

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

BANANA RIVER SPS

DRAGON POINT NAVIGATION CHALLENGE



(An Application of Traditional Dead Reckoning Navigation Skills)

OBJECTIVE

To navigate several prescribed legs of a Course as accurately as possible. The winner will be determined by the shortest distance between the Ending and Target coordinates of the last leg.

PARTICIPANTS

The Committee: Organizes the event, creates the routes, determines the starting order, issues the starting instructions and determines the final ranking of the participants.

The Pilot: Responsible for navigating the prescribed route by using the given parameters and compensating for deviation, leeway, wind, traffic, turning drift and any other factors. May be assisted by a Navigator.

The Observer: Selected by the Committee, will be assigned to each Pilot. The Observer verifies compliance with the rules.

RULES

- Any vessel, power or sail, may participate.
- **Boats must meet all federal and local safety requirements.**
- **It is the responsibility of the Pilot to ensure the safety of their vessel by avoiding collisions, groundings and entanglements.** This event will be held in open water, the Pilot must be aware of their surroundings. There will be nonparticipating vessels present, as well as other floats and debris. The Committee will attempt to keep all courses within water that is at least 6 feet deep.
- One week to ten days before the contest each Pilot will receive a unique Course consisting of seven legs covering 6-8 nm.
- For each leg of the Course, the Pilot will be given the Magnetic Heading and Distance in nautical miles.
- On the day of the competition, the Pilot will receive a numbered float, line and anchor weight.
- The Pilot determines his speed for the Course, which will be between the Pineda Causeway (Rte 404) and Eau Gallie Causeway (Rte 518) using Chart 11472.
- Different Courses will be assigned to minimize congestion.
- The starting point will be day mark G "1" at the end of Dragon Point (southern tip of Merritt Island) 28° 08' 30.73" N and 080° 36' 12.55" W.
- Pilots will start their runs at intervals as instructed by the Committee via VHF Channel 71.
- The Pilots must navigate each leg in the order given.
- The use of GPS, Loran, radar or similar position indicating devices during the run is not permitted. If one is on board, the Observer will cover the position display for the duration of the run leaving only the depth and speed indicators visible. The use of Autopilots or self-steering devices is not permitted.
- A GPS will be allowed to only display Speed Over Ground. No other readouts are permitted.
- When the Pilot determines that he has reached his exact end point, he will jettison the marked buoy. The final position will be measured at the buoy when the Committee reaches it, not the anchor position.
- The Target Coordinates will not be within the ICW, so avoid leaving the floats within the ICW channel.

DETERMINING THE WINNER

The standings will be based on the distance between the Target and actual Ending coordinates. The winner will be the one with the shortest distance.

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For Boaters, By Boaters™



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