



# Notice of Race

## 8th Annual FIRST COAST OFFSHORE CHALLENGE

“Get to the Starting Lion”  
March 28<sup>th</sup> thru 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012

( [www.fcoc2012.com](http://www.fcoc2012.com) )



The First Coast Offshore Challenge (FCOC) is a series of 3 races representing over 100 miles of offshore sailing with the historic city of St. Augustine, Florida as the start and stop point for each race. Race 1 begins Wednesday morning off the beaches of St. Augustine for a day of long-leg buoy triangles, followed by an awards event that evening on the Conch House Marina party dock. Race 2 will be Thursday starting at the St. Augustine entrance buoy, heading out to sea to a fixed line of longitude and returning, followed by an awards party brunch Friday morning at the St. Augustine Yacht Club. Early evening Friday, Race 3 begins with a pursuit start, then overnight to the St. Johns River entrance buoy and returning. The final awards ceremony and party will be held Saturday evening at the St. Augustine Yacht Club. Each awards party will include meals, beverages, and live musical entertainment.

A Skippers Meeting is scheduled for 1900 March 27<sup>th</sup> 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 PHRF rules of the First Coast Sailing Association ( [www.sailjax.com](http://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.

**2 ADVERTISING** All advertising shall comply with the latest version of ISAF Regulation 20: [www.sailing.org/1999.php](http://www.sailing.org/1999.php)

**3 FEES** The FCOC Event Fee of \$295 will cover entry in all 3 races as well as meals, beverages, and entertainment for 3 persons after each race at the respective awards parties. A discounted fee of \$270 will apply if paid by February 8. Beginning March 1, the fee will be \$345. Optionally, each race fee will be \$115. Withdrawals after March 16 will forfeit \$75 of the entry fee. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after March 23. Entries tendered after March 23 are subject to rejection at the discretion of the Race Committee. Additional Event Passes will be \$60 (Wed \$25, Thur \$15, Sat \$20). There is a \$5/race US Sailing discount.

#### **4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

- 4.1 The Series is open to all seaworthy cruising sailboats 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 symbols on each mainsail, spinnaker, and headsail having a clew that can extend behind the mast 30% or more of the mainsail foot length. The identifiers shall be the same for each sail used.
- 4.7 Yachts shall conform to all U.S. Federal regulations. Additionally, yachts shall conform to Category 5 requirements of the “2010-2011 ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Governing Offshore Racing,” (Appendix J). It is strongly recommended that yachts also conform to Category 4 requirements.

ISAF Regulations are published at: [http://offshore.ussailing.org/SAS/ISAF\\_Special\\_Regulations/Extracts.htm](http://offshore.ussailing.org/SAS/ISAF_Special_Regulations/Extracts.htm)

**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 preferred). 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.

**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.fcoc2012.com](http://www.fcoc2012.com) ) or link from ( [www.sailjax.com](http://www.sailjax.com) )

**7 CLASSES AND DIVISIONS** Classes will be established for PHRF Spinnaker, PHRF Non-Spinnaker, PHRF Cruising, PHRF Cruising Spinnaker, Multi-hull, and One Design yachts. A minimum of five entrants are required to establish a class. Yachts using performance sail materials (non-Dacron) cannot compete in Cruising Classes.

**8 PRIZES** Trophy flags for individual races will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers in each class or division of class. Series Trophies will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup> place, depending on class size.

**9 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS** Obtain Sailing Instructions and scratch sheets from the regatta website or at the Skippers’ Meeting.

Race Committee questions: Adam Norwood (904) 398-7343. Event/Venue questions: Guy Anderson (904) 396-6382.