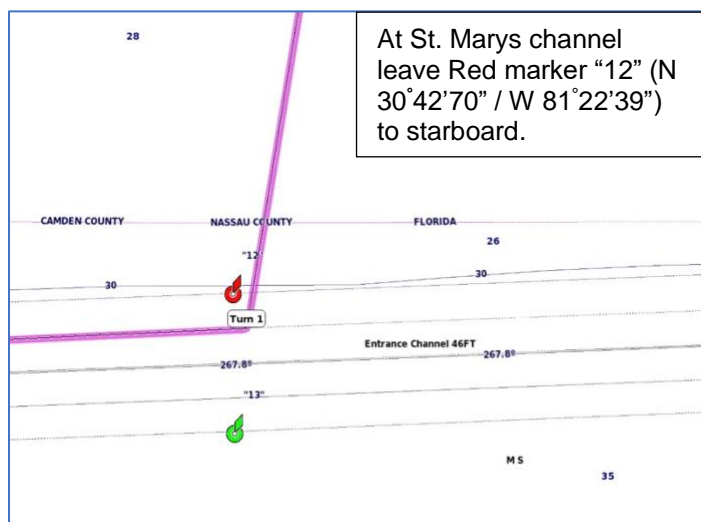
26.0 nm - Start 0800



Start between Green markers "3" and "5" in the St. Simons Channel



At St. Marys channel leave Red marker "12" (N 30°42'70" / W 81°22'39") to starboard.



Finish between Yellow markers "C" and "D" in the St. Marys Channel

