St. Mary's River Yacht Club

Notice of Race for Sailing Season 2022

(1) General: All races in the 2022 St. Mary's River Yacht Club (SMRYC) racing season will take place on the St. Mary's River or its tributaries. Details for each race will be published as Sailing Instructions (SIs) for that event as a separate notice via the club website (https://www.smryc.org/) and/or email announcement at least one week prior.

Exhibit A is the proposed Racing Schedule for 2022. Please consult website for up-to-date info.

Exhibits B1 & B2 show the approximate locations of SMRYC historically fixed marks (H, P, M, W, T, and F), government marks, and the general racing area; a number of temporary (race day) potential mark locations are also identified. For the **2022 season**, SMRYC **fixed marks will probably not be used**; temporary buoys (orange balls or yellow inflatables) will be placed at chosen sites on the race day.

Exhibit C shows five course configurations commonly used and their *Codes or designations;* local conditions and the Principal Race Officer's (PRO) preferences may necessitate other variations. In addition, point to point courses or other course configurations may be used.

(2) Rules: All SMRYC races will be governed by US Sailing *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021– 2024* (USS RRS), the prescriptions of the national authority when they apply, the rules of each class concerned, the standing rules of SMRYC, and the SIs for each event. All competitors agree to be bound by these rules.

(3) Eligibility: All races are open to all SMRYC members. Participation in races by non-member boats shall be by invitation from the Commodore or Race Committee Chair.

Participation in club events is undertaken at the participants' own risk.

It is the **skipper's responsibility** to register his/her boat and crew with the Race Committee (RC) before each race by hailing vessel name and sail number to the RC. Skippers are required to provide a listing of crew to the RC chair after each racing day (email is preferred). The skipper is assumed to be the boat's owner or charterer unless declared differently before the start of a race.

Skippers are responsible for ensuring onboard boat and safety equipment meets all class rules, and local and federal regulations. Sails should be built in accordance with class rules. The decision to mandate the wearing of life jackets will be left up to each skipper.

Skippers are responsible for reporting to the PRO any rule infractions not resolved on the race course by penalty turns, etc., including unsportsmanlike behavior.

(4) Classes: For 2022, there are no individual classes; all sailing events are handicapped (see Section 8) and open to all classes of boats, except the West St. Mary's Manor race which will be a small boat (centerboards) regatta. Individual fleets (e.g. Ensign Fleet 10, Hobie Fleet) may use SMRYC race results for one design class awards at their discretion.

(5) Times: First warning signal will be at 1030 hours for morning races and 1300 for afternoon races, unless otherwise specified by SIs for a particular event. If there are multiple starts, subsequent starts may be a rolling start at the discretion of the PRO. Warning signals for subsequent races will be approximately 5-10 minutes after the finish of the last boat in the previous race, or later if a lunch break has been called by the Race Committee.

(6) Racing Signals/Course: All courses will be from the starting line around marks designated by the RC, returning to the start/finish line. A hoist or display will be made from the RC boat indicating (1) course geometry and number of legs, (2) the first mark; (3) the second mark, if any; and (4) the third mark, if any, etc. A compass bearing to the windward mark may also be displayed. In the event that only temporary marks are used, the course may be designated simply by geometry ("W" for windward/leeward and "T" for triangular) and number of legs. When a hoist or display is not possible, the RC will verbally inform each participating boat of the course and receive a verbal acknowledgement.

All marks are to be left to **port** unless otherwise specified. A **starboard** mark rounding is indicated by an **S** following the mark to be rounded to starboard or an **S** following the course geometry code if all marks are to be left to starboard. For instance, W3/S is a windward/leeward course all marks left to starboard. All government navigation markers shall be passed on the correct side, unless designated as a course mark.

Exhibit C - Courses and Codes depicts examples of courses to be sailed and associated course codes; these examples assume that marks are left to port as shown. Actual marks and courses will be determined by the RC/PRO based on wind direction and strength.

As depicted on *Exhibit B1 & B2,* SMRYC may use a mix of "fixed" marks (labeled H, P, M, W, T, and F), government marks (such as GF near Priests Point), and temporary marks (orange balls and yellow inflatable shapes). Use of temporary marks may be designated with the mark location or an X followed by their order of rounding for the course specified.

Examples: RC could display **W3**, **H P**, indicating a windward/leeward course with 3 legs; windward mark location H, leeward mark location P, finish to windward, port mark rounding. Alternatively, PRO could display **W3** for a windward/leeward using only temporary marks, or could specify **T4/S** for a triangular course**,** 4 legs (once around), leaving all marks to starboard.

At the discretion of the PRO downwind starts and or finishes may be used. The norm is windward for both start and finish.

***** Unless specified in the SIs for a particular event, boats **may** pass through the start/finish line while sailing legs of the course prior to finishing. When a course requires multiple laps, boats **must** pass through the start/finish line when commencing laps subsequent to the first.

If wind or weather conditions dictate, the course may be shortened or changed by notifying each boat prior to rounding the mark that starts the affected leg(s).

The start/finish line is defined by the white flag staff on the RC boat and an orange ball as the pin mark. Special hoists such as postponement (code pennant AP), Shorten course (code flag S) or individual recall (code flag X).

A boat is racing from her preparatory signal until she finishes and clears the finishing line (under sail) and area, or retires, or the race committee signals a general recall, postponement, or abandonment; all other boats shall remain well clear before their warning signal, and shall promptly clear the finish line and avoid racing boats.

The RC will monitor and provide courtesy information on VHF **Channel 69**. Racers are encouraged to monitor this channel as an aid to race coordination.

Starting system: Unless otherwise provided in SIs for a particular event, the **5-minute** starting sequence of RRS Rule 26 will be used for all races except the West St. Mary‘s Regatta. The RC will generally, as a courtesy, make a repetitive sound **approximately 1-2 minutes** before the warning signal for a starting sequence.

The warning signal at the beginning of the start sequence will either be a class flag for one design starts or a yellow flag for muti-class/handicap starts.

A blue flag may be substituted for the P flag as the Preparatory signal.

(7) Penalties: Penalties for breaking a rule shall be in accordance with the RRS 44, with an exception in that a vessel need only perform a **single penalty turn** at the time of the incident. Unless specified in the SIs for a particular event:

> Penalty turns = 1 for breach of one or more rule in RRS Part 2, *When Boats Meet*.
> Penalty turns = 1 for touching a mark (RRS 31)

Skippers have a responsibility to report to the PRO all rule infractions not resolved on the race course by penalty turns, etc.; this includes unsportsmanlike behavior.

(8) Handicaps: We will use the North American Portsmouth Yardstick (PY) handicap system for 2022. PY handicap numbers and their implementation by SMRYC for 2022 will be published on the club website once potential boat types have been determined; additional boats can be added at any time by request to the RC chair.

(9) Scoring: The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A will be used to score each race event or series unless modified by the Sls for a particular event.

(10) Postponements/Abandonment: Answering Pennant (AP) and two sounds are used to signal postponement. RC may use AP to indicate that they are not ready for the starting sequence or to interrupt a starting sequence. One sound will be made upon removal of AP. The warning for the postponed start will follow **one minute** after the removal of AP.

Abandonment of a race in progress may be announced by display of **code flag N;** the class flag (if any); along with three (3) sound signals. RC will also attempt to contact all racers via radio and/or via the chase boat. If all racing is abandoned for the day, code flag N, three (3) sounds and an announcement by radio **channel 69** and notification by hailing and/or chase boat will be made. The abandoned race may be cancelled completely or rescheduled for a later time that is agreeable to the majority of entrants.

(11) Time Limit: All races are subject to a 90 minute time limit unless otherwise noted in SIs for a particular event. In addition to the 90 minute time limit, if no racer rounds the first mark in about 20 minutes, **at the discretion of the PRO**, the race may be abandoned.

If at least one boat finishes within the time limit, the RC may terminate the race at any time after the time limit has expired and score boats that have not finished by order of placement on the course.

(12) Protests: All protests must be made in accordance with **RRS61.1a**. All protests should be reported to the PRO immediately after the race in which the protest occurred. Intent to protest may be made by radio if unable to speak to the PRO directly. The **Time limit** for filing a protest is **30 minute**s after the PRO or RC Chair (or their appointed representative) arrives at the post race rendezvous.

A protest committee will be nominated by the PRO, RC chair, or their representative, if necessary. Protests will be heard at the post-race rendezvous if at all possible. Protest information should be in writing to facilitate and expedite the discussion. The intent is to discuss the event, make a decision of right or wrong, and move on – a good learning experience for all.

The protest committee will consist of 3 unbiased members with some knowledge of the racing rules. If these conditions cannot be met the protest hearing will be postponed until a fair, professional hearing can be held. No trophies will be awarded until the protest is decided if the decision will affect the outcome.

(13) Awards: Trophies are awarded for trophy races based upon the following guidelines:

A. The skipper must be an SMRYC member. Guest skippers are not eligible for trophies.

B. The number of boats in a race determines the number of trophies awarded. Three boats minimum are required to start a race.

Boats	Trophies
1-2	First place trophy only.
3-4	First and second place trophies only.
5 or more	First, second and third place trophies.

C. Crew trophies will be awarded to the crew of the first place boat.

D. Non-members are not eligible for trophies other than crew trophies awarded when crewing in a member skipper's boat.

E. "Keeper-cup" trophies will be awarded at the social event following each race/series to the extent practicable.

F. Crew Participation Trophy. This award is given to the crew member who participates in the greatest number of races providing he/she is a SMRYC member. In the event of a tie, multiple trophies will be awarded.

G. Cherbonnier Cup. The Cherbonnier Cup shall be competed for by racers in all club classes. Points will be awarded for participation in the season races according to the deed of gift as documented in the SMRYC Constitution & By-Laws. Total points accumulated will determine the winner.

(1) The skipper of each boat receives 2 points for crossing the starting line, 1 point for crossing the finish line and 1 point for each boat beaten. If a boat is disqualified during any race, the skipper will be credited with half of the starting points, and will lose all other points.

(2) The crew of each boat receives one point for crossing the finish line, and one point for each boat beaten. If a boat is disqualified during a race, the crew will be credited with one point for starting, and will lose all other points.

(14) Races: Exhibit A lists the scheduled races for 2022. Details for each of these races will be published in the SIs for each event. The SIs will be sent out via email approximately 1 week prior to the scheduled race; they will also be on the club website.

(15) Honorary Sailing Processions: The Commodore may order a "Sail By" to express the club's sentiment in honor of a living individual or to honor the memory of one who has passed away. *SMRYC Sail By Instructions* (posted on the club website) will be followed when a Sail By is requested.

(16) The Race Committee (RC):

- Responsible for the overall conduct of racing events in a fair, equitable and safe manner.
- Chair convenes a Skippers meeting before the start of the sailing season to discuss this Notice of Race and any other issues relevant to the racing events scheduled.
- Chair designates a **PRO** for each race The **PRO** is responsible for organizing the **RC team, the committee boat,** and the **chase boat** for the day. The RC team should consist of at least 3 people on the RC boat, including the PRO, plus the chase boat operator/mark setter. The PRO should stay on the RC boat and direct/delegate the duties of the various members of the RC team which include: establish and set the courses; start, finish, record results, and score races; observe racing; file and or resolve protests, etc
- **Channel 69** is the communication channel used by the PRO and RC.
- PRO will assign a Daily Race Advisor from one of the skippers intending to race that day. The Daily Race Advisor will assist/consult with the PRO in setting the course and other aspects of conducting the race as needed.
- Publish Sailing Instructions (SIs) for each racing event. Modifications, amplifications, course changes, and other alterations to the SIs may be made to the SIs, if required by conditions and at the discretion of the PRO, but shall be made in a timely manner.
- Cancel racing in the event of adverse weather in a timely manner. Notification shall be provided to individual racers.
- Notification of intent to race MUST be received by Thursday before the race. If three or more notifications are not received, the race may be cancelled. If only one boat shows up on race day, the race will be cancelled. In any event the rendezvous will still be held.

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Participation in SMRYC race events shall imply knowledge, consent, and intent to comply with this Notice of Race and the SIs for each event. This Notice of Race may be changed by the Race Committee Chair; updates will be published on the club website and notification made to the membership.

Chris Allen
Race Committee Chair

Exhibit A Racing Schedule 2022 (See Club website for full details)

April 23	Early Bird Race (aka ***SHERIDAN FAHNESTOCK Memorial)***
May 21	No Chute Race
June 18	Destination Race
June 25	Pointless Race
July 23	West St. Mary's Small Boat
Aug 13	Portobello Race
Sept 3	Clark Memorial Regatta
Sept 24	Pagan Point Race
Oct 8	Capper Cup

Exhibit B1 Race Mark Locations

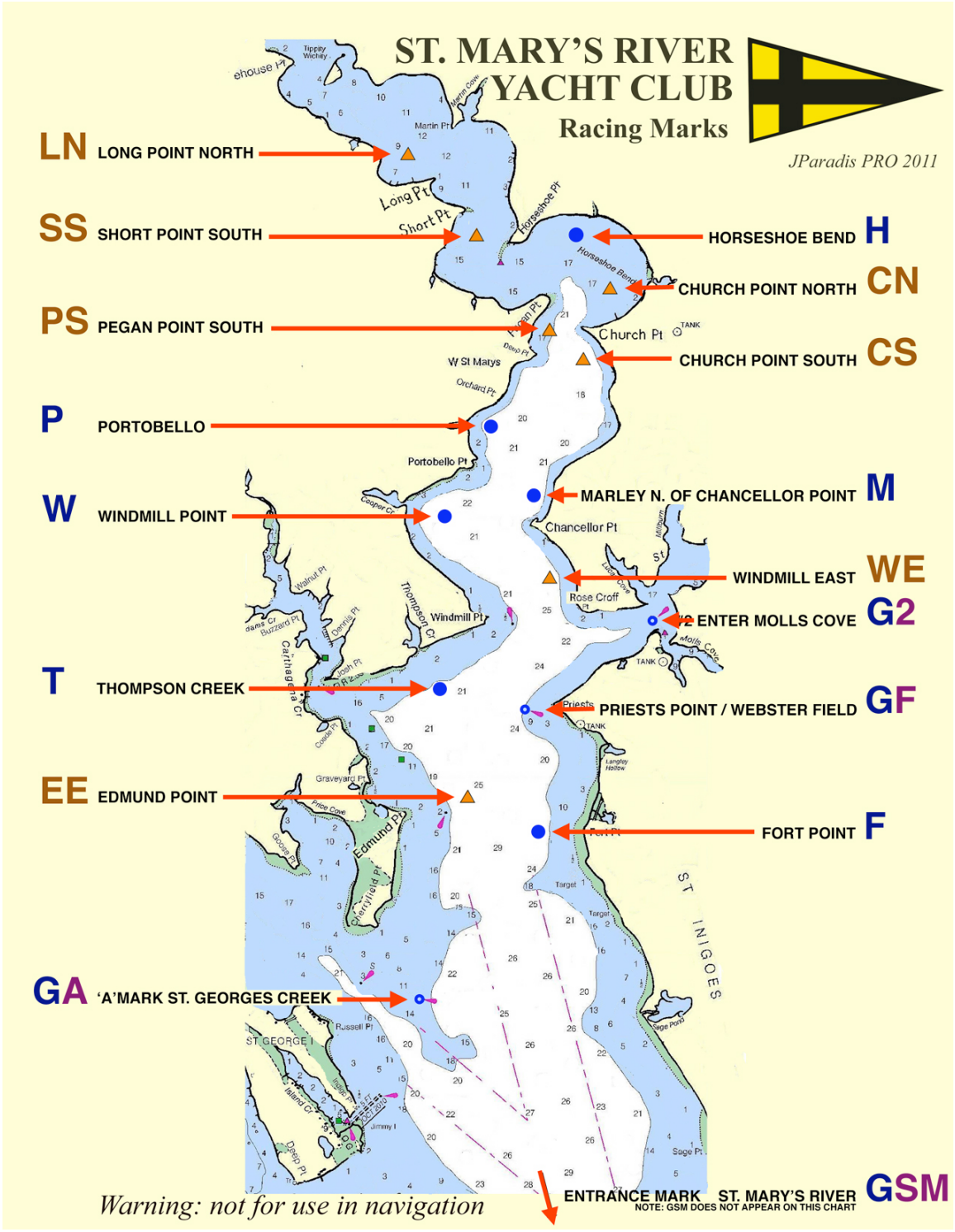


Exhibit B2 TABULATION OF SMRYC RACE MARKS

Three types of race marks are established and charted, to facilitate the ability of the PRO to communicate the location of the daily race course, and the ability of the racers to anticipate the location of race marks on the course but out of sight.

SMRYC Permanent Marks

(white, cylindrical, with 8 inch blue stripe and 1-letter designation)(circle on chart)

H – Horseshoe Bend (mooring buoy for Cocodrillo)
P – North of Portobello Pt (formerly "C")
W – North of Windmill Pt
T – Thompson Creek (south of Windmill Pt)
M – "Marley" residence (north of Chancellor's Pt (formerly "D")
F – off Fort Pt

SMRYC Temporary Marks

(usually orange ball fenders, unnumbered, 2-letter geo-reference and direction)(triangle on chart)

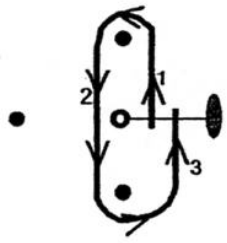
LN – north of Long Pt
SS – south of Short Pt
PS – south of Pagan Pt
EE – east of Edmond Pt
CN – north of Church Pt
CS – south of Church Pt
WE – east of Windmill Pt

Fixed Government Day Marks

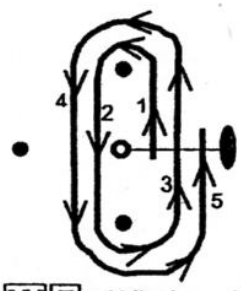
(pole with number/letter designation board, except "SM" - buoy)
(RC to verify adequate depth around mark daily if used)(black dot on chart)

GA – "A", entrance to St George's Creek
GF – Priest Pt (Webster), entrance to St Jerome's Creek
G2 – "2", entrance to Moll's Cove
GSM – entrance mark St Mary's River

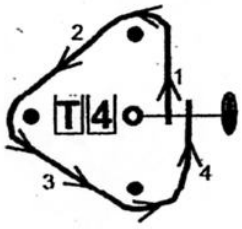
COURSES & CODES



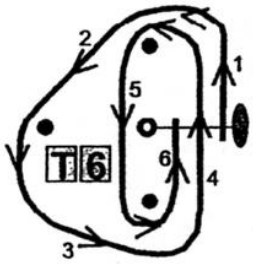
W3 = Windward/ Leeward (3 Legs)



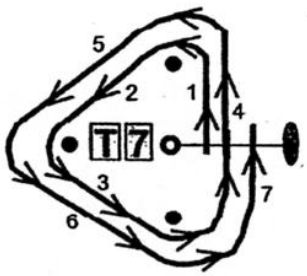
W5 = Windward/ Leeward (5 Legs)



T4 = Triangle



T6 = Triangle + W/L



T7 = 2 Triangles

RRS 26 Starting Sequence Without Starting Penalties

Warning • -5 minutes	↑ with SOUND	Class Flag
Preparatory •-4 minutes	↑ with SOUND	■
1 Minute •-1 minute	↓ with LONG SOUND	■
Start •0 minutes	↓ with SOUND	Class Flag