



NOTICE OF RACE

17th Philippine Hobie® Challenge

The West Philippine Sea Challenge

Saturday, 11th February to Sunday, 19th February 2017

Organizing Authority

The Regatta is organized by the Philippine Inter-Island Sailing Foundation Inc. ("PHINSAF"), under the auspices of the Philippine Sailing Association.

1 Rules

The Event will be governed by:

The Racing Rules of Sailing

The Rules of the International Hobie® Class Association

The Philippine Hobie® Challenge Safety Instructions for Competitors

This Notice of Race (except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions)

The Sailing Instructions

(Note: No national prescriptions will apply.)

2 Entrant's Responsibility

While the Organizing Committee has made and will continue to make every reasonable effort to establish safety parameters through the strict enforcement of rules and equipment requirements the safety of each entrant is their sole responsibility. It will be the sole responsibility of each skipper to decide to start or continue racing on any leg of the event.

3 Advertising

3.1 Advertising shall be in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20 (Advertising Code).

3.2 Boats wishing to carry sponsors' names or logos on sails, and/or hulls should seek in writing the approval of the Organizing Committee in order to prevent conflicts with the Event Sponsors.

3.3 The Organizing Committee will require all boats and/or crew to display the Event Sponsors' advertising on their boats and/or sails. The specific areas of which will be indicated in a separate notice on this matter. These areas are reserved by the Organizing Authority for Event Sponsors and may not be used for individual team sponsors.

4 Safety

4.1 All boats and crew will be liable for inspection in accordance with the Safety Instructions and Class Rules at any reasonable time during the event. Any boat or crew found to be not complying with these rules, unready or deemed incapable of continuing the event may be disqualified at the discretion of the Protest Committee, or may have special restrictions applied to them.

4.2 The responsibility for maintaining a team's safety equipment in working condition throughout the event is the responsibility of the competitors alone.

4.3 It is strongly recommended that all competitors make their own arrangements for accident and medical insurance.

5 Entry and Eligibility

5.1 The Event is open to Hobie® 16s conforming to IHCA Class Rules.

5.2 The helmsman and crew must satisfy the Organizing Committee of their competence and experience to take part in the event. The final decision on acceptance of entries rests solely with the Organizing Committee, whose decision shall be final and not subject to appeal.

5.3 A team can consist of 2 or 3 team members. Crew may change at any time between races (subject to paragraph 6). This amends IHCA Rule 17.2.

5.4 An Official Entry Form will be available from the event website www.hobiechallenge.ph or from the Race Secretariat. The Official Entry Form must be completed in full and returned by Email to the Race Secretariat at ADMIN@PHILHOBIE.PH including a copy of the bank deposit receipt of the full entry fee no later than 31 December 2016.

5.5 All received Entries will be acknowledged and confirmed within 5 working days of receipt by the Race Secretariat. Entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis due to a limitation of < 30 teams.

5.6 Late entries after 31 December 2016 may be accepted at the discretion of the Organizing Committee but will be subject to a late entry fee of 10%.

5.7 Entry Fees should be paid in compliance with the instructions on the Official Entry Form. The official date of a team's entry will be taken as the date at which the full funds arrive and clear into PHINSAF's bank account detailed on the Entry Form.

5.8 The following cancellation/refund policy will be applied to participants wishing to withdraw entry:

- 75% refund if cancellation is advised on or before 15 November 2016.
- 50% refund if cancellation is advised on or before 15 December 2016.
- No refunds shall be given if cancellation is advised after 15 December 2016.

5.9 Charter boats will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis taken as the official date of entry (See 5.7 above). Priority room reservations (if applicable) in resorts will also be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis taken as the official date of entry.

5.10 Attendance by all participants at the Competitors' Briefing at 1400 hours on Saturday, 11 February 2017 is compulsory. Competitors failing to attend will be excluded from the event unless with reasons due to unforeseen circumstances (flight delays, acts of god etc.), then their participation in the event will be at the discretion of the organizers.

6 Weight Requirements

6.1 All team members will be weighed at Registration.

6.2 The weight at Registration will be taken to be the individual's weight throughout the event. This amends IHCA Rules 17.5.b and 17.5.c.

6.3 A team with more than two participants is required to maintain the crew weight while racing to within 20 lbs. (9 kgs.) of the two heaviest crew members, by the use of weights attached to the boat if necessary.

7 Equipment Requirements – 17th Philippine Hobie® Challenge Series

- 7.1 All entrants, both helm and crew, will be required to carry the following personal equipment on themselves at all times while racing:
- Lifejacket or Buoyancy Aid conforming to any National Regulations
 - Protective clothing and/or sunscreen
 - Personal strobe and/or waterproof torch with spare batteries
 - Whistle or sound signal
- 7.2 The following equipment will be carried on board every boat at all times while racing:
- GPS with waterproof case and spare batteries
 - Marine VHF with waterproof case and sufficient spare batteries for the event
 - Towing line (15 meters * 6mm minimum). *The righting line required by IHCA rules cannot comprise all or part of this towing line.*
 - Survival water (2 litres/boat) only to be consumed in emergency situations (Water will be provided)
 - Paddle
 - Compass
 - A mirror signalling device
 - Waterproof charts for each leg of the Challenge Series (Charts will be provided)
 - Any other safety equipment supplied by the Organizing Committee
- 7.3 One liquid filled bladder pack (*i.e. Camelbak etc.*) with a capacity of not exceeding 2 litres may be worn for the purpose of liquid consumption. These devices do not serve as Crew Weight.
- 7.4 Equipment must be attached to the boat in such a way as to be available in case of capsizes.
- 7.5 IHCA Rule 16.3 is amended so that VHF radios can be used during the legs of the Challenge Series.
- 7.6 **A GSM cell phone or Satellite phone is highly required.** *We recommend a Smart Communications mobile device.*

8 Equipment Requirements – Inshore Series

IHCA Class rules will apply.

9 Entry Fees

- 9.1 The entry fee is US\$ 2,500 (Two Thousand Five Hundred US Dollars) or PHP 100,000 (One Hundred Thousand Pesos) per team of two persons net of all charges.
- 9.2 The entry fee includes for all teams of two competitors:
- Boat transport to and from Venue to Boat Storage/Dock and vice versa
 - All resort accommodations (2 to 6 sharing) and/or camping arrangements from Saturday, 11 February 2017 to Sunday, 19 February 2017
 - Local drinks provided throughout the event (subject to availability)
 - All standard (*i.e.* breakfast, light lunch, dinner) meals with accommodations/camping tents
 - Challenge awards dinner and party for paid Crew members on Saturday, 19 February 2017
 - Transportation of a total of 4 bags plus tent per team will be transported between stopover locations (excluding items carried on board Hobie® 16)
- 9.3 For Third (3rd) Crew members the entry fee will be US\$ 1,250 (One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty US Dollars) or PHP 50,000 (Fifty Thousand Pesos) – 3, 4, 6 or 8 room sharing in resorts. Transportation of a total of 2 bags per person will be transported between stopover locations (excluding items carried on board Hobie® 16).
- 9.4 For an accompanying Guest (non-competitor) the entry fee will be US\$ 1,250 (One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty US Dollars) or PHP 50,000 (Fifty Thousand Pesos) – 3, 4, 6 or 8 room sharing in

resorts. Transportation of a total of 2 bags per person will be transported between stopover locations.

- 9.5 Early Bird sign-ups will get priority boat charter assignments as well as room accommodation preferences (air-conditioned rooms, minimum occupancy, and etc. dependent on venue) during the event.
- 9.6 Any Guests that only wish to join Awards Party dinner must be registered on the Official Entry Form or notified to the Event Secretariat by 31 January 2017.

10 Program of Events

- 10.1 Two Series of races will take place: The premier event will be the 17th Philippine Hobie® Challenge Series, which consists of five point to point Leg races and the second event will be the Inshore Series, which will consist of a number of in shore races.
- 10.2** The route will start from Nasugbu, Batangas, then to Lubang Islands, followed by a stop at Apo Reef, into Northern Busuanga, Palawan, passing through Uson Island, Coron, Palawan, and concluding in Busuanga, Palawan. Inshore Races will be held in Nasugbu and Busuanga. The Challenge route distance is approximately 200 nautical miles. *(Still subject to change based on availability or other unforeseen circumstances).*
- 10.3 The length of the course for the five races will be adjusted depending on the wind conditions, with the aim of sailing for between 4 to 8 hours per day.
- 10.4 *Program of Events**

Saturday 11th February 2017

0900 Start of Challenge
1100 Registration
1400 Boat Tuning, Scrutineering and Safety Inspections
Compulsory Competitors' Briefing at Race Control
1800 Welcome Party

Sunday 12th February 2017

0900 Inshore Races (Nasugbu, Batangas)
1600 Sailing Clinic

Monday 13th February 2017

0800 Leg 1 – Nasugbu, Batangas to Lubang Islands

Tuesday 14th February 2017

0800 Leg 2 – Lubang Islands to Apo Reef (*via Golo Pass*)
1600 Outreach Activity

Wednesday 15th February 2017

0800 Leg 3 – Apo Reef to Northern Busuanga, Palawan

Thursday 16th February 2017

0800 Leg 4 – Northern Busuanga to Coron, Palawan
1600 Outreach Activity

Friday 17th February 2017

0800 Leg 5 – Coron, Palawan to South Cay/Busuanga, Palawan
1600 Outreach Activity

Saturday 18th February 2017

0800 Inshore Races (*Puerto del Sol Bay/Busuanga, Palawan*)

End of Challenge

1800 Awards Dinner

Sunday 19th February 2017

1000 Transfer – Francisco B. Reyes Airport (USU) *formerly Busuanga Airport*

***Note: the exact overnight locations, activities, and schedules are still subject to change.**

11 Courses to be Sailed

- 11.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 11.2 Courses to be sailed will be contained in the Course Booklet, which will be available on the website from 15 January 2017 and at Registration.
- 11.3 A diagram/chart will be issued in the Sailing Instructions showing the area in which the event will take place and the approximate route.

12 Sailing Instructions

- 12.1 The Sailing Instructions will be published on the event website on 15 January 2017 and will be available at Registration.

13 Scoring System

- 13.1 Prizes in the 17th Philippine Hobie[®] Challenge Series will be based on the lowest accumulated elapsed time of each boat for all 5 legs.
- 13.2 A boat retiring from a leg of the Challenge Series will receive the time of the last finisher of that leg plus 5%.
- 13.3 For the Inshore Series, the low-point scoring system as per RRS Appendix A will be used. All races shall count towards a boat's total score.

14 Protest Committee

A Protest Committee will be appointed.

15 Prizes

- 15.1 Philippine Hobie[®] Challenge trophies and tokens will be awarded to the winners of the 17th Philippine Hobie[®] Challenge Series.
- 15.2 Prizes will also be awarded for individual legs of the Challenge Series.
- 15.3 The Inshore Series Trophy will be awarded to the winner of the Inshore Series.
- 15.4 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organizing Committee.

16 Release Waiver

- 16.1 It is a condition of entry that all participants shall execute a Release Waiver before participating in the 17th Philippine Hobie[®] Challenge Series. The waiver states in part that participants have read and fully understand the Notice of Race and entry acceptance letter and that their participation in the event is at their own risk and nothing in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions shall reduce or absolve them of their sole and inescapable responsibility for their own safety and well-being during the event.

16.2 Sailing can be a dangerous sport and this is an extreme event. The Organizing Committee, the Event 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 Event.

17 Event Secretariat

The Event Secretariat will be available by email and mobile until 1200 hours on Friday, 10 February 2017. From Saturday, 11 February 2017, the Event Secretariat will be situated at Race Control or travelling with the Race.

Event Secretariat

Email: admin@philhobie.ph
Phone: **+63 2 616 5760**
Mobile: **+63 917 540 8571**
Website: www.hobiechallenge.ph
Mobile during event: **+63 999 169 3546**

Reminders

Further information on venue of Start of Race shall be released as soon as available. Accommodations and airport transfers before the official start of event is for the competitor's own account. For competitors that need flight arrangements/assistance, please send an email to the Event Secretariat for airline and flight schedule recommendations.

Administration Details

Further Administration details will be published on the event website www.hobiechallenge.ph (when available) and will be sent by email to those expressing an interest in joining. Please indicate your interest in participating to the Event Secretariat to ensure that you receive all relevant information by email.

-Nothing Follows-