Sailing Instructions Updated 8/19/2020

PART 1
1. Race Headquarters will be located at the Downtown Sailing Center and will be open from 1000-1130 on Saturday September 26, 2020 for Pursuit Race Competitors. Please note: Marina will not be open for Pursuit Race competitors until 1000.
2. General Regatta webpage: www.downtownsailing.org/yagottaregatta
Specific Pursuit Race Information can be found via: www.downtownsailing.org/Pursuit
3. Post-race dock parking space reservations may be made by contacting John O’Riordan prior to the regatta. john@downtownsailing.org
4. Schedule: Friday, September 25, 2020:
   1700 - sunset Competitors are encouraged to prepare their vessels on Friday in order to limit foot traffic on ‘A’ dock on Saturday morning in order to maximize social distancing and to limit the number of participants on the docks.
   Visiting Competitors are able to Access ‘B1’ pier at their leisure and should make arrangements with John O’Riordan (john@downtownsailing.org) prior to the event.

Schedule: Saturday September 26, 2020:
prior to 1000 Email to competitors about expected course to be raced (confirmed at 1200)
1000 - 1100 DSC Cruising Skippers and Crew may access docks and boats
1130 Race Committee on Station in the vicinity of FM
1130 - 1200 Competitor Check-In, via verbal hail or alternatively via VHF Channel 68
1145 & 1200 COURSES for Each Class Posted on Committee Boat and Broadcast on VHF Channel 68
1200 Courtesy time check and watch syncing via VHF Channel 68
1210 - 1300 PHRF Pursuit Race Start
   *Individual boat start times are listed on “Start Times”, on the DSC Pursuit Regatta webpage, www.downtownsailing.org/Pursuit and will be announced by the DSC Race Management upon request beginning at 1150, Channel 68

Party Packs can be picked up at The BMI Pavilion or can be delivered to your vessel after finishing. Simply contact race committee on VHF Channel 68.

PART 2
1. RULES
   1.1 The regatta shall be governed by the ‘rules’ as defined in the 2017-2020 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
   1.2 Where these Sailing Instructions (SI) differ from the RRS, these SI shall take precedence.
   1.3 SI 14.6 changes the proceedings outlined in Part 5 Section B and Appendix M.

2. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS
   Official notices and numbered addenda to these Sailing Instructions will be posted online via the PHRF Pursuit regatta webpage: www.downtownsailing.org/Pursuit

An email will go out to competitors prior to 1000 on the day of the event with final information and expected courses for the event. Final course decisions will be posted on the Race Committee boat and will be broadcast via VHF channel 68.
3. **CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**
   
   Any change to the sailing instructions will be sent to the participants before the regatta and/or communicated via VHF Radio, Channel 68.

   **PLEASE::: Competitors, please check the email inbox used for registration for the morning of the event for information regarding the course. Any updates will be sent prior to 1000 on the day of the event.**

4. **RADIO USE**

   4.1 All competitors shall carry a working VHF radio aboard their boat.

   4.2 The Race Committee will use VHF channel 68 to communicate with the PHRF Race Competitors. All Competitors are reminded that mariners are required by law to monitor VHF Channel 16.

   4.3 **Radio Check-In:** Race Committee will be on station in the vicinity of FM by 1130. After 1130 but prior to their start time, boats shall notify the Race Committee of their presence in the starting area.

      Vessels are encouraged to pass near the stern of the Race Committee vessel on Starboard tack and verbally hail the Committee boat for check in. The Race Committee Boat will display the 'Lima' flag as a signal to check in.

   4.4 The Race Committee will respond to VHF transmissions to acknowledge retirements, protests or redress.

   4.5 **Coordinating Start Times – The starting times will be based upon UTC local time. There will be a courtesy time check at 1200:00 via VHF channel 68. Please sync your watch via the Naval Observatory number or other suitable method in advance. Call: +1 202 762-1401**

5. **SAFETY**

   5.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee, VHF 68, as soon as possible, or notify the DSC by email in the event of poor VHF connectivity. [info@downtownsailing.org](mailto:info@downtownsailing.org)

   5.2 Boats shall not exercise right of way, cross in close proximity to, or interfere with the reasonable transit of the race area by a freighter, tug, or other commercial vessel.

6. **SCHEDULE OF RACES**

   6.1 Racing is scheduled for the PHRF Fleet on Saturday, September 26, 2020, 1200.

   6.2 It is the Race Committee’s intention to run a single PHRF Race in Pursuit format with three classes: Cruiser, Non-Spin, and Spinnaker.

   6.3 The scheduled start times will be posted on the regatta website prior to the event and emailed to all competitors prior to the event, including on the day of the event prior to 1000. There will be no formal warning signal.

7. **RACING AREA**

   Races will be conducted on the waters of Baltimore’s Inner Harbor, the Patapsco River, and the Chesapeake Bay with the start in the vicinity of mark FM (RG Split Channel Buoy SE of Fort McHenry)

8. **AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

   The area between the three (3) green buoys off the north/northeast shore of Fort McHenry and the shore itself shall be considered an obstruction. No sailboat shall enter this area. See Attachment A for additional information.

   For reference these buoys are:
   
   - “7” QG N39°16.073’ W076°34.590’
   - “5” FL G 4s N39°15.954’ W076°34.555’
   - “3” QG N39°15.620’ W076°34.539’

9. **COURSES**

   9.1 Course Options are posted on the PHRF Pursuit website: [www.downtownsailing.org/Pursuit](http://www.downtownsailing.org/Pursuit)

   The selected courses will be chosen in an effort to create a race that finishes competitors between 1630 and 1800. Recommended courses will be emailed to competitors prior to 1000 on the day of the event.

   Confirmed Courses for all classes shall be posted by the race committee and broadcast on VHF channel 68 at 1145 and again at 1200.
More information about Distances from and Bearings to Marks can be found via BCYA’s webpage at http://www.bcya.com/marks/BCYAMarks.pdf

10. MARKS
All marks are posted above and can be found on NOAA Chart 12881 & 12278.

11. THE START
11.1 The Starting Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat and the course side of the “FM” buoy.

12. THE FINISH
12.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat and the course side of the “R4” buoy in the vicinity of the “Sandlot” in Baltimore’s Northwest Harbor.

13. TIME LIMITS
13.1 The time limit for the PHRF Race will expire at 1900. The time limit may be changed at any time by Race Management.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM
14.1 A boat intending to protest shall follow the provisions of RRS 61.1(a).
14.2 When there is contact involving a DSC boat, the DSC boat shall protest the other boat or shall accept the penalty, which may be to retire.
14.3 For the purposes of interpreting rule 44.1(b), "serious damage" shall consist of any damage or contact that results in visible or structural damage.
14.4 Promptly following the completion of the race, a boat that intends to protest an incident in that race shall notify the Race Committee of the name of the boat(s) that she intends to protest before that boat leaves the racing area.
14.5 Directly following the close of the protest time limit, Arbitration shall be held for each protest according to the prescriptions in Appendix T.
14.5.a Arbitration will be held near the DSC docks in the order of protest forms received.
14.6 As soon as practical after arbitration, and before either involved team leaves the dockage area, the jury will hold a “3 minute justice” hearing, comprised solely of a protest committee and a single representative from each party to the protest hearing:
   A. Once the hearing has begun, the Protestor has one minute to explain the reason for his/her party’s protest to the Protest Committee.
   B. The Protestee has one minute to explain his/her party’s position.
   C. The Protest Committee shall dismiss the two competitors and will deliberate and reach a decision in 1 minute.

This sailing Instruction changes the proceedings outlined in Part 5 Section B and Appendix M.
14.6b Protest hearings will be held immediately following arbitration under the tree by the entrance to ‘A’ Dock (or another suitable, nearby, announced location) at the Downtown Sailing Center, 1425 Key Hwy Baltimore, MD 21230, in the order in which they are received.
14.7 Protest forms and Penalty forms are available from the Race Committee and extra copies are located in the Race Committee bag. The Protest form may also be downloaded at: https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/US-Sailing-2017-2020-Protest-Form.pdf and will be made available to all skippers at the skippers’ meeting.
14.8 Protests may be withdrawn in writing and attached to the Protest Form, per Rule T4.
14.9 The protest time limit is one hour after the last boat in the same fleet finishes the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to requests for redress. The race office consists of the Race Committee and the Race Committee Bag. The protest committee shall extend the time limit if there is good reason to do so.
14.10 Protest forms and Penalty forms are available from the Race Committee and extra copies are located in the Race Committee bag. The Protest form may also be downloaded at:
15. SCORING
15.1 Boats will be scored according to actual time crossing the finish line. Corrected times will have already been incorporated into the Pursuit Start times. (Refer to regatta website for posted start times).

16. PRIZES
16.1 Prizes will be given as follow:
   - Spinnaker Division: 1st, 2nd, 3rd place
   - Non-Spinnaker Division: 1st, 2nd, 3rd place
   - Cruiser Division: 1st, 2nd, 3rd place
   Awards will be presented directly upon finishing by a race committee liaison.

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY
Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. 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 regatta.

The Skipper/Owner shall be responsible for the actions of his or her crew and guest(s). There shall be no alcohol aboard DSC-owned boats while racing or intending to race. In the event of serious breach of conduct, sportsmanship, destruction of property, underage drinking, or failure to comply with the request of any DSC Employee or DSC Volunteer, the Skipper/Owner will be held responsible and the boat or competitor may be subject to expulsion from the regatta by the DSC Executive Director.

IMPORTANT NOTE - COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC: COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, LARGE SHIPS, TUG BOATS, WATER TAXIS, ETC., HAVE RIGHT OF WAY AS THE “STAND-ON” VESSELS AT ALL TIMES AND RACE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE THE “GIVE-WAY” VESSELS. RACE PARTICIPANTS SHOULD KEEP A LOOKOUT POSTED AT ALL TIMES AND STAY WELL CLEAR OF ANY COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC.

BALTIMORE’S HARBOR IS AN ACTIVE COMMERCIAL PORT. SHIPS UNDERWAY MAY NOT LOOK LIKE THEY ARE MOVING, BUT IN FACT THEY MAY BE MOVING QUITE QUICKLY AND THEY ARE EXTREMELY LIMITED IN THEIR MANEUVERABILITY. FOR YOUR SAFETY, STAY WELL CLEAR OF ALL COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC! IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR POSITION RELATIVE TO A COMMERCIAL VESSEL AND ITS MOVEMENTS, THEY CAN BE HAILED ON VHF CHANNEL 13 USING PROPER RADIO PROTOCOLS.

Courses are posted on the event website,
www.downtownsailing.org/Pursuit