

THE TOP OF THE GULF INTERNATIONAL REGATTA 2008
Platu Coronation Cup
Thailand Optimist Nationals

1rd – 5th May 2008

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF RACE

ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Regatta is organised by the Top of the Gulf Regatta Organising Committee under the auspices of the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand, the Platu Yacht Club, the Royal Varuna Yacht Club and Ocean Marina Yacht Club.

All enquiries and entries should be addressed to:
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1. RULES

1.1 The Regatta will be governed by:
The Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008,
The prescriptions of the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand,
The IRC 2007 Handicap Rules Parts 1, 2 & 3, The OMR rule for Ocean Multihulls,
The Platu Class Rules, The Class Rules of the appropriate dinghy, windsurfing, Super Mott and beach catamaran classes, This Notice of Race as amended by the sailing instructions) and the Sailing Instructions.

1.2 Between the hours of local sunset and sunrise the International Rules for Preventing Collisions at Sea shall apply.

1.3 The ISAF Special Regulations Appendix J, Category 5 Special Regulations shall apply to all keelboats and Ocean multihulls. Regatta specific safety requirements will apply to all other classes. These shall include, but may not be restricted to; communication devices and reporting schedules, minimum drinking water requirements, tally discs and life vests. These safety rules will be available from the organizing committee one month before the event.

1.4 The Regatta is classified as a Category C event under RRS 79 and ISAF Regulation 20 Advertising Code.

1.4.1 The Organising Committee will require all participating boats to display the event sponsor's advertising in accordance with Appendix 1, Regulation 20.3. (d).

1.4.2 A prescription has been issued by the Yacht Racing Authority of Thailand under RRS Appendix 1 Regulation 20.4.2 such that prior Organising Committee approval will be required for any other advertising, and it is unlikely to be given for products competing with those of the Regatta Principal Sponsors or for which advertising is controlled by local laws or customs. This prescription is attached to the Notice of Race.

1.5 The Sailing Instructions will be available at Registration.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1 The Regatta will have the following classes subject to entries received.

2.1.1 Class One. Keelboats with an IRC certificate .

2.1.2 Class Two. Keelboats in cruising configuration and not carrying an IRC certificate or as determined by the committee.

2.1.3 Class Three. Sports boats with an RORC Sportboat handicap

2.1.4...Class Four Platu entrants in the Coronation Cup

2.1.5 Class Five. Ocean Multihulls. Trimarans and Catamarans of a size, type and condition acceptable to the Race Committee.

2.1.6 Class Six.. Beach Catamarans. Catamarans of a size, type and condition acceptable to the Race Committee.

2.1.7 Class Seven. Monohull dinghies

2.1.8 Class Eight. Optimist Dinghy Class

2.1.9 Class Nine. Open windsurfer.

2.1.10 Class Ten. Super Mott Class

2.2 The Race Committee may change the above eligibility factors and number of classes based on its analysis of the entries received. Should sufficient enquiries be made and entries received the Race Committee may provide classes for Lasers, and other Beach Catamaran classes.

2.3 The Race Committee recognizes that there may be yachts that by virtue of design may qualify under these criteria in the above Classes but consider themselves to be cruising orientated either by accommodations, rig, sails or other reasons. The committee will receive written applications for consideration for inclusion in a Cruising Class no later than April 1, 2007 giving details of the yacht and the reasons for consideration. A valid IRC certificate, sail plan, accommodation layout including details of installed equipment, keel details and crew list MUST accompany the application. Applications based on crew criteria alone will not be entertained. Should there be a minimum number of such yachts enabling the formation of a separate Cruising Class, then the Committee shall consider the addition of such a Class. The Committee's decision shall be final and not subject to appeal.

2.4 Where yacht specification falls between the above parameters owners should consult the Race Committee on class placement.

2.5 Application for entry shall be made on the official Entry Form. The entry fee for Classes 1 - 5 is Thai Baht TBA. For Classes 6, 7, 9 and 10 the entry fee is Thai Baht TBA except that competitors under 18 years of age in these classes the fee shall be Baht TBA The entry fee for the Optimist Class is Baht TBA The Entry Fee must accompany the Entry Form. Entries must be received by 15th April 2007. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee, which may levy a late entry fee of Thai Baht TBA.

2.6 The entry fee includes participation of the skipper. An additional fee of Thai Baht TBA is payable at the time of registration for each additional crew member and/or supporter participating in any of the official functions of the Regatta. Optimist family and/or supporters shall pay a fee of Baht TBA to attend the official functions.

2.7 IRC current certificates or completed application forms for the rating together with fee, should accompany entries for relevant classes.

2.8 Completed handicapping forms must accompany entry forms for the Ocean Multihull class and keelboats requiring Thaicap ratings. Application forms are available from the Regatta Secretary.

3. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The following is the proposed schedule; however the Organising Committee reserves the right to amend this schedule.

Thursday 1st May 2008. Registration Day

10:00 -18.30	Registration at Ocean Marina Yacht Club
19.00	Opening Party at Ocean Marina Yacht Club

Friday 2nd May. Race Day One

09.00	Briefing Ocean Marina Yacht Club
11;00	Race Start
18.30	Party

Saturday 3rd May. Race Day Two

11.00 Race Start

18.00 Party Ocean Marina Yacht Club

Sunday 4th May. Race Day Three

11.00 Race Start

1900 Gala Dinner Ocean Marina Yacht Club

Monday 5th May. Race Day Four

10.00 Race Start

One hour after completion of racing, Royal awards for Coronation Cup,
Official prize giving and closing cocktails Ocean Marina Yacht Club.

4 COURSES.

A book of courses will be issued together with the Sailing Instructions. This book will contain a number of courses, inshore, coastal and inter-island. The course(s) will be chosen to take into account the prevailing, or forecast weather conditions on the day of the race. For coastal and inter-island races the approximate coordinates of any marks of the course will be indicated in the course book. Actual (or changes to) coordinates will be notified on the day of race via the official notice board and/or VHF radio on committee boats.

5. PENALTY SYSTEM

For Classes 5 and 6 rules 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.

6. SCORING

6.1 The Series will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the Racing Rules using the Low Point system.

6.2 For IRC Keelboat and Cruising Keelboat Classes, Sportsboat and Platu Classes and the Ocean Multihull Class 7 races are scheduled. Two races shall be completed to constitute a series. If five or more races are completed, one discard will be allowed. If 4 races or less are completed all will count.

6.3 For Beach Catamarans nine races are scheduled. Three races shall be completed to constitute a series. If eight or more races are completed, three discards will be allowed. If six or seven races are completed, two discards will be allowed. If five races are completed, one discard will be allowed. If four races or fewer are completed, all will count.

- 6.4 For Open Monohulls eleven races are scheduled. Three races shall be completed to constitute a series. If nine or more races are completed, three discards will be allowed. If seven or eight races are completed, two discards will be allowed. If five or six races are completed, one discard will be allowed. If four races or fewer are completed, all will count.
- 6.5 The scoring system for Windsurfers , Optimists and dinghies will be published separately.

7. CREW LIMITATIONS

7.1 IRC Rule 27.4.1 is modified by the addition of the following. The maximum number of crew for a Class 1 yacht shall be that stated on the IRC certificate. The number of crew for other Class yachts shall be no more than 20% more than the crew number printed on her IRC certificate.

7.2 The classes shall be subject to crew eligibility using the definitions as set out in the ISAF ELIGIBILITY CODE, copies of which are available from the Organising committee on application. Crew of Groups 1, 2 & 3 may partake in Class 1. Crew of Groups 1, 2 & 3 may partake in other Classes, except that the helmsman shall be of Group 1 or 2.

7.3 Owners/Skippers should seek clarification from the Organising committee if in doubt.

8. HANDICAP SYSTEM

8.1 The IRC Handicap System shall be used for Classes 1 & 2. Yachts shall submit their IRC rating certificate or rating application no later than 15 April 2007. No alteration to a yacht's certificate will be permitted after this date, except as a result of a rating protest or to correct a rating office error. The RORC Sport boat class Handicap system shall be used for Class 3.

8.2 The Thaicap handicapping system as issued by the Race Committee shall be used for the Classic class should there be one.

8.3 The OMR handicap system shall be used for the Ocean Multihulls.

8.4 The Texel rating system shall be used for the Beach Catamaran Class.

8.5 The Thaicap, OMR and Texel handicaps shall be fixed and not subject to protest.

9. INSPECTION

All yachts shall be liable for inspection in accordance with applicable safety and measurement requirements.

10. INTERNATIONAL JURY

10.1 An International Jury shall be appointed in accordance with RRS Appendix M.

10.2 Decisions of the jury shall be final and shall not be subject to appeal.

11. PRIZES FOR THE TOP OF THE GULF INTERNATIONAL REGATTA SERIES

11.1 A trophy will be awarded to the winning yacht in each class.

11.2 Second and third place prizes will also be awarded in each class.

11.3 The Coronation cup shall be awarded to the winner of the Platu class incorporated in Class 3

11.4 Other prizes including prizes for individual races and divisional results and line honours may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

12.0 DISCLAIMER

12.1 The Organising Committee, the Race Committee, the Regatta sponsors and their representatives, officers, members and volunteers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss of life, property, personal injury, or damage caused by or arising out of the Regatta. Participants compete entirely at their own risk.

12.2 The Yacht Racing Association of Thailand hereby, prescribes that, pursuant to the ISAF Advertising Code, Appendix 1 of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2005 - 2008 :

The Regatta may be classified as a Category C event under Regulation 20.4.2. However, prior approval of the Organizing Committee of the Regatta shall be required for any advertising in addition to that permitted under Regulation . .

12.4 Without limitation, the Organizing Committee is expected to disapprove any advertising it deems in conflict with Thai laws or customs and may disapprove advertising in conflict with the products of event sponsors.

This prescription shall constitute an Individual Advertising Licence System for purposes of Regulation 20.4.2.
