

Southern Yacht Club's Annual  
**RACE TO THE COAST**  
*First sailed on July 4th, 1850*  
**JUNE 7 & 8, 2019**  
New Orleans, La. to Gulfport, Miss.



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**SUPPLEMENTAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS – Ongoing Repairs to US-11 Bascule Bridge**

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**Issued June 7, 2019**

There is ongoing repair work being done to the U.S. Highway 11 “Maestri Bridge” across the eastern end of Lake Pontchartrain. Currently, the American Bridge Co. of Pennsylvania is doing extensive work on the North Draw bascule, which is part of the Race to the Coast course.

The North Draw remains open to marine traffic, but it is a working construction area and, as such, there are some additional requirements. Competitors shall take note of the following supplemental Sailing Instructions:

**There shall be NO SAILING through the Highway 11 North Draw.**

For safety and maximum maneuverability, each boat shall use her auxiliary propulsion while passing through the US-11 bascule. Skippers shall assess the wind conditions and, if needed, also lower their sails while passing through the bridges. See also SI 12.3.

Note that motoring through the bridge does not constitute a bridge delay under SI 11.

**There is NO BRIDGE TENDER to hail or respond.**

The NSRR bascule is operating normally. It typically remains in the open position until a train is approaching. Note that the bascule is operated remotely and there is no bridge tender to hail or respond. This has always been the case, but there is usually also a bridge tender operating the US-11 bascule. Remain vigilant for sound signals that the NSRR bridge is closing.

**The Highway 11 Bascule is only half open.**

The north leaf of the US-11 bascule will remain open at all times, but the south leaf is in the closed position. This reduces the horizontal clearance at deck level to 70 feet. The overhead horizontal clearance is less than 70 feet.

**There is active pile-driving work in the area.**

There will be a spud barge with a crane and pile-driver working in the area of the bascule. They do not expect that the passage will be blocked, but if it is, they will move the barge to allow the fleet to pass.

If needed, the pile-driving crew can be hailed on **VHF channel 2** (and possibly 13 or 16). Radio communication is only necessary if the passage is blocked. If boats are delayed by the construction, the usual Bridge Time rules will apply. Please be respectful of the construction crew. See SI 11.5.

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