

SPSA 2024–2025 Series

St Petersburg Sailing Association (SPSA)

The St Petersburg Sailing Association announces the SPSA Series Races. This is a 16 race buoys event held on 8 Saturdays beginning in September of 2024 and concluding in April of 2025. The Series will be split into two Seasons; Fall of 2024 and Spring of 2025. Please contact SPSA if you need assistance Commodore@spsa.us

Notice of Race

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing and the 2024-2025 SPSA Series Sailing Instructions*
- 1.2 Penalty turns, RRS 44.2, is satisfied by one turn to include one tack and one gybe in the same direction.
- 1.3 Safety Each boat shall meet the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) as prescribed for Nearshore category racing.
<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations/>

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The sailing instructions are presented in the SPSA Members Handbook and are available on the SPSA web site www.spsa.us

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 All communications to competitors prior to race day will be made on the SPSA web page and may also be distributed by email.
- 3.2 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on *channels 16 and 72*.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee may make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be 72.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 This event is open to SPSA Members with single-hulled or multi-hulled sailboat eligible for a West Florida PHRF (WFPHRF) rating. If a boat does not have a WFPHRF, you can request a provisional rating from SPSA. If you are not a member of SPSA and you wish to explore joining the SPSA please visit our web page www.spsa.us

- 4.2 Eligible boats must register by noon on the Friday prior to her first race. Boats intending to deploy a “cruising spinnaker” must register by midnight on the Wednesday prior to her first race. Boats are encouraged to participate in any race. All boats shall register on the SPSA web site. www.spsa.us
- 4.3 This race will be a buoy race utilizing WFPHRF ratings. Two races are scheduled for each race day. Corrected finish times will use the time-on-time adaption of the WFPHRF rating.
- 4.4 There will be a Racing Division and a Cruising Division. * Dependent on the number of participants SPSA may choose to add or delete classes.
- 5 FEES There is no entry fee.
- 6 SCHEDULE
- 6.1 SKIPPER’S MEETING: THERE will be no skipper’s meeting. All communication before the day of the race shall be online. There may be some communication via VHF (Channel72) on the day of the race.
- 6.2 Fall Season
Saturday, September 14, 2024 (11:00 Start)
Saturday, October 12, 2024 (11:00 Start)
Saturday, November 9, 2024 (11:00 Start)
Saturday, December 7, 2024 (11:00 Start)
- 6.3 Spring Season
Saturday, January 25, 2025 (11:00 Start)
Saturday, February 8, 2025 (11:00 Start)
Saturday, March 15, 2025 (11:00 Start)
Saturday, April 19, 2025 (11:00 Start)
- 6.4 Number of Races: For each Season there are 8 scheduled races, two races per race day.
- 7 VENUE Tampa Bay east of downtown St Petersburg
- 8 COURSES
- 8.1 The race courses will be communicated from the Race Committee boat and utilise Government marks and a nearby inflated mark.
- 8.2 The marks are listed in the SPSA Members Handbook.
- 9 PENALTY SYSTEM
- 9.1 The scoring for penalties is described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 9.2 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

- 10 SCORING: Scoring will use the SPSA Low Point Scoring System for a Long Series. The SPSA Low Point Scoring System for a Long Series is presented in the sailing instructions. The Fall and Spring Seasons will be scored separately. The SPSA Series scoring uses all races of the Fall and Spring Season. The scoring details can be found in the Sailing Instructions.
- 11 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS: Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keelboats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the event.
- 12 RISK STATEMENT
- 12.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**
- 13 INSURANCE
- 13.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance.
- 14 PRIZES
- 14.1 Fall Season, Spring Season and Series awards will be presented at the SPSA Annual meeting in September. Depending on the number of boats participating in each class, up to 3 awards will be presented in each class.
- 15 A social may be held at the conclusion of every race day. Best of the day awards for each class may be awarded.