




Notice of Race

6th Annual FIRST COAST OFFSHORE CHALLENGE "Race into History" April 21st thru 24th, 2010 (www.fcoc2010.com)



The First Coast Offshore Challenge (FCOC) is a series of 3 races representing over 100 miles of offshore sailing with ports of call in two historic cities of Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. Race 1 begins Wednesday morning April 21st off St. Augustine, Florida for a day of long-leg buoy racing, followed by an awards party that evening. Race 2 will be Thursday April 22nd starting near the St. Augustine entrance buoy, heading out to sea to a fixed line of longitude and returning, followed by an awards party brunch the next day. Race 3 is a pursuit start race beginning late Friday April 23rd going overnight to St. Marys, Georgia, where the final awards ceremony and party will be held Saturday evening April 24th. Each awards party will include meals, beverages, and live musical entertainment. A Skippers Meeting is scheduled for 1900 April 20th at the St. Augustine Yacht Club. 

1 RULES The First Coast Offshore Challenge Series (the "Series") shall be governed by the "2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing" (RRS) as amended by the US Sailing Prescriptions; the "2008-2009 ISAF Special Regulations Governing Offshore and Oceanic Equipment and Preparation, including US Sailing Prescriptions", except as modified by Section 4 of this Notice Of Race; the PHRF rules of the First Coast Sailing Association (www.sailjax.com); and class rules for any One-Design class established. The North Florida Cruising Club (NFCC) is the Organizing Authority for the Series.

Extracts from ISAF Rules for Category 4 may be viewed at (www.ussailing.org/safety/ISAF/0809_cat4mono.asp)

2 ADVERTISING is unlimited for all competitors, but shall comply with ISAF Regulation 20.

3 FEES The FCOC Event Fee of \$250 prior to February 1 (then \$295 prior to March 16, and \$350 thereafter) will cover entry and participation in all 3 races: meals, beverages, and entertainment for 3 persons after each race at the respective awards parties. Visit the regatta website for individual race fee options. Withdrawals after April 08 will forfeit \$75 of the entry fee. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after April 15. Entries tendered after April 15 are subject to rejection at the discretion of the Race Committee. There is a \$5/race US Sailing discount.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 The Series is open to all seaworthy cruising sailboats (ISAF Cat 4) that are not less than 24 feet in length. Smaller boats not less than 20 feet may be eligible on an individual basis at the discretion of the Race Committee.

4.2 The designated skipper shall be 18 years of age or older.

4.3 Minimum crew size shall be 2 (including skipper) except for the overnight race which requires a minimum crew size of 3.

4.4 All one design classes shall comply with the maximum crew numbers in their class rules.

4.5 There will be no restriction on crew changes between races. Children aged 14 and under will not count as crew.

4.6 Modifying RRS Appendix G2, a yacht shall have identifying numbers or insignia on each mainsail, spinnaker, and overlapping headsail having an LP measurement of 130% of J or greater. The identifiers shall be the same for each sail used while racing.

4.7 Yachts shall conform to all U.S. Federal regulations. Additionally, yachts shall conform to Category 4 requirements of the "2008-2009 ISAF Special Regulations Governing Offshore and Oceanic Equipment and Preparation, including US SAILING Prescriptions", except that the following sections are modified from "shall" to "should":

<u>3.08.2a</u> 'Hatches & Companionways'	<u>4.10</u> 'Radar Reflector, AIS'	<u>4.26</u> 'Storm...Sails'
<u>3.14.6a</u> 'Lifeline... Specifications'	<u>4.12</u> 'Safety Equipment Location Chart'	<u>5.01</u> 'Lifejacket'
<u>3.27</u> 'Navigation Lights'	<u>4.22</u> 'Lifebuoys'	<u>5.09</u> 'Annual MOB Practice'
<u>3.29</u> 'Communications Equipment...'	<u>4.23</u> 'Pyrotechnic and Light Signals'	

4.8 All participating yachts shall be provisioned with the following:

- a) Radio – a 25 watt minimum VHF transmitter / receiver with a manufacturer's recommended antenna (masthead recommended). The radio must at least be capable of tuning to channels 9, 13, 16, 22A, 68, 69, 71, 72, and 78.
- b) GPS – a GPS device at least capable of displaying real-time latitude and longitude location data.
- c) It is recommended that DSC equipped radios be configured for use with GPS.

5 SELF-STEERING Cruising Class yachts may be sailed with assistance of self-steering gear, electric or wind (modifies RRS 52).

6 ENTRY FORMS AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION Prior to racing, each yacht shall be registered and shall submit the proper Fee; a Crew Declaration form including a landside emergency contact (which may be updated at the Skippers Meeting); and a copy of a current PHRF rating certificate (if not issued by FCSA) for review and possible adjustment to conform to FCSA ratings. Register and obtain forms at (www.fcoc2010.com) or link from (www.sailjax.com)

7 CLASSES AND DIVISIONS Classes will be established for PHRF Spinnaker, PHRF Non-Spinnaker, PHRF Cruising, Multi-hull, and One Design yachts. Cruising Class yachts may fly a spinnaker if declared prior to the Skippers Meeting, but with a -12 sec/nm rating adjustment applied for all three races. Yachts using performance sail materials (non-Dacron) cannot compete in Cruising Class.

8 PRIZES Trophies and flags for individual races will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in each class or division of class. Series Trophies will be awarded for 1st thru 3rd place and up to 5th place depending on the class size.

9 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS Sailing Instructions and scratch sheet will be available on the regatta web site and at the Skippers Meeting. Race Committee questions: Adam Norwood (904) 398-7343. Other event questions: Guy Anderson (904) 396-6382.