



Venice Sailing Squadron (VSS)2017-18 Notice of Series (NOS)  
The Gulf of Mexico, October 2016 through May 2017  
Race Management will be provided by Green Flash Sailing (GF)

1. **RULES:** The races will be governed by the [Racing Rules of Sailing](#), published by World Sailing, excepting modifications set forth in the Sailing Instructions (SI) and the [US Sailing Prescriptions](#). Additionally, the races will be governed by the [Rules of West Florida PHRF](#), excepting the modifications set forth in the SI. These documents are available at the Green Flash web page. <http://www.greenflashsailing.com/>
2. **VSS RACING SEASON:** The entire season, October – May will be divided into two series, Fall (October – January) and Spring (February – May).
3. **FEES:** There is a \$70 fee to join VSS. Check the VSS website, <http://venicesailingsquadron.org/>. No boat will be excluded from a race for not paying; however, no awards will be made to non-members of VSS.
4. **CLASSES & DIVISIONS:** There is one class, PHRF with two divisions. Division A will consist of boats with WFPHRF non-spinnaker ratings less than 203, and Division B will have NS ratings 203 and above. All boats with WFPHRF certificates are welcome. Those who wish to sail without a certificate will be assigned a rating by GF. Once a boat is assigned to a Division, she shall remain in that Division until that series is completed even if her rating should change.
5. **SCHEDULE:** The Race Schedule (subject to change) is in the [Combined Calendar in Appendix A](#) of this NOS or by clicking the link above. The first race is scheduled for 1300 on Saturday, October 7, 2017. There will be a Skippers' Meeting at 1100 at Higel Marine Park, Venice.
6. **RULE CHANGES:** Rules 31, 44.1 and 53 will be changed and those changes set forth in the SI. Additionally the WFPHRF spinnaker rules have been modified to allow any boat to use one, as described in the SI.
7. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** The SI will be available on-line and by email before Saturday October 7, 2017 by Thursday, September 29 and at the skippers' meeting on October 7.
8. **EXONERATION:** A boat may clear herself of a breach of Part 2 of the rules by making a 360 deg. Turn. This changes Rule 44.1.
9. **AWARDS:** VSS will provide trophies as appropriate for the number of participants in each Division at normally scheduled meetings.
10. **NUMBER OF RACES:** There will be at least 8 races scheduled for the Fall Series and 4 races constitute a series.
11. **SCORING:** Scoring will be done on the “fraction of boats beaten” system as adapted by the Sarasota Bay Yacht Racing Association. Each boats race score will be 0.1 point plus the fraction of boats beaten. For example, if your final standing in a race is 4th overall in a 10 boat fleet, since you beat 6 of 10 boats, the fraction of boats beaten =  $6/10 = 0.600$ . Your total race score =  $0.1 + 0.600 = 0.700$ . The “series score” for each boat will be the sum of her race scores. However, exclude her worst N scores, where  $N = 30\%$  (rounded up) of the races completed. For

example, if we sail 8 races for a series, then each boat will have her worst 3 races (including races in which they did not sail) dropped (30% of 8 = 2.4, which rounds up to 3). The qualified boat with the highest “series score” is the winner, and others are ranked accordingly. A boat must sail in at least 50% of the races completed in the series to receive an award.

12. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate in these races entirely at their own risk. See **Rule 4, Decision to Race.** The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the races.

Appendix A

2017-2018 VSS Racing Schedule (Subject to Revision)		
<b>Events in Red at SBYA Events</b>		
<b>Events in Green are Green Flash Events (Expect several additional races)</b>		
9/30-10/1	Sat. & Sun.	Bradenton YC Kickoff Regatta
10/07/17	Sat.	VSS Races
10/ 21/17	Sat.	VSS Races
11/04/17	Sat.	Sarasota YC Invitational
11/11/17	Sat.	VSS Races
11/18/17	Sat.	VSS Races
12/09/17	Sat.	VSS Races
12/16/17	Sat.	VSS Races
01/01/18	Mon.	Flyboy's New Year's Day Race
01/06/18	Sat.	VSS Races
01/20/18	Sat.	VSS Races
01/27-28	Sat. & Sun.	Windjammer to Venice, SSS, VSS, VYC
VSS Fall Series Ends And Spring Series Begins		
02/03/18	Sat.	VSS Races
02/17/18	Sat.	Cherry Pie Regatta, SSS
02/24/18	Sat.	VSS Races
03/03/18	Sat.	VSS Races
03/17/18	Sat.	BYC Egmont Key Classic
03/24/18	Sat.	VSS Races
04/14/18	Sat.	VSS Races
04/07/18	Sat.	VYC/VSS Shark's Tooth Regatta
04/21/18	Sat.	VSS Races
04/22/18	Sat.	BKYC Sarasota Bay Cup Regatta for Mote Marine
5/6-7	Sat. & Sun.	VSS End of Season Regatta
5/16-18	Wed.- Fri.	Bone Island Regatta