

Frequently Asked Questions

2023 Harvest Moon Regatta

The following questions are often asked of the race committee. We provide the answers below as a courtesy, but these are not *rules* and they do not replace the *rules*; if there is any inconsistency between the answers below and the *rules*, the *rules* take precedence.

1. Q: I am looking for crew for my boat – or I am looking for a boat that needs crew – where can I find someone?

A: There are two good resources.

- The event crew board for Harvest Moon Regatta located at https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/26528#_newsroom
- The crew finder forum on GBCA.org, at <http://discussion2.gbca.org/index.php?board=3.0>

2. Q: I will not be able to attend HMR Safety Day Are there alternatives?

A: See SER 4.3.2, which permits a certification to the race committee of attendance at HMR safety day within the last two years of the requisite crew members. In addition, the race committee will attempt to live stream and/or video record the session for those who can demonstrate a *bona fide* hardship or inability to attend in person (for example, those who reside outside the greater Houston / Galveston area)

3. Q: How do I change details of my registration, like a crew member or phone number?

A: You should have received a welcome e-mail shortly after you registered. That email contains a link that allows you to edit your registration, including uploading documents to your registration. NOTE: do not change your fleet assignment or handicap rating unless you have discussed this in advance with the PRO.

4. Q: Do I need to register to attend the HMR Safety Day?

A: No reservations are needed; just show up at the event at Lakewood Yacht Club on September 30 at 0800 and sign in at that time.

5. Q: How do I comply with SER 4.3.2 related to Safety at Sea?

A: The skipper and the required number of crew should have a valid, unexpired certificate from U.S. Sailing. The Online Coastal Safety at Sea program, [available on US Sailing's website](#), satisfies this requirement.

If you intend to rely on an equivalent certificate from another national authority (which must be valid through the last day of the event, October 28, 2023), please send copies to the PRO at davidcomeaux@live.com who will determine whether the alternative certificate meets the requirement.

In addition, make sure at least 2 members of the crew attend HMR Safety Day on September 30, 2023.

6. Q: How do I upload my Safety at Sea certification?

A: You should have received a welcome e-mail shortly after you registered. That email contains a link that allows you to edit your registration, including uploading documents to your registration. Please upload the certificates using that process.

7. Q: I am a very experienced mariner and hold other certifications that indicate I know enough about safety. Do I really need to comply with the SERs, including the educational requirements?

A: Yes. The SERs are part of the *rules*. See RRS definition of *Rule* and NOR 1.1.b. Further, the U.S. Coast Guard has required that we submit a safety plan and we submitted these requirements as part of that plan.

8. Q: Is AIS required this year?

A: Harvest Moon Regatta is a Coastal Race. See NOR 1.1.b. SER 3.9 says that “AIS requirement for Coastal is effective January 1, 2024”

9. Q: How do I apply for a new or update PHRF certificate?

A: Go to www.phrfgb.org, and click “application.” Note somewhere in the application that you need this for Harvest Moon Regatta. We also recommend sending an email to the address listed on that page to let them know you are submitting the request and that it is for HMR.

10. Q: How do I apply for a current ORC certificate?

A: To start the application for a 2023 certificate, please use the following website: www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/request-a-rating If you do not have a current 2023 certificate, you should start your application as soon as possible, but no later than the Registration Deadline. Make sure you get the proper sail measurement certificates from your sailmaker or have a sailmaker measure your sails and give you a US Sailing sail measurement certificate.

11. Q: Is the Skipper’s Meeting mandatory? Will there be a virtual option?

A: The Skipper’s Meeting is not mandatory but attendance by the skipper or trusted crew is highly recommended. In addition to helpful information that will be shared, this will be the best opportunity to pick up your skipper’s bag, which includes your class flag, as well as the YB device assigned to your boat. If you cannot make the meeting in person, you *must* make arrangements to get these items after the meeting by contacting the LYC Office during business hours, Wednesday through Sunday, 9am – 6pm at (281) 474-2511.