



HUDSON RIVER YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION

HRYRA Cruising Fleets

2026 COMMON SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*. Class rules are the current *Performance Handicap Racing Fleet Regulations* published by the YRA of LIS, modified to admit rating certificates issued by HRYRA.
- 1.2 Supplementary sailing instruction (called '*the supplement*' below) pertaining to a specific regatta will be made available for download prior to the first day of the regatta and will be posted as a notice to competitors. *The supplement* modifies CSI instructions 3.1, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 16.3 as indicated. Use prefix CSI to reference an individual Common Sailing Instruction (e.g., this instruction is CSI 1.2)
- 1.3 All boats must satisfy the *HRYRA Boat Standards* published on the HRYRA web site.
- 1.4 [DP] In accordance with a request from US Sailing, your attention is drawn to RRS 77 and RSS Appendix G regarding requirements for visibility of sail numbers, especially G1.2(a)(3) specifying that they be of a contrasting colour to the body of the sail.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted as described in *the supplement* (per CSI 1.2).
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel specified in *the supplement* (per CSI 1.2).
- 3.3 [DP][NP] While *racing*, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that are not available to all boats.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed as described in *the supplement* (per CSI 1.2).
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The schedule of races, including the times of the first warning signal each day and the number of races to be sailed each day are specified in *the supplement* (per CSI 1.2).
- 5.2 For the first race of any day, starts for classes 1, 2, 3, ... shall occur in that order, except that adjacent classes may be started together and there may be no start for a missing class.
- 5.3 If a race has been postponed for more than two hours (one hour if the class has more than one race scheduled for the same day), the race committee shall either *postpone* ashore (display flag AP over H or AP over A, with two sounds) or *abandon* the race (display flag N, N over H, or N over A, with three sounds.) The race committee shall announce the action taken on the designated VHF channel.
- 5.4 Postponed or abandoned races may be started or re-sailed on the same or any following day.

6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 The HRYRA PHRF class definitions and class flags are given in the table below. Class flags will not be used to indicate hours of a postponement from the scheduled starting time. This modifies RRS Race Signals.

Class	PHRF values	Class Flag	Streamer Color
1	Less than 130, with spinnakers	Code Flag #1	Blue
2	Greater than 130, with spinnakers	Code Flag #2	Orange
3	All PHRFs, without spinnakers	Code Flag #3	White
4	All Double-handed, no spinnaker	Code Flag #4	Green
All Others (if any): <i>the supplement</i> defines classes, class flags, and streamers (see CSI 1.2)			

- 6.2 Each yacht shall clearly display a coloured streamer, as described in the table, to indicate the class in which she is racing. Boats having a backstay shall affix the streamer to the backstay approximately 6 feet above the deck.

7 RACING AREA

The racing areas are described in *the supplement* (per CSI 1.2).

8 COURSES

- 8.1 *The supplement* shall include a complete description of the course(s) to be sailed, including descriptions of marks, including starting and finishing marks, stating the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each is to be left, and identifying all rounding marks (per CSI 1.2 and see RRS J2.1.)
 - 8.1.1. If a course is intended to be scored as a *windward-leeward* (W/L) course, its description shall so indicate.
 - 8.1.2. The description of a course may include a time limit and finishing window. If specified, those values shall be used in place of the values in CSI 15.1.
- 8.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee shall designate the course and it may also display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg. *The supplement* shall describe the manner of designating the course,

9 MARKS

Marks are described in *the supplement* (per CSI 1.2).

10 OBSTRUCTIONS

Obstructions are described in *the supplement* (per CSI 1.2).

11 THE START

11.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.

11.2 The starting line will be between a staff or shroud displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel and the course side of the starting mark.

11.3 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a request for redress. This modifies RRS 61.1(a).

12 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 While boats are *racing*, the race committee may change a leg of the course that begins at a rounding *mark* or at a gate by changing the position of the next *mark* (or finishing line), either by moving it or by laying a new *mark* or by using one end of the finishing line as the new *mark*; and by signalling all boats before they begin the leg. The next *mark* need not be in position at that time. This replaces the first paragraph of RRS33.

13 THE FINISH

13.1 Unless the course is shortened (see RRS 32.2), the finishing line will be between a staff or shroud displaying a blue flag on the race committee vessel and the course side of the finishing *mark*.

13.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she shall report her finishing time and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 The scoring penalty, RRS 44.3, applies for a violation of a rule of Part 2. The penalty is the number of points as calculated in RRS 44.3(c). A boat intending to take a scoring penalty shall display a yellow flag as described in RRS 44.3(a) and (b).

14.2 Rule 44.1 (one turn penalty) applies for a violation of rule 31.

14.3 For a violation of rule 31, or if a yellow flag is not displayed as required in rule 44.3(a) and (b), a boat may instead accept a scoring penalty as described in RRS T1 (see Appendix T of the RRS.)

15 TIME LIMITS FOR FINISHING A RACE

15.1 Unless explicitly specified in the course description, the time limit for a race is 2 hours, and the finishing window is 45 minutes.

15.2 Boats failing to *finish* within the finishing window after the first boat that *sails the course* and which do not retire or are penalized or given redress shall be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4, and A5.

16 HEARING REQUESTS

16.1 The protest time limit is 1 hour after the race committee has returned to the dock at the end of the day's racing.

16.2 Hearing request forms are available from the race committee.

16.3 ARBITRATION: Appendix T shall apply unless *the supplement* explicitly excludes or modifies this instruction (per CSI 1.2).

16.4 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or"

17 SCORING

17.1 Yachts will be handicapped using PHRF numbers to compute time-on-time correction factors: Corrected Time=Elapsed Time × TCF, where $TCF=650/(550+PHRF)$. Each yacht shall have a current PHRF certificate issued by Hudson River Yacht Racing Association (HRYRA) or by the Yacht Racing Association of the Long Island Sound (YRALIS). For courses indicated to be *windward/leeward* (W/L) (see CSI 8.1.1), the "W/L" rating on the certificate will be used; for all other courses, the "DIST" or "All Purpose" (AP) rating will be used. This implements a YRALIS PHRF class rule (see <https://yralis.org/phrf-racing/racing>, 2026 PHRF Regulations), which specifies that it is not grounds for protest (request for redress) or appeal if the resulting course is not parallel to the wind.

17.2 The Low Point Scoring System, Appendix A of the Racing Rules will apply for **Regatta** and **Season** scoring. A minimum of 1 race must be completed to constitute a series.

17.3 For **Regatta** scoring, the term "number of boats entered in the series" as used in RRS A5.2 means the number registered in that class for the regatta. All completed races are counted. This changes RRS A2.1.

17.4 For **Season** scoring, the "number of boats entered in the series" as used in RRS A5.2 means the number that have registered in that class for the regatta of which the race is a part. However, a boat scored DNC (i.e., did not come to the starting area) shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the maximum of the number of boats starting in any completed race for that class in any of the six HRYRA scheduled regattas or in Nyack's distance race. The number of excludable race scores to be excluded is 1 for every 4 completed races, as shown in the following table. RRS A5.3 shall not apply. This modifies rule A2.1 and A5.2.

Season Races Completed for the Class	Excludable scores to be excluded
1-3	0
4-7	1
8-11	2
12-15	3
N	N/4, rounded down

17.5 Season prizes will be awarded to the top 3 scored boats in each class.

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1 [DP][NP] Before the first warning signal, each boat shall report her sail number to the race committee by oral hail. Hails on VHF do not satisfy this requirement.
- 18.2 [DP][NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity on the designated VHF channel or by oral hail.

19 RISK STATEMENT

- 19.1 RRS 3 states: ‘The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.’ By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks, including, but not limited to, strong winds, rough seas, weather changes, and **the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**