

ROCK CREEK RACING ASSOCIATION SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2010 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES

April 21 – October 20, 2010

Updated 6/1/10

1. Rules

- a. The Series will be governed by the “rules” as defined in *The 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), the prescriptions of *United States Sailing Association* and the rules of the PHRF of the Chesapeake except as any of these are altered by these Sailing Instructions or any amendments thereto. All boats shall be in compliance with *PHRF of the Chesapeake, Special Regulations Governing Minimum Equipment Accommodations Standards Category “5P”* with the exception of a radar reflector and heavy weather jib.
- b. RRS 63.7 is replaced by: “If there is a conflict between a *rule* in the Notice of Race and a *rule* in the Sailing Instructions, the rule in the Sailing Instructions and any amendments shall take precedence.”
- c. For Series 2 only, North Point Sailing Association Sailing Instructions will take precedence.

2. Eligibility and Entry

- a. Rock Creek Racing Association members in good standing may enter all of the Wednesday Night Races. Members of North Point Sailing Association may enter Series 2 – Early Summer Series and Series 3 – Late Summer Series.
- b. The Member entering the boat must be a regular, active participant on the boat for the series and is responsible for the actions of the boat and crew while participating in the event.

3. Notices to Competitors

- a. Notices concerning the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the RCRA web page and the Bulletin Board located at Oak Harbor Marina.
- b. Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least 24 hours before they take effect.

4. Signals Made Ashore

- a. There will be no signals made ashore.
- b. In the event of adverse weather conditions, monitor VHF channel 71 for possible race delay or cancellation by the Race Committee.

5. Schedule

- a. The event will consist of five series.
- b. The Schedule is as follows:

Series	Dates	Notes
1 - Spring Series	April 21 st through May 26 th	RCRA only
2 - Early Summer Series	June 2 nd through July 7 th	NPSA and RCRA NPSA SI's apply
3 - Late Summer Series	July 14 th through August 18 th	RCRA and NPSA RCRA SI's apply
4 - Fun Series	August 25 th through September 8 th	Women at the helm – see amendment to SI's
5 - Fall Series	September 15 th through October 20 th	RCRA only

6. Class Flags

- a. Class Flags must be flown on the back stay.
 - i. PHRF Spinnaker "A" – White
 - ii. PHRF Non-Spin (if any) – Blue

7. Rendezvous

- a. Rendezvous will be at RCRA mark "A" (.5nm North of White Rocks) at 1815 hours.
- b. First warning will be at 1830 hours.

8. Courses

- a. For Series 1, the course will be determined by the Race Committee and will be designated on a course board using RCRA mark numbers. (See RCRA Mark list revised 5/31/10).
- b. For Series 2, refer to the NPSA Sailing Instructions. There are no course changes from 2009.
- c. For Series 3 – 5, refer to the "RCRA Standard Course Chart" posted on the RCRA web site.
- d. Courses may be shortened at any mark of the race course.

9. The Start

- a. Races will be started by using rule 26 with the following addition: "An attention signal (flag L) will be displayed on the race committee signal boat when the committee boat is on station. Flag L will be removed with multiple sounds approximately one minute before the first warning signal." This changes rule 27.1.
- b. The starting line will be between a yellow flag on the committee boat and RCRA mark "A".
- c. Once a warning signal has been given, any fleets not "starting" must stay clear of the starting area.
- d. No races will be started after 1930.

10. Signals

Class	Time*	Signal
Rendezvous	1815 (not timed)	"L" Flag
Attention	1829 (not timed)	"L" Flag lowered, multiple horns
Warning – PHRF "Spinnaker"	1830	1 horn + white flag up
Preparatory	1831	horn + prep flag up
One-minute Warning	1834	1 long horn + prep
PHRF "Spinnaker" Start	1835	1 horn + removal of white

*Series 3 (with NPSA) times will be delayed by 15 minutes to allow additional transit time.

11. Individual Recall

- a. Will be in accordance with RRS 29.1. The Race committee *may* call sail numbers of the boats recorded OCS on VHF channel 71. Failure to receive the transmission will not relieve a boat of the responsibility of starting properly, and is not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

12. General Recall

- a. Will be in accordance with RRS 29.2 except the last sentence is deleted and replaced by: "The starting order and timing of subsequent starts will proceed as if there had been no General Recall. The recalled fleet will be restarted after the last fleet in the scheduled starting order. If more than one fleet has been recalled, they will restart in the order they were recalled." This changes RRS 29.2.

13. Abandoned/Postponed Races

- a. Will be in accordance with RRS 27.3 except the use of "AP" over "H" and "N" over "H" will be omitted as no signals will be made ashore.
- b. In the event of extreme weather conditions, the Race committee may signal postponement or abandonment of the race.
- c. Postponement shall be indicated by hoisting Code flag(s) "AP", or "AP" over "A"
- d. Abandonment shall be indicated by hoisting Code flag "N"

14. The Finish

- a. The finish line is between the yellow flag on the RC boat and the RCRA mark "A" or last designated mark of the course. The USSA definition of "Finish" requires the boat to cross the finish line in the direction of the course from the previous mark.

15. Penalty System

For any RRS Part 2 infraction, Rules 44.1 through 44.4 shall apply. RRS 44.1 is replaced by: "A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 while racing may take a penalty:

- a. At the time of the incident, by taking either a two turns penalty (720° - in compliance with RRS 44.2) or taking a 20% penalty as calculated in the Sailing Instructions.
- b. a 360° penalty turn for infractions when:
 - i. there is no contact between boats AND
 - ii. the incident does not occur within two boat-lengths of a start line, finish line, or rounding mark.
- c. **After** racing and before the start of a protest hearing involving the incident, by taking a 40% scoring penalty as calculated in the Sailing Instructions.

However, if the boat caused serious damages or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach she shall retire.

16. Time Limits

- a. RRS 35 is replaced by: "A fixed time limit for all boats is established as 2100 hours."
- b. No boats will be finished after the time limit. For boats still racing in a class with boats that have finished before the time limit, they shall be scored TLE (time limit expired). No sound signals will be made. Time will be determined by GPS. This changed RRS 35 and A11. Boats scored TLE will be scored number of starters plus 1 – same as DNF.
- c. If no boat in a class finishes within the time limit, the race will be abandoned for that class. This changed RRS 35.
- d. The race committee can at its discretion abandon a race at any time by signaling with 3 sounds of the horn but only if no boats have finished the race.

17. Protests and Redress

- a. All Protests and Redress requests must be filed in writing at the post race gathering at Oak Harbor Marina within 1.5 hours of the final finisher, abandonment, or race time limit expiration. Use the US Sailing/CBYRA forms found at the back of the handbook, additional copies available from RC Chair.
- b. The protest will be posted on the bulletin board at Oak Harbor Marina. This will be considered notice to all parties.
- c. Protest Hearings will be held at Oak Harbor Marina the Wednesday following the incident immediately after all parties have returned from racing unless scheduled otherwise due to conflicts.
- d. Protests shall conform to Part 5 of the RRS.

18. Scoring

- a. The Low-Point Scoring system in RRS Appendix A4 will apply unless modified in the Special Racing Instruction for the event. Rule A9 will also apply. Ties will be broken in accordance with RRS Rule A8.
- b. One race must be completed to constitute a series. One throw-out will be allowed when 6 races are sailed in a series.
- c. A score of DSQ will not be used as a throw out when computing the series score.

19. Safety

- a. RRS 40 is replaced by: "It shall be the individual responsibility of each competitor to wear adequate personal buoyancy when conditions warrant." All safety equipment required by U.S. Coast Guard Regulations and Class rules must be carried on board.
- b. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- c. Racing boats must stay well clear of commercial shipping traffic at all times. Any boat that interferes with the operation of a commercial vessel in order to improve her racing position may, at the discretion of the race committee, be DSQ'd.

20. Classes

- a. A minimum of 3 boats per handicap division or class shall be registered for the division or class to be scored separately. If less than 3 boats are registered in a handicap division or class, that division or class may be eliminated and/or combined with another division.

- b. Classes may be started together in a Fleet, but scored separately. Handicap divisions may be divided and/or starts combined if the number of entries and/or ratings indicates that this would improve race management.
- c. Class flags are required for all races sailed after Series 1.
- d. The following classes are anticipated at this time: PHRF Spinnaker.

21. Prizes

- a. There will be one award for 3-4 boats, two awards for 5-6 boats and three for seven or more boats in a class for a given series.
- b. Prizes will be awarded at the RCRA Awards Banquet.

22. Disclaimer of Liability

- a. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- b. A signed Waiver of Liability shall be signed by all skippers and crew. I still feel we should have this! We should have the forms available after the first race at Oak Harbor.

23. Insurance

- a. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 per event or the equivalent.
- b. Proof of insurance may be requested by the race committee at any time.

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