



# SAILFEST: COFER CUP

## Rules And Regulations

September 24, 2022

### 1. RULES

- a. The Cofer Cup will be governed by the rules as defined by the 2021-2024 Racing Rules of Sailing as modified by these Sailing Instructions. The following points are emphasized:
  - i. Sail Nauticus' Harbor20 sailboats are the only vessels permitted to be used in the race. Vessels will be assigned on race day.
  - ii. The races are FUN!
  - iii. On opposite tacks, STARBOARD tack boat has Right of Way.
  - iv. On the same tack, when overlapped, LEEWARD boat has Right of Way.
  - v. Don't crowd marks during rounding's.
  - vi. Don't force another boat into an obstruction.
  - vii. Do not interfere with the safe navigation of commercial traffic on the river. Yield to tugs, tows, merchant ships, sightseeing vessels, etc.
  - viii. Have fun!
- b. If required for safety, a boat's motor may be used, and the boat may maneuver perpendicular to the racecourse or backwards on the course. Motors shall not be used to advance the boat's position on the racecourse. *\*\*Please notify Race Committee boat if this is necessary. \*\**
- c. Violation of these rules make the boat subject to disqualification.
- d. Life jackets must be worn at all times while in Harbor 20s.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY

- a. Each vessel must have one person acting as skipper who has passed a Sail Nauticus Skipper's Test. Interested participants should plan to attend the Cofer Cup Skills Clinic on Saturday, August 27 from 10 AM-1 PM. Skipper's tests should be scheduled by August 27, 2022 and must be completed by September 20, 2022.
- b. **Form a Team:** Each vessel must have at least 2 and not more than 4 people during the Cofer Cup event. We will request names of participants by September 20, 2022, and also require that all individuals sign the Sail Nauticus Waiver Form prior to the event.
- c. **Team Name:** Teams will submit a Team Name for their vessel. All team names must be approved by the Sail Nauticus Manager by September 20, 2022.

### 3. TEAM FUNDRAISING:

- a. Teams are encouraged to compete off the water to raise the most funds. The top 3 teams with the most funds raised between June 30 and Sept. 23 will have the first pick of their preferred Harbor20. Teams who do not fundraise will be randomly assigned to the remaining vessels. Fundraising instructions will be listed on the website and sent to all teams upon registration.
- b. Sail Nauticus is a program of the tax exempt Nauticus Foundation a 501(c)3 which exists to benefit our community through education, impactful experience, and access to maritime resources. All contributions made directly to the organization are tax-deductible.

### 4. FEES

- a. **\$275 for Early Registration** prior to August 14, 2022
- b. **\$375 for Registration** between August 15, 2022, and September 1, 2022
- c. **Fees include:** Cofer Cup registration for up to 4 people, 2-week trial membership to Sail Nauticus, vessel insurance, Skills Clinic on Aug. 27 and 4 tickets to Pier Party/Awards Ceremony following the race.

### 5. LEGAL

- a. By attending the Cofer Cup, you authorize the use and reproduction by Nauticus of any and all photography and/or videography that has been taken of you in association with this event. All digital images and/or video files are wholly owned by the Nauticus Foundation.
- b. The scheduled inclement weather date is Sunday, September 25, 2022.
- c. Sail Nauticus reserves the right to cancel or change the date or location at its sole discretion.
- d. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Participants compete in the regatta completely at their own risk. The host and organizing authority will not have responsibility or liability for damage to property or for personal injury sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after, the regatta.
- e. Skippers are responsible for damage incurred to Sail Nauticus vessels under their command up to \$1,000.

### 6. SCHEDULE

- a. Registration deadline is September 1, 2022, at 11:59 PM.
- b. Optional Cofer Cup Skills Clinic is on August 27, 2022, from 10 AM-1 PM
- c. Skipper's Meeting will take place on Friday, September 23, at Sail Nauticus Pavilion. Skipper's may ask a crew member to attend in lieu of themselves. We'll hand out race packet and be on hand to answer any questions you have about the event.

### 7. VENUE

- a. The outside course racing area is planned to be east of Virginia International Gateway in the Elizabeth River, and/or on the western side of the Elizabeth River Channel near Hospital Point.
- b. The exact location of the course(s) will depend on specific wind conditions. The Race Committee (RC) will make announcements on Saturday morning over VHF Channel 71 about the approximate location of the starting area.
- c. Course will be defined using government marks and/or anchored marks. Course will be determined by wind direction and announced at the Skipper's Meeting.

## **8. STARTING**

- a. There will be at least three races in a series. At the beginning of each race, the normal start sequence will be as follows:
  - i. **10 Minutes to the Start:** Boats must check in by sailing past the RC boat. RC boat will announce the specific racecourse.
  - ii. **5 Minutes to the Start:** One short horn blast. A Yellow flag will be raised.
  - iii. **4 Minutes to the Start:** One short horn blast. A Blue flag will be raised.
  - iv. **1 Minute to the Start:** One short horn blast. Blue flag will be lowered.
  - v. **Start:** One prolonged horn blast will be sounded. Yellow flag will be lowered. In the event a competitor is over the start line early ("OCS"), a second prolonged horn blast will sound. The RC will attempt to hail that competitor and make an announcement on VHF channel 71. Any boat that is OCS must go back to the start and restart the race or they will be disqualified.

## **9. FINISHING**

- a. As boats finish, the RC will sound one short horn and call out the boat's name (sail color). If a boat is unable to finish before the time limit, they are requested to hail the RC on VHF 71.
- b. **TIME LIMIT:** Any boat not finishing within fifteen (15) minutes after the first boat to finish shall be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 and A4.1. If no boat finishes a race within one (1) hour after the starting signal, the Race Committee shall abandon the race.
- c. **PROTESTS:** Protests are strongly discouraged. This racing is for fun and fundraising for our Academy program. However, if a boat desires to file a protest, it must be announced at the finish line of the race. Once the vessels have returned to the dock; the skipper of the protesting boat and the skipper of the protested boat will meet with the Race Committee. The RC will be the sole judge of the merits of the case. The decision of the RC is final.

## **10. SCORING**

- a. "Low Point" scoring shall be used. Boats starting but not finishing an event, and boats that show up for a race and check-in but do not start, will be awarded a score of the total number of boats that started the race PLUS ONE. Boats not

showing up or checking in for a race will be awarded a score of the total number of registered boats PLUS ONE. Disqualified boats will be awarded a score of the total number of registered boats in the class PLUS TWO.

- b. Three completed races shall constitute a Series. If four races in a series are completed, there will be one “throw out” score per boat, per Series.

**11. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- a. The organizing authority and the Race Committee may make courtesy information broadcasts regarding the race, starting times, the weather, etc. Broadcasts will be on VHF Channel 71.