

# **HBYC 2018 RACING RULES & SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

## **GENERAL:**

**COMMUNICATION:** VHF Channel 72. Use low power (5W) whenever possible. Keep channel clear for race committee use unless necessary to communicate with another vessel. All racers must have a working radio at hand and monitor VHF Channel 72 for the entire race.

**SAFETY:** Regardless of the rules, right of way or other conditions, use common sense at all times and avoid injuring anyone or any boat. HBYC strongly encourages all participants to wear USCG approved personal flotation devices.

**PROTESTS:** Participants shall be familiar with the rules and exercise good judgment at all times. **Protests will only be heard in the event of a collision.**

**START:** Each boat will start on the GPS time designated by the race chairman. Start will be between the YELLOW FLAG on the committee boat and starting buoy unless otherwise noted. Five minutes prior to the start, all boats must be behind the start line. **Catamarans shall keep clear of the starting area five minutes before the monohull start time to give them time and room to stage. After the monohull start signal, catamarans can move to the starting area to stage.**

**FINISH:** End of race will be as stated in the weekly race instructions. Boats should note their finish time.

## **RULES OF THE ROAD:**

**RULE #1** – Regardless of who is by rule in the right - all captains have the responsibility to give way to avoid a collision. **No plastic on plastic.**

**ROUNDING MARKS:** All boats must round all marks on the PORT side of the boat unless otherwise noted at the captain's meeting.

**ROOM AT THE MARK:** The outside boat rounding a mark shall give room to an inside boat rounding that mark if an overlap has been established within 3 boat lengths of that turning mark. Once a boat is within three boat lengths of the mark, the second boat must yield to the first boat to enter the three boat length area.

**OVERTAKING BOAT:** The overtaking boat must keep clear of the boat it is trying to pass. The boat being overtaken shall not sail above or below proper course to block.

**OPPOSITE TACK:** When two or more boats are on opposite tacks, the boat on a starboard tack (**boom to port**) has the right of way.

**SAME TACK:** When two or more boats are on the same tack and overlapped, the windward boat (closest to wind) shall keep clear of the leeward boat.

### PENALTIES:

**Touching a Marker Buoy** - A penalized boat must, as soon as safely possible and before passing the next mark, execute a 360 degree turn while keeping clear of all other boats. Until the 360 degree penalty turn is executed, she has **NO rights of way**.

**Jumping the Start – Must be called by Committee Boat** - If a boat crosses the start line early, it must sail clear of the course and around to the pre-start side of the line and start again. She will stay clear of other boats and has **NO rights** until she is behind the start line.

### SAILS:

No spinnakers, bloopers or competition sails of any kind are allowed. **Genoas are limited to NO MORE THAN than the size indicated on the PHRF handicap application or certificate for that boat.** Boats with larger sails will be disqualified or assessed a handicap penalty by the Race Director.