



Pensacola a la Habana Race

Appendix D

Radio Protocol

Version 1.0, 1 March 24, 2017



Scope: This addendum summarizes the communications requirements for yachts entering in the 2017 Pensacola to Havana Race.

Waiver to RRS Rules Regarding Inter-Competitor Communications: Racers/Cruisers are encouraged to communicate during the conduct of the Race. This will revise RRS Rule 41.

Time: The Race will be conducted on Central Daylight Time (CDT). Note: Havana and Hemingway Marina will be on EDT.

General Required Communications and Tracking Equipment:

VHF two-way

MF/HF SSB radio or functioning SAT Phone (which must be independent of any satellite tracking system).

Tracking equipment will be provided by YB Tracking, LTD.

Communication and Tracking Details:

You shall have a satellite phone or functioning, properly licensed SSB on board. All Racers will be required to be in a listening condition each day during the Race from 0830-0900 hrs CDT 1400 or for those using SSB, the standby frequency is 8.164 MHz primary, 8.294 MHz back-up. If a tracker fails for whatever reason or its track is lost, the Race Committee will attempt to call the vessel's satellite phone or SSB at those times, or relay through other racers via VHF. Once it is determined that the vessel is not in danger, that vessel will then be required to call the Race Committee via satellite phone or SSB at 0800-0900 CDT each day to report their position until they complete the race. The primary RC telephone number for this contact will be provided at the Skippers Meeting. The SSB contact is frequency is 8.164 Mhz primary 8.294 MHz backup Upper Sideband Simplex. Back up cell phone numbers for the RC will also be provided at the Skipper's Meeting.

Communications and Check In Prior to Departure:

The check-in with the Race Committee shall be either by SSB or through SAT Phone service. If possible good YB tracking will be verified simultaneously. This communications and tracking checkout shall occur prior to the Skipper's Meeting. This is presently scheduled to occur 10:00 am – 12:00 am April 29, 2017. Further details of these check-in requirements will be provided later by amendment to this Appendix.



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Checking In with other Racers While at Sea (Calling Schedule):

All Boats: Mid-gulf Fleet check-in times will be 1100 hrs CDT on VHF Channel 16. Exchange your LAT/LON with any vessels you communicate with and maintain a log of this information for the duration of the race. Please be aware that the tracking log may be used to verify time and distance spent motoring. Even if you cannot reach any vessels (as is often the case) they may be hearing you. Therefore, transmit your vessel name and LAT/LON in the blind, then sign out.

Vessels with HAM radios should be aware that the **Waterway Net**, 7.268 Mhz LSB, has Gulf weather around 0755 EST and will be monitored from 0800 to 0830 EST by W4PYC or W0PBP (representing the Race Committee). Also the Maritime Mobile Service Net operates on 14.300 MHz USB from 1100 am to 2000 pm EDT providing weather information hourly on the half hour and augmenting communications both with net stations and relays, and often with phone patches. For more information see www.mmsn.org.

Disclaimer!

Recreational use only: The boat tracking and related services provided are for recreational purposes only. YB tracking services are for recreational use only. Neither YB nor the Cuba Race 2017 Race Committee imply in any way that the boat tracking service can be counted on as a safety device.

Communications with Fixed Stations:

US Coast Guard Sector Pensacola
Telephone: 850-453-8282

US Coast Guard Sector St. Petersburg
Telephone: 727-824-7534

US Coast Guard Sector Key West
Telephone: 305-292-8713