

Notice of Race
Sperry Top-Sider
Charleston Race Week
April 19th-22nd 2012

The organizing authority for Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week is Charleston Ocean Racing Association (CORA).

1. RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the 2012 IRC rules, and 2012 Gulfstream Series Notice of Race and the CORA PHRF Policies and Procedures. . The CORA PHRF Policies and Procedures are posted on the event website.

2. ADVERTISING

2.1 Advertising is permitted, with class advertising restrictions, and unless the class rules do not permit, in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20.

2.2 If provided, all boats shall display the event bow stickers on their bow while racing. Boats not bearing the event bow sticker on both sides are subject to protest by the race committee only. The protest committee may impose a penalty as it deems appropriate. Mounting instructions will be included with event bow stickers.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race is open to One-Design Boats between 20-80 feet LOA, and IRC, and PHRF monohull boats which are 24-80 feet LOA, between hull perpendiculars. PHRF entries must have a rating of 192 or less and entries in the non-spinnaker class must have a rating above 75.

3.2 The entry deadline is 17:00 April 13, 2012. Entries received after 17:00 April 6, 2012 will be considered on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

Registration will be available online or by downloading an entry form from the event website. A completed online entry or printed entry form, a signed waiver form, and the entry fee must be received by January 31, 2012 to receive a discounted rate. Entry acknowledgement will be sent to valid entrants shortly after early entry receipt. All registrations must be complete and are final. There is a \$150.00 processing fee for any registration cancellations prior to March 12, 2012. As of March 12, 2012, registrations are non refundable.

3.3 PHRF entrants which are not current CORA members must provide to the Organizing Authority, when requested, copies of all current rating certificates, and may be required to fill out a rating application form. The CORA PHRF Policies and Procedures will be posted on the event website. The Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week PHRF Consortium will assign PHRF ratings for this event. Any questions pertaining to PHRF issues should be referred to the Chief Measurer (David Anderson ande7371@bellsouth.net)

3.4 IRC racing will be offered if sufficient entries are received and satisfactory classes can be established. This event is part of the US-IRC Gulf Stream Series. Competitors wishing to race under IRC must submit a valid IRC rating certificate with completed entry form. IRC rating applications for US Flagged boat can be obtained through US Sailing (401-663-0800) or IRC @ussailing.org. IRC entrants are also required to submit a completed PHRF application.

3.5 ONE-DESIGN classes on circles 1,2, and 3, will be provided when there are twelve (12) or more entries for a class. ONE-DESIGN classes on circles 4, and 5, will require 5 or more entries.

3.6 CRUISING Class (new this year) will be provided with eight (8) or more entries. This class will use CORA's PHRF Policies and Procedures that are posted on the event website. Starting times and locations are yet to be determined for the class.

4 CREW LIMITS

4.1 All classes shall sail with the same number of crew in all races. Any request for changes in the number of crew must be submitted to the Regatta Chairman in writing by 07:00 the day of the race in which the change is to take place. A request form will be available on the official notice board, and there will be an envelope to place the form in. A reply will be posted.

4.2 For all PHRF entries, boats will be rated with following Base Crew Limitations.

Up to Maximum	LOA (ft)	Crew Number:
	25.00	5
	27.00	6
	30.00	7
	32.00	8
	34.00	9
	37.00	10
	40.00	11
	43.00	12
	45.00	11
	50.00	14
	55.00	15
	60.00	16
	65.00	17
	70.00	18

5. OTHER RULES & REQUIREMENTS

5.1 All boats shall carry an operating VHF radio.

5.2 All boats shall be sailed by at least 3 persons

5.3 At all times boats must monitor and keep clear of the commercial traffic. Boats that hinder commercial traffic to the point of five horns are subject to protest by the race committee.

6. FEES

6.1 The completed entry application shall be accompanied by an entry fee. **Registrations are not complete and applications will not be accepted without entry fees.**

The entry fees are based on LOA and are as follows:

Level 1 (20'-24') = \$450.00

Level 2 (25'-34') = \$475.00

Level 3 (35'-44') = \$525.00

Level 4 (45'-80') = \$550.00

A boat's LOA is to be rounded to the lower whole number (i.e. 29.01 = 29' and 29.99' = 29') for the purpose of determining entry fees.

6.2 ADDITIONAL FEES

6.2.1 Early Discount: Completed entries received by January 31st, 2012 are eligible for a \$50.00 discount.

6.2.2 Cancellation Fee: All registrations must be complete and are final. There is a \$150.00 processing fee for any registration cancellations prior to March 11, 2012. As of March 12, 2012, registrations are non-refundable.

6.2.3 Late Fee: Entries received after March 26, 2012 will be assessed a \$100.00 late entry fee. The entry deadline is 17:00 April 13, 2012. Entries received after 17:00 April 13, 2012 will be considered on case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

6.2.4 Non-US Sailing members shall add \$25.00 to entry fee.

6.3 Shoreside Passes: The Shoreside Event Pass provides entry to the Race Village April 19-22, 2012 and includes cocktails on the beach Thursday-Saturday, a Friday buffet, the Sunday afternoon beer and chili cookout, plus trophy presentations, prizes, sponsor demonstrations, music, and more. On Saturday, sailors are encouraged to enjoy cocktails at the Race Village and then venture out to one of the many Charleston area restaurants for dinner.

A Race Week Shoreside Event Pass will be required for each person participating in any of the events shoreside activities. Two Shoreside Event Passes will be provided free of charge when registering a boat. Additional Shoreside Event Passes may be purchased for \$60.00 in advance online or \$75.00 on-site. The \$60.00 Shoreside Event Passes may be purchased in advance online until March 30, 2012. After March 30, 2012 \$60.00 passes will be unavailable online and \$75.00 passes may be purchased on-site. Daily Passes will be available on-site for visitors or those wishing to only attend one evening.

7. PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April 19, 2012

12:00-17:00 Registration
17:00-1800 Skipper's Meeting (Pavilion)
18:00-18:30 Tide Talk (Pavilion)
18:00-21:00 Opening Beach Party

April 20, 2012

08:00 Harbor Start for offshore courses
10:00 Offshore first warning signal. (Circles 4&5)
11:00 Inshore first warning signal. (Circles 1, 2, &3)
18:00-21:00 Beach Party – Low Country Feast, Goslings Rum and Beer Bar

April 21, 2012

08:00 Harbor Start for offshore courses
10:00 Offshore first warning signal. (Circles 4&5)
11:00 Inshore first warning signal. (Circles 1, 2, &3)
18:00-21:00 Beach Party, Goslings Rum and Beer Bar

April 22, 2012

08:00 Harbor Start for offshore courses
10:00 Offshore first warning signal. (Circles 4&5)
11:00 Inshore first warning signal. (Circles 1, 2, &3)
14:00-18:00 Beach Party
16:00-18:00 Award Ceremony Chile and Open Beer Bar

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Draft of the Sailing Instructions will be available on March 16, 2012 on the Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week website and finals at Race Headquarters beginning on Thursday, April 19, 2012.

9. VENUE

The regatta site for the Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week will be the Charleston Harbor and the Atlantic Ocean.

9.1 Courses for each race will be outlined in the Sailing Instructions. Races on the circles 1, 2,3,4,5 will be windward/leeward or triangular courses (or combination thereof) set by the Race Committee.

9.2 It is anticipated that there will be six(6) separate racing areas with three(3)in the harbor and three (3)offshore

9.3 The IRC, all PHRF, and selected one design classes will sail the offshore courses (course 4 or 5) and shall comply with Category 5 requirements. All boats should be prepared to sail offshore.

9.4 The Cruising Class will sail course six (6) under PHRF and shall comply with Category 5 requirements and plan on sailing a longer single race per day around government buoys both inshore and offshore. These single races will a pursuit race where competitors will start based on their PHRF handicap.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

10.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3 will apply when a rule of Part 2 has been broken while sailing.

11. SCORING

11.1 A maximum of eight races are scheduled for the offshore circles and a maximum of ten races are scheduled for the inshore circles, one of which one must be completed to constitute a series.

11.2 IRC entries may be scored as separate subclass within a PHRF class. If IRC entrants are required to race within other classes, the results from those classes will be submitted to US-IRC for compilation within the Gulf Stream Series.

11.3 J-Fest Winter Series entries may be scored as separate subclass within a PHRF class.

11.4 IRC, PHRF, and One Design: If five or fewer races are completed the score for each boat will be the sum of the scores for all races sailed; if six or more races are completed one race will be discarded from each boat's score. This changes RRS A2. A minimum of one race per day shall be completed for daily trophies to be awarded. Each boat's daily score will be the sum of her scores for all races on that day. The PHRF classes will be scored using Time on Distance. The IRC classes will be scored using the IRC Time Correction Factor using time on time scoring.

12. PRIZES

12.1 PHRF: One daily trophy will be awarded in each class for each day of racing. One overall trophy will be awarded in each class for every three boats entered up to a maximum of three trophies per class. The entry that wins the most competitive class will receive recognition on the Palmetto Cup Perpetual Trophy.

12.2 One-Design Classes: One daily trophy will be awarded in each class for each day of racing. One overall trophy will be awarded in each class for every three boats entered up to a maximum of three trophies per class. The entry that wins the most competitive class will receive recognition on the Charleston Race Week Cup Perpetual Trophy.

12.3 IRC: One daily trophy will be awarded for each day of racing. One overall trophy will be awarded.

13. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. (See RRS4, Decision to race). 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.

13.1 The safety of a boat and its crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Skipper who must ensure that the boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy, and manned by an experience and physically able crew. Neither the establishment of regulations or inspection of a boat in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the Skipper.

13.2 Charleston Ocean Racing Association, Sponsors of the Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week, and their employees and volunteers do not accept responsibility for the loss of life or injury to participants or others, or for the loss or damage to any vessel in any way or from any cause during or relating to this event.

13.3 The Skipper shall be responsible for the conduct of his crew. In the event of serious breach of conduct, the destruction of property or the failure to comply with a reasonable request of any Race Officer or Committee Member, the Skipper will be responsible for all damages and the boat may be subject to disqualification from the regatta.

13.4 Skippers utilizing coach/support boats must register with the Race Committee and use the events identifying flag.

14. AMENDMENTS TO THIS NOTICE OF RACE

The Charleston Ocean Racing Association reserves the right to amend this notice in accordance with RRS. Any amendments of this notice made prior to April 13, 2012 will be posted on the event website. Amendments will be posted on the Official Notice Board and copies will be available at Race Headquarters.

15. GENERAL INFORMATION

15.1 EVENT WEBSITE

Periodic updates and latest information on the event can found on the Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week website: www.charlestonraceweek.com

15.2 RACE HEADQUARTERS

Event Race Headquarters will be at the Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina (CHR&M) located at 20 Patriots Point Road, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464. The CHR&M website is www.charlestonharborresort.com . The Race Village will be located at CHR&M. Registration, the Skippers Meeting on Thursday and Awards on Sunday will be in the Race Village. The Official Notice Board will be in the Race Village. In an effort to facilitate communications to the competitors, information related to this event may be posted in other areas but there is only one Official Notice Board.

15.3 SLIPS DOCKING

15.4 There will be a limited amount of complimentary transient dockage available at CHR&M for boats under 28 feet LOA from Thursday, April 19 through Sunday April 22. This dockage will be in a side tie configuration with other boats rafted along side at 2-3 deep and may be at the docks farthest from the hotel. Those qualifying for the limited complimentary dock space will be notified of the offer, and asked to confirm their intent to accept or reject it. Those registering beyond the first 35 boats under 28 feet LOA and boats requiring individual berths should make separate arrangements with the marina for dock space. No individual slips will be permitted with the limited complimentary dockage.

CHR&M Dock Master Tel: 843-856-0028 or 888-856-0028 Fax: 843-284-7061

Email: grudisill@charlestonharborresort.com

Website: www.charlestonharbormarina.com

15.4 STORAGE, LAUNCHING, AND SETUP

Pre and Post Race Storage:

Details will be posted on the event website.

15.5 LAUNCH AND RETRIEVAL

Several local yacht clubs and boatyards are available for storage launching and retrieving. Greater details are available on the event website.

15.6 RAMP LAUNCH

There is a launch ramp for trailered boats at Remley's Point- Mount Pleasant- off Mathis Ferry Road near Hobcaw Point and Molasses Creek subdivision. Take 5th Avenue to 3rd

Street to 3rd Avenue to 2nd Street to 5th Avenue. This is a large landing with four ramps on the Wando River open 24/7. Viper 640s, Melges 24s, Ultimate 20s and Melges 20s are strongly encouraged to ramp launch.

15.7 ACCOMODATIONS

The Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina (CHR&M) is providing Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week with special group rates. Make your reservation as soon as possible as the deadline for this special rate is March 12, 2012. CHR&M is also providing a 10% discount in addition to the special group rate for all reservations received by December 31, 2011. These deadlines are not flexible. CHR&M provides free parking for resort guests and the Race Village and marina are onsite.

Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina Tel: 843-856-0028

Register Online: <https://booking.lhotelier.com/istay.jsp?HotelID=3635&rateplanid=710906>

Access Code Raceweek

Website www.charlestonharborresort.com

16. EVENT MANAGEMENT

16.1 The Organizing Authority for Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week 2012 is Charleston Ocean Racing Association (CORA).

Address all correspondence to the event to:

Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week

4208 Pace St Unit B

N. Charleston, SC 29405

Tel: 843 557 6082

Fax: 843 278 8671

Email: rdraftz@charlestonyachting.com

Event/Race Director: Randy Draftz

16.2 EVENT NAME AND RIGHTS

Any commercial or editorial reference to the event must use the official regatta's name Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week. Any commercial video must be licensed by Sperry Top-Sider Charleston Race Week. Photographers and videographers must be registered with the event, display the appropriate flag and respect the Race Committee's requests to keep clear of the competitors.

16.3 TELEVISION AND PHOTOGRAPHERS RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission for video footage or photographs of themselves or their boat to be published in any media for press purposes and editorial or advertising purposes.

Please make sure to check this page periodically before the event as the schedule of events may change. All events listed here are located in the Race Village at the Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina unless otherwise noted. Please make sure each individual planning to attend these festivities has a Shoreside Event Pass.