



Notice of Race

2013 Viper 640 North American Championship

October 8 - 12, 2013

Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, Texas

Posted March 1, 2013

Amended September 10, 2013, 2013

1. Rules

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association (US SAILING) for 2013 - 2016, the class rules of the Viper 640 and this Notice Of Race, except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions or any appendices to the Sailing Instructions. The Organizing Authority is the Houston Yacht Club. The event will be held at Houston Yacht Club located in Shoreacres, Texas.
- 1.2. There will be no minimum or maximum crew weight limits for this regatta. Boats shall sail with the same crew each day unless otherwise approved by the Race Committee.
- 1.3. Rule 44.1 is modified to provide for a one turn penalty for all violations of Part 2 rules except for penalties that occur within the Zone (as defined in the RRS).
- 1.4. In accordance with RRS Rule 80, ISAF Regulation 20 and Viper Class Rule 10.2, advertising is permitted on Vipers at this event, provided that no person on the boat is being paid to display the advertising.
 - 1.4.1. The Organizing Authority has the discretion to require that any advertising on a boat's hull or sails shall be removed if the advertising conflicts with a sponsor of the event. It is hoped that all Viper sailors will display their usual gratitude and recognition towards the generous sponsors of the event.

2. Language

- 2.1. The official language for this regatta will be English.

3. Eligibility and Entry

- 3.1. The regatta shall be open to all Viper 640 sailboats whose skipper is a member of the Viper 640 Class Association and has submitted an entry form, paid all required fees and have completed registration as set forth in this notice of race.
- 3.2. At any time before and during the regatta, the Viper 640 Technical Committee may inspect and measure any boat, equipment thereon and sails in order to determine compliance with class rules and eligibility.
- 3.3. As a condition of entry, registration is not complete without a Boat and Equipment Inspection List signed by a member of the Class Technical Committee.
- 3.4. A signed loss, damage and injury waiver is a requirement for registration. No entry is complete until the waiver is signed by each person racing on board a boat and returned.
- 3.5. As a condition of entry, registration is not complete without a certificate of compliance of the Viper 640 Class Association Rules, signed by the owner or skipper

4. Advance Registration

- 4.1. Registration for competitors will be available starting March 1, 2013 and ending October 8, 2013 via Regatta Network at www.regattanetwork.com

5. Entry and Fees

5.1. Required Fees:

5.1.1. Early entry fee is USD \$250.00 per sailboat if the entry is received and paid prior to July 1, 2013 at 2100.

5.1.2. Regular entry fee is \$300.00 per sailboat if received and paid prior to August 31, 2013 at 2100.

5.1.3. Late entry fee is \$350 per sailboat if the entry is received and paid prior to October 8, 2013 at 2100.

5.2. All entries are to be made online via www.regattanetwork.com.

6. Schedule of Events

Tuesday, October 8

1200 – 1700 Registration & Measurement
1830 Annual General Meeting – Cabo Nightclub
Sponsored Dinner to follow for competitors

Wednesday, October 9

0800 – 1000 Registration & Measurement
1000 Competitors Meeting
1200 Warning, First Race. Additional Races to follow
Kegs Sponsored by KO Sailing. BBQ Dinner to follow at HYC

Thursday, October 10

1200 First warning signal. Additional races to follow
Kegs sponsored by KO sailing – no formal dinner function at HYC. Bar and Restaurant service is available

Friday, October 11

1200 First warning signal. Additional races to follow
Rum social sponsored by Mount Gay. Fajita dinner to follow at HYC.

Saturday, October 12

1200 First warning signal. Additional races to follow
1500 No warning signal will be made after this time. Awards presentation after racing.

7. Sailing Instructions

The sailing instructions will be available during on-site registration and at the competitors meeting.

8. Courses & Racing Area

8.1. The racing area will be in the vicinity of the Houston Yacht Club and shall be bounded by Morgan's Point to the north, the Houston Ship Channel to the east, the Bayport Ship Channel to the south and Shoreacres shoreline to the west. The Houston Ship Channel and the Bayport Ship Channel shall be considered Obstructions. Boats sailing into either of the ship channels while racing may be subject to protest by the race committee or the judges.

8.2. Courses shall be windward/leeward as described in the sailing instructions.

8.3. On the water coaching will not be permitted between the first warning signal of the day and until all boats have finished the final race of the day.

9. Equipment and Radio Communications

9.1. All boats must carry VHF radios capable of transmitting and receiving on US channels 9, 16, 68, 69, 71 and 72.

9.2. The race committee intends to use VHF marine frequencies and a loud hailer to broadcast courtesy information to competitors, including OCS hails after starts.

9.3. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction applies to mobile phones.

10. Storing, Launching or Hauling

- 10.1. All boats are to be launched prior to the first warning signal on Wednesday October 9. Boats are to remain in the water throughout the regatta. Dockage is available in the HYC harbor for this event.
- 10.2. By specific arrangement only, boats and trailers may arrive and remain at Houston Yacht club prior to and after the Regatta. Contact the HYC Facilities Manager for arrangements at the main HYC number.

11. Scoring & Throwouts

- 11.1. The Low Point Scoring System, RRS Appendix A 4 shall apply except as modified below.
- 11.2. When five (5) or more races are completed a boats worst score shall be discarded.
- 11.3. One (1) race shall constitute a regatta.

12. Safety and Disclaimer of Liability

- 12.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their risk (See RRS 4, Decision to Race). The organizing authority and the Houston Yacht Club 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. Each person racing on board a boat entered in the regatta shall sign a waiver for loss, damage or injury to their person in conjunction with the regatta or while on the premises of Houston Yacht Club. The Houston Yacht Club, the Viper 640 Class Association, the Texas Viper 640 Fleet, and their members, volunteers, employees, officers, and agents shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury that may occur to person(s) or property whether ashore or at sea as a consequence of the participation of any boat.

13. Penalties and Protests

- 13.1. A boat that has taken a penalty under rule 44.1 or retired shall complete an acknowledgement form and file same within the protest time limit.
- 13.2. Rule 44.1 is modified to provide for a one turn penalty for all violations of Part 2 rules except for penalties that occur within the Zone (as defined in the RRS).
- 13.3. All protests will be heard at Houston Yacht Club

14. Prizes

- 14.1. Prizes will be awarded to the overall first through fifth place finishers. Additional prizes may be awarded for other categories.

15. Risk & Insurance

- 15.1. It is the competitor's decision to enter the regatta and to start or continue any race. The competitors are ultimately responsible for the risks. The competitor will accept full responsibility for all his/her actions during any activity related to the event. This includes on-shore activities before, during, and after the regatta.
- 15.2. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per event or equivalent.

16. Amendments

- 16.1. Any amendments to this Notice of Race will be posted to the Event Website at <http://2013na.viper640.org/> and the Official Notice Board in the breezeway located adjacent to the main lobby of the Houston Yacht Club.

Further Information

Houston Yacht Club 281-471-1255

Regatta Chair, Pat Gibson, Ptgibson@spectraenergy.com

Event Website <http://2013na.viper640.org/>

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