



Fairhope Yacht Club 60th Annual Dauphin Island Race Safety Plan

National Weather Service Mobile Office (NOAA)

- NOAA Representative Meeting
 - Briefing with NOAA in March to introduce the race committee
 - NOAA assists in training Race Committee on how to obtain, decipher and share weather updates.

Dauphin Island Race Committee Responsibilities:

- Checking weather status
 - Using the NOAA Web Site to obtain weather updates and changing conditions.
 - One week before Dauphin Island Race checking daily
 - Update the race web site with daily weather bulletins
 - Provide links to Mobile Bay Environmental Monitoring stations and Sailflow stations.
- Meet with yacht clubs members, sailors and interested people to share best practices of safety on the water.
 - How to access weather information
 - What to look for prior to leaving the dock
 - What to watch for while on the water
 - Stay connected to weather data
 - Use of on board VHF for weather bulletins
 - How to set up mobile phone to notify Severe Weather Warnings
- The race committee will use the RaceQs application during the race for tracking the boats from start to finish.
- The Race Committee will monitor and broadcast on VHF channel 68 & 16.
- Three phones will be monitored and available for boats to contact Race Committee.

Coast Guard Involvement:

- Review the 2018 Dauphin Island Race Marine Permit; make suggestions as how to improve safety awareness
- Offer boat inspections to boat owners
- Attend Skippers meeting
 - Introduce local Coast Guard Command
 - Reinforce safety on the water
- Provide on water support during race day – Coast Guard Contact Information
 - Coast Guard Station Dauphin Island 251-861-5008
 - Office in Charge Blackletter cell 251-327-6328
- After event meet and review race with race committee and make recommendations.

Owner/Skipper:

- The owner/skipper shall hold a safety briefing before leaving the dock.
- Safety requirements: life jackets for everyone aboard; whistles attached to life jackets; life ring or approved throwable devices within reach of the helmsman and ready for instant use; manual bilge pump or bucket (Multihulls excluded); anchor and rode suitable for holding boat in extreme conditions (Multihulls excluded).
- A boat may be inspected at any time. If the boat does not comply with these safety requirements specified here, the entry may be rejected or disqualified.
- All crew must wear their PFDs for the start of the race and for the following five (5) minutes, it is also **recommended** that the crew keep their PFD's on during the race.

- Boats rated and designed with propulsion power must have operational propulsion capable of propelling the boat at 2/3 its theoretical hull speed in calm conditions.
- All participants shall abide by the Navigational Rules International/Inland (COMDTUNSTM16672.21), “a vessel of less than 20 meters in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel that can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway.
- Prior to the start, all boats are required to check in with the Race Committee’s **Check-In Boat** located at the northwest end of the secondary line with the Code Flag “L”. Your Dauphin Island Race hull numbers must be displayed to the Check-In-Boat as you pass so that your vessel is properly accounted for by the Race Committee.
- Registration form will include a list of all persons onboard the vessel, their contact information including names and phone numbers.
- All boats racing will have the RaceQs application running during the race. This application can be downloaded free from the web site at <http://raceqs.com/>
- Any boat retiring or withdrawing from the race shall notify, as soon as possible, either the Race Committee via channel 68, or Committee Finish Boat/Race Chair (251-510-1532), or the PRO (251-895-0993). The boat shall report the boat’s name, DI race number, sail number and the person’s name giving the report.
- All competitors are required to have a working VHF radio on board. Sailing vessels should monitor channel 68 for Race Committee broadcast. Distress calls should be transmitted on channel 16 which helps the Coast Guard to get an approximate location of the transmission and channel 68 to other vessels in the area.