

Sailing Instruction

2023 Commodore's Trophy Race

September 16, 2023

ELIGIBILITY

USSER Nearshore yachts or better. All sailboat owners/skippers are eligible to register for and participate. Two fleet groups are available for registration via the regattanetwork.com site. A PHRF group and a Cruising group- NFS. Boats racing in the PHRF group must have a current PHRF-NW assigned handicap. For the Cruising – NFS group, boats lacking an assigned handicap will be assigned a temporary non-official handicap for this race only. The following instructions supersede the notice published in the 2023 edition of the TTPYC Racing Handbook (page 24)

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Minimum of three Crew, including skipper, required on each competing yacht. All boats must carry installed radar reflectors and each crewmember must be equipped with a whistle. Skippers are required to brief man overboard procedures with their crewmembers prior to the race.

TRAFFIC SEPARATION LANES

As some of this race will be in or in the vicinity of Traffic Separation Lanes, all skippers and crews are expected to be fully familiar with and comply with Rule 10 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea which states: Skippers are reminded that vessels under sail DO NOT always have the right of way over power driven vessels. "...a sailing vessel shall not impede the safe passage of a power-driven vessel following a traffic lane." Race participants are expected to yield to vessels in the traffic lane even to the detriment of competitive position. If a race participant needs to contact Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) they should use VHF Channel 14 if contact cannot be made on Channel 16.

If a skipper finds his/her boat in a position of potential conflict with a vessel participating in a vessel traffic lane and there is any question about the boats ability to remain clear of the traffic in a safe and timely fashion, the skipper must start and use the auxiliary propulsion capability of the sailboat to deconflict and exit the traffic lane in the most expeditious possible route.

The vessel must log and report the use of their auxiliary power and include details (time, speed, course) to the race committee. The race committee will then determine if the avoidance maneuver in any way improved the competitive position of the yacht and make the determination if a disqualification is appropriate.

The race committee will monitor both VHF 72 and 16 and will broadcast available traffic information on VHF 72 to the race participating boats to assist in their traffic awareness, route planning, and traffic conflict avoidance.

COURSE

Course will utilize the published TTPYC race mark positions however the "C" Mark (if used) will be an orange floating temporary mark.

The planned course length will be between 15 and 18.2 NM.

No yacht may finish later than 1700 Local

Course is at the discretion of the race committee and will be displayed on the RC boat.

Race may be shortened at discretion of the Race Committee at any mark.

SCHEDULE OF RACE

There will be no Skipper's Meeting the morning of the race.

Last minute changes, postponements, or cancelations will be done via signals and radio communication from the RC boat or via email communication to the skipper's phone as used in the regatta network registration.

There will be one race conducted on race day.

There will be one single combined class start for the race.

Race start/finish line will be between the RC boat and "K" Mark.

First Warning at 10:25 Local

Combined Start at 10:30 Local

Race participants are responsible for keeping a safe distance from the fishing pier and other boats entering/departing the Des Moines City Marina entrance. Do not transit between the G1 Green buoy and the Des Moines fishing pier.

COMMUNICATIONS

Race Committee will monitor VHF 72 during the race.

Boats are asked to check in with the RC at the starting area prior to the warning signal.

Where able, the RC will broadcast potential traffic status in the VTS traffic lanes to increase awareness of race competitors.

Vessels with an Automated Identification System capability shall broadcast their position during the race.

PROTESTS

Protests must be submitted electronically to the RC and received within 24 hours of the boats full course time limit. Format for the protest is available on the TTPYC web site. Race organizer email address may be used for this purpose. (bubba5557@gmail.com)