



BALTIMORE CITY YACHT ASSOCIATION

PHRF Sailing Instructions 2016

1. Racing Rules.

- 1.1 The 2013-2016 ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing as adopted by US Sailing & US Sailing Prescriptions ("RRS/US") will govern all races, except as they are altered by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 All boats shall keep a copy of the current Rules of Sailing and a copy of these Sailing Instructions on board during any BCYA-sponsored race.
- 1.3 All boats shall comply with PHRF Minimum Equipment and Accommodation Standards for Race Category "Near-Shore (6P)".
- 1.4 All boats shall display appropriate running lights during evening races, starting at the time when government marks are illuminated. Failure to comply with this requirement is grounds for protest by the Race Committee.
- 1.5 PHRF crew limits do not apply to club events that are not officially sanctioned by the CBYRA.

2. Changes to Sailing Instructions.

Changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the BCYA web page (<http://www.bcya.com>) and will be distributed to competitors by regular mail, fax or email. This changes RRS/US 90.2.

3. Notices to Competitors.

- 3.1 If adverse weather appears likely on the day of a Tuesday night race, the Race Committee may make an announcement on VHF Channel 72 at 1720 hours as to whether racing will be postponed or abandoned. If the Race Committee observes sustained winds at, or above, 30 knots, at the key bridge, at 1730 hours, racing will be cancelled. A courtesy text message may also be sent out, if you have provided the RC with your cell phone number.
- 3.2 Other notices concerning a race may be broadcast on VHF Channel 72 prior to the starting signal of a race.
- 3.3 Race results will be posted on the BCYA web page <http://www.bcya.com>.

4. Entry.

- 4.1 To enter a race or series, a boat must submit a current PHRF certificate, an entry form, and its entry fee to the BCYA Race Committee at least 24 hours prior to the first start. Any entry not received 24 hours prior to the first start will not be scored. Entry forms, and race and fee schedules, are available in this handbook, or from the BCYA website. PHRF applications are available from the Race Committee chairman or from the PHRF of Chesapeake Bay (<http://www.phrfchesbay.com/>).
- 4.2 A member of the BCYA must be on board a boat in order for that boat to compete in a non-CBYRA sanctioned Club event. See Article III of the Bylaws for additional information on eligibility.
- 4.3 Schedule of Races. The schedule of races and the scheduled start time for each race will be published on the BCYA web page as the BCYA Event Schedule 2016.

5. Division Assignments, Flags & Sail Numbers.

- 5.1 Each boat will be assigned to a division based on its PHRF rating, using the division splits approved by PHRF, Region 2. The Race Committee may change the division splits it uses prior to the beginning of any series.
- 5.2 Each boat shall display division flags on its bow pulpit and backstay:
 - Division A Code flag "9"
 - Division B Code flag "6"
 - Non-Spinnaker Code flag "5"
- 5.3 Each boat shall display identifying numbers on its mainsail, and on all overlapping headsails and on spinnakers. The Non-Spinnaker division is exempted from this rule, but they must inform the RC prior to the race.

6. Courses.

- 6.1 Racing will take place on the Patapsco River between the Francis Scott Key Bridge and the Inner Harbor (NOAA Chart #12281).
- 6.2 Courses will be displayed from the side of the Race Committee boat opposite the starting line, or from its stern. Displayed courses will not reference the starting mark.
- 6.3 Courses displayed as a series of letters reference the government marks labeled with letters on the chart titled "BCYA Racing Marks" and listed in Appendix A.
 - 6.3.1 When the letter of a mark appears in red or is followed by a small "P," that mark should be rounded or passed to port.
 - 6.3.2 When the letter of a mark appears in green or is followed by a small "S," that mark should be rounded or passed to starboard.
 - 6.3.3 When the letter of a mark appears with a circle around it, that mark should be passed rather than rounded.
 - 6.3.4 The finish mark will be displayed as a black letter.
- 6.4 Courses displayed as a number reference the list of Olympic courses included with these Sailing Instructions as Appendix A. Range and bearing to the weather mark will be noted on the course board when an Olympic course is used. For example:
 - Course 2
 - 1 ½ (distance to mark in nm)
 - 252 degrees (magnetic bearing to mark)If the course number is followed by the letter "X," the course length is increased by the addition of two additional legs (one windward leg and one leeward leg).

7. Starting.

- 7.1 The starting line will be between an orange flag on the committee boat and a nearby government mark, or drop mark.
- 7.2 All races will be started with the following sequence of signals, which modifies RRS/US 26:

<i>Signal</i>	<i>Flag and Sound</i>	<i>Minutes before Start</i>
Alert*	"L" raised + 1 sound	10 minutes
	"L" lowered	6 minutes
Warning	Division Flag raised + 1 sound	5 minutes

Preparatory	“P” raised + 1 sound	4 minutes
	“P” lowered + 1 sound	1 minute
Start	Division Flag lowered + 1 sound	0 minutes

*The “L” flag will be raised and lowered only for the start of the first division to start. The “L” flag will not be used for the final (4th) Tuesday night series.

- 7.3 If a boat enters the starting area during the period between the preparatory signal of the first division to start and the preparatory signal of its own division and is identified, she shall receive, without a hearing, a 20% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). She shall be penalized even if the race is restarted or re-sailed, but not if it is *postponed or abandoned* before the starting signal. The starting area is defined as extending 300 feet behind, 150 feet in front of, and 50 feet beyond each end of the starting line.
- 7.4 Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS/US 29.2. The Race Committee will attempt verbally to notify all on-course-side starters by hail over VHF 72, but it is the responsibility of each boat to start correctly. The Race Committee’s failure to verbally notify an OCS starter will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS/US 62.1(a).
- 7.5 General recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS/US 29.2, except that the warning signal for a new start for the first recalled division will be made one minute after the last division scheduled to start has started, and the starts for any succeeding recalled division(s) will follow the new start. This instruction changes RRS/US 29.2.

8. Finishing.

- 8.1 The finish line will be between an orange flag on the committee boat and the last mark of the course.
- 8.2 If the Race Committee Boat is not on station at the finish, each boat is responsible for recording its own finishing time and, if possible, the finishing times of the boats ahead and astern. Boats shall finish as per the US Sailing Prescription to Rule 34
- 8.3 Boats finishing after dark must illuminate their sail numbers at the finish.
- 8.4 The time limit for Tuesday night races will be two hours for the first boat to finish in each class. The time limit for each boat shall be 30 minutes after the finish of the first boat in its class to finish. Boats that have not finished and are still racing 30 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored ‘Time Limit Expired’ (TLE).
- 8.5 The time limit for other races will be specified in each event’s Notice of Race.

9. Scoring.

- 9.1 Races will be scored in accordance with the Low Point Scoring System in RRS/US Appendix A.
- 9.2 Prizes will be awarded to the first place finisher in each division with at least three entrants; to the first and second place finishers in each division with at least five entrants; and to the first, second, and third place finishers in each division with at least seven entrants.
- 9.3 A series may be scored based on the total of a boat’s finishes less its worst finish (a “throw-out”), but if more than one race in the series is cancelled, the series will be scored based on the total of a boat’s finishes.
- 9.4 The completion of three races in a series will constitute a completed series.
- 9.5 RRS/US 44.3 shall apply to alternative penalties, except that:
 - 9.5.1 A boat accepting a scoring penalty shall have her actual finishing position moved back a whole number (rounding .5 upward) nearest to 20% of the number of boats entered or a minimum of 3 places.

- 9.5.2 A boat accepting an alternative penalty may nonetheless be disqualified by the Protest Committee if it finds that it has violated Fundamental Rule 2 ("Fair Sailing") or that it has recklessly endangered other competing boats.
- 9.5.3 A protested boat which has not retired, or taken, or accepted an alternative penalty may accept a scoring penalty and shall have her actual finishing position moved back a whole number (rounding .5 upward) nearest to 50% of the number of boats entered or a minimum of 4 places, by providing the Protest Committee Chairman with a written request for this scoring penalty. The request must be received at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled hearing on such protest and the incident giving rise to the protest must not involve reckless endangerment to other boats or a violation of Fundamental Rule 2.
- 9.5.4 A Protest Committee that finds a protest frivolous (i.e., it is found to be so lacking in substance as not to require the protested boat to defend the claim) may dismiss the protest and penalize the protesting boat by moving its actual finishing position back a whole number (rounding .05 upward) nearest to 20% of the number of boats entered or a minimum of 3 places.

9.6 High Point Scoring.

- 9.6.1 Club High Point scoring will be calculated using the method described in the BCYA High Point Competition section of the Black Book.
- 9.6.2 High Point scores will be counted for any Club race or Club sponsored CBYRA sanctioned race. The BCYA Fall Series, and the Icebreaker will not be counted towards Club High Point.
- 9.6.3 Qualification for BCYA High Point requires participation in at least 65% of Club High Point race events held during the year.
- 9.6.4 Boats changing Division during the year through administrative action of the Race Committee will be scored in the Division in which they ended the year. Points earned prior to a change will be credited towards the boat's final Club High Point score. Points for boats changing Division will be awarded for each Division in which they raced. Points earned in CBYRA sanctioned races are credited toward the Club High Point score for the Division in which the boat normally races with the BCYA.

9.7 Penalties at the time of an incident.

The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: 'A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 while *racing*. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the *zone* around a *mark* other than a starting *mark*, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.'

10. Commercial Traffic.

- 10.1 All boats are required to monitor Channel 72 for commercial traffic advisories that may be broadcast by the Race Committee, both before and during a race. Failure to Monitor Channel 72 will be grounds for a protest by the Race Committee.
- 10.2 All boats are required to yield the right of way to commercial vessels (freighters, tugs, etc.) in the racing area during a race. Competitors must take evasive action well in advance of any potentially dangerous situation, or contact the commercial vessel in question on Channel 13 to advise it of the competitor's intent to keep clear. See COLREGS, Rule 9b.

- 10.3 Any attempt to exercise right of way over, or to interfere or threaten to interfere with, a commercial vessel, shall constitute grounds for a protest, which may be brought by the Race Committee, the Protest Committee or any other competitor. The time limit for a protest filed under SI 10.3 is 72 hours from the warning signal of the incident night's race. This changes SI 11.3 and RRS 61.1(b) and 61.3.
- 10.3.1 Any boat protested under this section of the Sailing Instructions shall have the onus of satisfying the Protest Committee that her actions did not violate this section.
- 10.3.2 If a violation of this section is found to have occurred by the protest committee, the following are possible penalties that the protest committee or the race committee may assign:
- The protested boat may be disqualified from the race in which the incident occurred.
 - The skipper of the protested boat may be excluded from sailing in one or more future races
 - The protested boat may be excluded from participating in one or more future races. This may occur in the middle of a series. This changes RRS 76. The protested boat will be scored DNS for races from which it is excluded.
 - The protest committee may recommend to the Board to suspend or revoke the membership and entry of the protested boat's skipper.
- 10.4 If a boat without way in a ship channel violates RRS/US 42.1 by using its engine to clear the channel at the approach of commercial traffic, that boat shall either retire from the race or, if the incident was unavoidable, continue racing and request exoneration. RRS/US 64 is modified to allow consideration of this request.

11. Protests & Hearings.

- 11.1 Except as provided otherwise in the RRS/US, a boat intending to protest because of an incident occurring in the racing area that she is aware of, shall hail the other boat of her intention to protest specifically using the word "PROTEST" and conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity for doing each. In all cases she shall inform the other boat as soon as reasonably possible.
- 11.2 A boat intending to protest or request redress based on an incident in the racing area that she is involved in or sees shall, at the first reasonable opportunity after she *finishes*, inform the race committee at the finishing line of her intent to protest or request redress and, when applicable, the identity of the protestee. A boat performing an alternative penalty under RRS/US 44 shall inform the Race Committee of her action immediately after finishing.
- 11.3 With respect to non-CBYRA sanctioned BCYA races, a written protest must be mailed or emailed to the Protest Committee Chairman, David F. Clinnin, 100 West Road, Suite 300, Towson, MD 21204, Email: davidclinnin@verizon.net. The protest shall be postmarked if sent by mail no later than the day after the race, or if emailed shall be transmitted no later than 12:00 midnight on the day after the race. It is the protesting party's responsibility to submit proof of compliance with this instruction. Protests will not be accepted by fax.
- 11.4 All hearings on protests with respect to non-CBYRA sanctioned BCYA races, will take place if the race is one of a series, on the second Tuesday following the night of the incident, or at such other time and at such location as the Protest Committee Chairman determines is convenient to all parties.
- 11.5 Procedures for filing and hearing protests pertaining to CBYRA sanctioned races sponsored by the BCYA shall be specified in the race circular for such races.
- 11.6 A written protest may be withdrawn at any time up to 24 hours prior to the scheduled protest hearing upon notice to the protest committee chairman. This changes RRS 63.1.
- 11.7 Protest Committee may reject any protest that does not strictly follow these procedures.

- 11.8 A party to a protest may appeal the decision of the Protest committee to the CBYRA Appeals Committee pursuant to RRS/US Appendix F. The appealing party shall comply with all applicable CBYRA appeal requirements. The appealing party shall follow up on the appeal to insure that it is determined at the earliest possible date.
- 11.9 Rule 63.5 is changed to: 'At the beginning of the hearing, if there is no objection, the protest or request is valid and the hearing shall be continued. If an objection is made, the protest committee shall take any evidence . . . [no further change].'"