



NOTICE OF RACE
2018 Thistle Great Pumpkin Regatta
October 20-21, 2018
Thistle Fleet 110
Birmingham Sailing Club
Vincent, AL 35178



1. **Organizing Authority:** The Thistle Great Pumpkin Regatta (GPR) is organized by the Thistle Class Association (TCA) in conjunction with the Birmingham Sailing Club, and has been sanctioned in accordance with the By-Laws of the TCA.
2. **Rules:** The Regattas will be governed by the "rules" as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), and Thistle Class Rules as documented in the TCA Constitution, TCA Bylaws, Chief Measurement Rulings and Specifications.
3. **Eligibility and Entry:** The Regatta is open to boats and competitors meeting the eligibility requirements as described in the (TCA) rules. **(All Skippers must be TCA members; all boats must be Registered and Dues Paid)**. Eligible participants should register in advance for the regatta by completing the on-line registration as described in this Notice of Race. To register for the regatta, reserve lunches and dinners, visit www.greatpumpkinregatta.com for the link to the on-line registration. The GPR entry fee is \$45.00 or \$40.00 for members of US Sailing. Entries after October 18, 2017 will be accepted with a \$10 late fee.
4. **Schedule: (Central Time Zone)**
 - Saturday (October 20)
 - 0930 – 1100 Final registration (BSC Club House)
 - 1130 Skipper's Meeting (BSC Club House)
 - 1300 Warning Signal for Race 1. Up to 3 races will be held.
 - Sunday (October 21)
 - 0930 Warning Signal for remaining races. No race to start after 1230 CT.
5. **VHF Radios:** The Race Committee may use VHF radios to inform competitors of safety information and to hail boats that are on course side of the starting line (OCS) at the start and general information to assist in the management of the event. No transmissions will be allowed by any competitor.
6. **Sailing Instructions:** The Sailing Instructions will be available online at www.greatpumpkinregatta.com. These Sailing Instructions may be modified or amended.
7. **Scoring:** A total of 5 races are scheduled and all races sailed will be scored. Boats will be scored in accordance with Appendix A of the RRS as modified by the following statements. One race completed constitutes a regatta.
8. **Prizes:** Prizes will be awarded to the top 5 finishers, to the highest finishing female skipper and the highest finishing junior (under 25) skipper.
9. **Insurance and Damages:** A. The Organizing Committee does not assume any responsibility of any sort regarding the participants and boats. Competitors should have their own insurance covering all risks.

GP Regatta Chairman: Nelson Sharp nsharp4019@yahoo.com