



## **2026 Mardi Gras Regatta**

Handicap February 21- February 22, 2026

Capdevielle – March 21- March 22, 2026

One Design - March 21-March 22, 2026

## **NEW ORLEANS YACHT CLUB**

### **NOTICE OF REGATTA**

**REVISED 02-25-2026**

#### **1. RULES**

- 1.1 New Orleans Yacht Club (NOYC) is the Organizing Authority (OA) and the event is sailed under the management of the NOYC Race Committee.
- 1.2 This event is governed by the 2025-2028 *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), the GYA Regulations for Sanctioned Events (RSE), the Mardi Gras Regatta Sailing Instructions (SI's), this Notice of Regatta (NOR), and applicable class and rating rules. In the event of a conflict the SI's shall govern.
- 1.3 The US Sailing Prescriptions to RRS 63.1(b) and the Prescription to the Preamble to Part 5, Section B are deleted.
- 1.4 Appendix V (Alternative Penalties) of the RRS will apply.
- 1.5 The notation '[NP]' in a rule in the NOR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may not be protested. This changes RRS 60.1.

- 1.6 Protests alleging a breach of RRS Part 2 or RRS 31, shall not be accepted from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see the incident. This changes RRS 60.4(a)(2)

## **2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1 Sailing Instructions will be available on Regatta Network and at the Skippers' Meeting. Capdevielle and Open Viper 640 will have a special SI; all other classes will use the Mardi Gras Regatta SI's.
- 2.2 Sailing instructions will be available no later than 48 hours prior to the skippers meeting and will be located at the MOYC website or by following the link below:  
**<https://noyc.org/regatta/tLQD6w1t4Y/#notice-board>**

## **3. COMMUNICATION**

- 3.1 On the water the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on the VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SI.
- 3.2 While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. The penalty for breaches of this rule may be less than DSQ.
- 3.3 The Official Notice Board is located just inside the north harbor entrance of the NOYC club house.

## **4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

- 4.1 All yacht clubs, which are current General Members of the GYA, are eligible to participate in the Capdevielle Viper 640 Regatta.
- 4.2 Other one design classes are open to all sailors. Four (4) boats are required for a class.
- 4.3 All registration shall take place online at  
<https://www.noyc.org/regatta/tLQD6w1t4Y> (Capdevielle/One-Design) or  
<https://www.noyc.org/regatta/Cs7ZXGbzKT> (Handicap)
- 4.4 Registration shall be completed by March 21, 2026 at 1000.
- 4.5 To be considered an entry, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.

## **5. FEES**

- 5.1 There is no entry fee for the Viper 640 Capdevielle competitors.

- 5.2 A single entry fee of \$55 allows competitors to race in both the Handicap regatta and One Design regatta. Entry fee must be paid by credit card or cash.
- 5.3 US Sailing members may deduct \$5 from the entry fee.

## **6. CREW LIMITATIONS**

- 6.1 See GYA Regulations for Sanctioned Events Rule 17 for Capdevielle team captain, skipper and crew requirements. Rule 17.7 does not apply to this event.
- 6.2 Only Capdevielle competitors may change crews and helmsman between races.

## **7. ADVERTISING**

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

## **8. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- 8.1 Five (5) races are scheduled for Capdevielle and all one design classes, three (3) races are scheduled for Handicap. For safety reasons this may change at the discretion of the PRO.
- 8.2 An updated schedule will be released as the race date approaches. All events are held at NOYC unless otherwise noted. A separate social event schedule will be released later.
- 8.3 [DP]Skippers not attending the mandatory skippers meeting will receive a 20% scoring penalty for the first race at the discretion of the PRO.

February 21-22 and March 21-22, 2026

NOYC dry storage is available to step masts, splash boats, etc.

Saturday, February 21, 2026

1030 – Mandatory Skippers' meeting for handicap classes

1200 – First Warning

1400 – No warning signal after this time

Food and live music after racing

Sunday, February 22, 2026

1000 – First Warning

1300 – No warning signal after this time

Awards as soon as possible after racing.

Saturday, March 21, 2026

1030 – Mandatory Skippers' meeting for OD and Capdevielle classes

1155 – First Warning for all OD classes

Food and live music after racing

Sunday, March 22, 2026

1000 – First Warning for all OD classes  
1455 – No warning signal after this time  
Awards as soon as possible after racing

## **9. VENUE**

The racing area is located on Lake Pontchartrain by the entrance to New Canal at New Orleans West End.

## **10. COURSES**

The courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

## **11. PENALTIES**

See NOR 1.4 above.

## **12. SCORING**

- 12.1 Each class shall be scored using RRS Appendix A, except that no scores shall be excluded. This changes RRS A2.1
- 12.2 One (1) race will constitute a series in each class.
- 12.3 Handicap fleet will use PHRF rating system

## **13. SUPPORT BOATS**

- 13.1 As Capdeville races will be sailed back-to-back, clubs are encouraged to provide support boats for any required on-the-water crew changes.
- 13.2 Support Boats are not allowed within 1000 feet of the Capdeville fleet between the warning signal and the finish of the last boat of the class except when an emergency permits.

## **14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. Neither the Organizing Authority, nor the Host Club, shall accept any liability for material damage, personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after this regatta.

## **15. SAFETY**

All boats shall comply with US Coast Guard and Louisiana safety equipment regulations. It is the responsibility of each skipper to determine if they should start a race, continue racing, or if wearing a life jacket is appropriate. This does not supersede any class rules or regulations that may require the wearing of life jackets while on the water.

## **16. AWARDS**

- 16.1 The winner of the largest class in the Handicap division shall be awarded the Mardi Gras Regatta perpetual trophy.
- 16.2 Awards for Capdevielle Viper 640 shall be awarded in compliance with GYA regulations.

## **17. INFORMATION**

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## **NOR / SI - Appendix A**

### **[NP] USE OF THE VAKAROS ATLAS 2 / RACESENSE SYSTEM**

#### **1. Device Requirement**

Each boat shall carry a functioning Vakaros Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge device configured for RaceSense. Competitors using GYA Foundation supplied devices are required to pick-up their units at the Registration Desk during Check-In. Competitors using their own devices are required to drop off their devices at the registration desk by the end of the Check-In period, then be picked up before the Competitors Briefing.

#### **2. Mounting Location**

The device shall be centered & secured to a mount on the aft side of the competitor's mast.

#### **3. Competitor Responsibility**

Competitors shall take all reasonable steps to maintain the device in working condition. In the event of a broken or lost device, the competitor shall notify the Race Committee immediately after the race and be ready to pick up a replacement before the next race. (Damage or loss in the result of negligence to GYA Foundation devices can result in the competitor shall make them financially responsible for replacement or repair) Competitors using GYA Foundation supplied units shall return them within one hour of the Race Committee's dock-time by each day of racing.

#### **4. System Use by Race Committee**

The Race Committee will use the Vakaros RaceSense system for starting procedures and OCS identification.

#### **5. Usage Instructions**

The Race Committee will post instructions for operating the Vakaros Atlas 2/Atlas Edge device on the Official Notice Board and/or make them available online.

#### **6. RaceSense Status Signal**

When RaceSense is active, the Signal Boat displays code flag R. If the system is disabled or malfunctions, the Signal Boat removes flag R and applies standard procedures under RRS 26, 29, & 30.

#### **7. Starting Procedure Modification**

When RaceSense is active, the Vakaros device's countdown serves as the official start time, and visual signals provide only information. This changes RRS 26.

#### **8. Recalls and Penalties**

RaceSense electronically detects and notifies boats infringing RRS 29 or RRS 30, replacing visual identification. The Race Committee does not display Flag X or any recall flags and makes no sound signals to indicate recalls. This changes RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, & 30.4.

#### **9. Redress and System Failures**

Failures or malfunctions of the RaceSense system, the Vakaros device, or related communications shall not be grounds for redress unless due to improper action or omission by the Race Committee. This changes RRS 41(c), 61.1(a), 61.1(c), & 61.4(b).

#### **10. Firmware Updates**

Between race days, competitors may need to install firmware or configuration updates. The Race Committee will notify all competitors via email or SMS through the regatta's designated communication channels.

## **11. Start Line Definition (Virtual Line)**

The Race Committee mounts a Vakaros device on the signal boat's orange line staff and at the port-end starting mark or flag. When RaceSense is active, a boat is OCS when any part of her hull crosses the virtual line between the two Vakaros units, regardless of the physical marks. This modifies RRS 29.1 and the definition of starting line.