



TOP OF THE GULF REGATTA 2017
Incorporating
Platu Coronation Cup and Thailand Optimist National Championships
4th – 8th May, 2017

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF RACE

ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The regatta is organised by the Top of the Gulf Regatta Organising Committee under the auspices of the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand, the Platu Yacht Association, the Windsurfing Association of Thailand, Ocean Marina Yacht Club and Royal Varuna Yacht Club.

Ocean Marina Yacht Club located in Pattaya, Thailand can accommodate yachts with a draft of 3.5 metres within the marina. Yachts with a draft in excess of 3.5 metres may be moored nearby with ferry service provided to the marina. There may be restrictions on the times for exit and entry to the marina but a crew ferry service will be provided where and when necessary.

All enquiries and entries should be addressed to:

The Secretary
Top of the Gulf Regatta
Ocean Marina Yacht Club
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1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by:
The Racing Rules of Sailing
The IRC 2016 Rules Parts A, B and C, The OMR rule for Ocean Multihulls, The International Platu Class Rules and any local amendments, The Class Rules of the appropriate dinghy, windsurfing, and beach catamaran classes.
- 1.2 Between sunset and sunrise, when a boat cannot determine with certainty what tack the other boat is on, she shall keep clear of that boat. Competitors are reminded that part of the definition of "room" in the RRS includes taking into account the existing conditions (including visibility).

Nothing in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions relieves a boat of her responsibility under civil law to comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea or local regulations.

- 1.3 The ISAF Special Regulations Appendix J, Category 5 Special Regulations shall apply to all keelboats and Ocean Multihulls. Regatta specific safety requirements will apply to all other classes. These shall include, but may not be restricted to; communication devices and reporting schedules, minimum drinking water requirements, tally discs and life vests. These safety rules will be available from the organizing committee one month before the event.
- 1.4 The regatta is classified as a Category C event under RRS 80 and ISAF Regulation 20 Advertising Code.
- 1.4.1 The Organising Committee will require all participating boats to display the event sponsors' advertising in accordance with Regulation 20.3. (d 1).
- 1.4.2 The Organising Committee approval will be required for any other advertising, and it is unlikely to be given for products competing with those of the Regatta Principal Sponsors or for which advertising is controlled by local laws or customs.
- 1.5 The Sailing Instructions will be available at Registration.
- 1.6 No National Prescriptions shall apply.
- 1.7 Blank.
- 1.8 RRS 55 will be changed in the Sailing Instructions by adding the following sentence to the rule: 'However, discarding elastic, cotton or wool bands when setting a sail will not be considered a breach of rule 55.'

2. ELIGIBILITY, ENTRY AND FEE

- 2.1 The regatta will have the following classes, subject to entries received.
- 2.1.1 Class One, IRC 1 - Keelboats with an IRC 1.200 and above.
Note: The Committee will consider Class 0 for TP52 (and like) yachts subject to entry numbers.
- 2.1.2 Class Two, IRC 2 - Keelboats with an IRC 1.060 to 1.199.
- 2.1.3. Class Three, IRC 3 - Keelboats with an IRC 0.960 to 1.059.

- 2.1.4 Class Four, Cruising - Keelboats cruising in nature, performance handicaps will be issued by Top of the Gulf Handicap Committee and will not be grounds for redress (alters RRS 60.1 and 62).
- 2.1.5 Class Five, Platu - Platu class keelboats (Platu Coronation Cup).
- 2.1.6 Class Six, Ocean Multihulls - Ocean going catamarans and trimarans.
- 2.1.7 Class Seven, Blank.
- 2.1.8 Class Eight, Blank.
- 2.1.9 Class Nine, Single handed monohull dinghies.
- 2.1.10 Class Ten, Double handed monohull dinghies.
- 2.1.11 Class Eleven, IOM Class RC Yachts.
- 2.1.12 Class Twelve, Optimist - Thailand Optimist National Championships.
- 2.2 The Race Committee may change the above eligibility factors and number of classes based on its analysis of the entries received. Should sufficient enquiries be made and entries received the Race Committee may provide classes for other yachts and other Beach Catamaran classes.
- 2.3 The Race Committee recognizes that there may be boats that by virtue of design may qualify under these criteria in the above Classes but consider themselves to be cruising orientated either by accommodations, rig, sails or other reasons. The committee will receive written applications for consideration for inclusion in a Cruising Class no later than April 1, 2017 giving details of the boat and the reasons for consideration. A valid IRC certificate, sail plan, accommodation layout including details of installed equipment, keel details and crew list MUST accompany the application. Applications based on crew criteria alone will not be entertained. The Committee's decision shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- 2.4 Where boat specification falls between the above parameters owners should consult the Race Committee on class placement.
- 2.5 Application for entry shall be made on the official Entry Form. The entry fee for the yacht and skipper for Classes 1 - 6 is 16,000THB plus 4,000THB for each additional crew member participating in the regatta. *The combination of Yacht, Skipper and each additional crew member fees constitutes the total entry fee for the competing yacht.*

For Classes 7-10 the entry fee for yacht and skipper is 3,000THB plus 3,000THB for each additional crew member participating in the regatta.

The entry fee for Class 11 RC Yachts shall be 2,000THB.

The regatta has special fees of 1,800THB for entrants and crew under 18 years of age at the date of the regatta. The Entry Fee should accompany the Entry Form, and this can be completed on the regatta's official website. Entries must be received by April 15, 2017. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee, which may levy a late entry fee of 2,500THB. Cancellations before April 15, 2017 may be refunded after deduction of 20% of the amount paid for administration costs. All entry fees include Thai VAT tax and credit card charges.

- 2.6 The entry fee for the Class 12 is 500THB and is partly subsidized by the organisers and paid at registration. Optimist family and/or supporters shall pay a fee of 1,200THB to attend the official Optimist functions.
- 2.7 The participation fee for all social events shall be 4,000THB for crew supporters.
- 2.8 Current IRC certificates or completed application forms for the rating together with fee, should accompany entries for relevant classes racing on IRC Rating.

3. SCHEDULE

The following is the proposed schedule. Any such changes will be notified on the official website and by email to competitors already entered.

Thursday 4th May: Registration Day

- 10:00-16:30 Registration Classes 1-6.
14:00-16:30 Registration Classes 7-11.
14:00 Practice Race Classes 1-6.
17:30 Skippers Briefing Classes 1-6.
18:00 Opening Ceremony and Cocktail Party at Ocean Marina Yacht Club.

Friday 5th May: Race Day One – All Classes

- 09:00 Briefing Classes 7-11.
09:00-11:00 Registration and Briefing Class 12.
11:00 Racing Starts – All Classes.
17:00-19:00 Daily prize-giving for Classes 1-11. Drinks on the lawn.

Saturday 6th May: Race Day Two – All Classes

- 11:00 Racing Starts – All Classes.
17:00- 19:00 Daily prize-giving for Classes 1-11. Drinks on the lawn.

Sunday 7th May: Race Day Three – All Classes

- 11:00 Racing Starts – All Classes.
17:00-19:00 Daily prize-giving for Classes 1-11. Drinks on the lawn.
17:00-19:00 Series prize-giving for Classes 7-12, with dinner.

Monday 8th May: Race Day Four – Classes 1-6

- 11:00 Racing Starts.
18:00 Ocean Marina Gala Dinner and series prize-giving for Classes 1-6.

4. COURSES

The regatta is run on four course areas. Classes 1-6 shall compete on an outer course area and other classes will compete on three inshore areas. Each course area shall have its own race officer and support team as well as shore management. A schedule of courses will be issued for Classes 1-6 together with the Sailing Instructions. This schedule will contain a number of courses, windward-leeward, inshore, coastal and inter-island. The course(s) will be chosen to take into account the prevailing, or forecast weather conditions on the day of the race. For outer course coastal and inter-island races the approximate coordinates of any marks of the course will be indicated in the course schedule. Actual (or changes to) coordinates will be notified on the day of race via the official notice board and/or VHF radio on committee boats. The Committee may set additional courses which will be conveyed to the competitors prior to racing. Classes 7-10, Class 11 and Class 12 will have separate course areas.

5. PENALTY SYSTEM

For Classes 7, 8 and 9, rules 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so the Two-Turn Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. All other classes shall perform the Two-Turn Penalty.

6. SCORING

- 6.1 Low Point scoring system will apply. For each class, two races shall be completed to constitute a series.
- 6.2 For Classes 1-3, and 6; eight races are scheduled. If five or more races are completed, one discard will be allowed. If four races or less are completed, all will count.
- 6.3 For Class 5, Platus, 10 races are scheduled. If seven races or more are completed one discard will be allowed. If six races or less completed, all will count.
- 6.4 For Class 4, five races are scheduled. If five races are completed, one discard will be allowed. If four races or less are completed, all will count.
- 6.5 For Classes 7-12, a minimum of nine races subject to conditions are scheduled. If seven or more races are completed, one discard will be allowed. If six races or fewer are completed, all will count.

7. MAXIMUM CREW

- 7.1 Maximum Crew Number. For Classes 1-3, IRC Rule 22.4.2 is deleted and replaced by "The maximum number of crew that may sail aboard a boat shall be 120% the Crew Number printed on her certificate (rounded up to a whole number). There is no weight limit."
- 7.2 In the case of a boat rated as a One-Design, and when her IRC crew limitation exceeds her One-design Class crew limitation, a boat shall comply with her One-Design Class rules.
- 7.3 There shall be no restriction on crew changes for Classes 1-9, however any changes must not exceed the number or weight specification for each class.
- 7.4 For Class 4 there shall be a minimum number of crew to sail the boat safely given the conditions during the regatta. This is estimated to be no less than 50% of the Crew Number as printed on the yacht's IRC certificate (rounded up to a whole number) or equivalent, or as may be determined by the Committee.

Classes 5-12 shall sail with crew numbers in accordance with the yacht's Rating certificate or class rules.
- 7.5 Class 5 and 6 shall declare their crew weight at registration.
- 7.6 Substitution of skipper will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

8. HANDICAP SYSTEM

- 8.1 The IRC Handicap System shall be used for Classes 1-3. Yachts shall submit their IRC rating certificate or rating application no later than April 21, 2017. No alteration to a yacht's certificate will be permitted after this date, except as a result of a rating protest or to correct a rating office error.
- 8.2 Class 4 shall be racing on Committee assigned performance handicaps which cannot be protested.
- 8.3 The OMR handicap system shall be used for the Ocean Multihulls.
- 8.4 The Texel rating system shall be used for the Beach Catamaran Class.
- 8.5 The OMR and Texel handicaps shall be fixed and not subject to request for redress.

9. INSPECTION, IDENTIFICATION AND INSURANCE

- 9.1 All yachts shall be liable for inspection in accordance with applicable safety and measurement requirements.
- 9.2 All yachts shall carry mainsail numbers. Any yacht without a mainsail number may purchase a number for the duration from the supplier of the Regatta Committee.
- 9.3 The Organizing Committee strongly recommends that each yacht carry adequate third party insurance sufficient to cover the liability to crew and third party property and persons in the class being sailed. Third party insurance can be purchased from the Regatta's insurance provider.

10. INTERNATIONAL JURY

- 10.1 An International Jury will be appointed in accordance with RRS 91(b). Its decisions will be final, as detailed in RRS 70.5.

11. PRIZES FOR THE TOP OF THE GULF REGATTA SERIES

- 11.1 The First, Second and Third place prizes will be awarded in each class, subject to competitor numbers.
- 11.2 The Coronation Cup shall be awarded to the winner of the Platu Class 5.
- 11.3 The Thailand National Optimist Cup shall be presented to the winning National competitor, a suitable trophy will be presented to the top international competitor.
- 11.3 Other prizes including prizes for individual races and divisional results and line honours may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

12. DISCLAIMER

- 12.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The Organising Committee, the Race Committee, the regatta sponsors and their representatives, officers, members and volunteers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss of life, property, personal injury, or damage caused by or arising out of the regatta.
- 12.2 The Regatta may be classified as a Category C event under Regulation 20.4.2. However, prior approval of the Organizing Committee of the regatta shall be required for any advertising in addition to that permitted under Regulation 20.3.3.
- 12.3 Without limitation, the Organizing Committee is expected to disapprove any advertising it deems in conflict with Thai laws or customs and may disapprove advertising in conflict with the products of event sponsors. This prescription shall constitute an Individual Advertising Licence System for purposes of Regulation 20.4.2.

13. PHOTOGRAPHY CONSENT

By entering the regatta competitors accept that they may be photographed and/ or videotaped participating in the race and they consent to the taking of such images and to the use, reuse, publication and republication of such images in any media, in conjunction with the competitors name or not, without compensation and without the competitors approval of such images or any use thereof.

14. CHANGES TO THE NOTICE OF RACE

This Notice of Race may be subject to amendments which will be published on the regatta website.

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