

POETS 2009 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Rules:

This series will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009-2012, the prescriptions of US Sailing, the regulations of Northern Rockies Sailing Association, Class rules for One Designs, and these sailing instructions.

Each Fleet will decide to allow spinnakers or only race with white sails. Individuals may declare spinnakers on a per race basis. There will be slips of paper and a box for this purpose on the board near the fire pit. Spinnaker declarations must be in the box before the race steward leaves the dock. No declarations will be accepted after that time.

The PHRF number assigned to each boat for racing will depend on if their individual fleets decide to allow spinnakers or not.

Fleets:

Fleets will be organized as follows based on Spinnaker PHRF numbers:

A Fleet: displacement boats with PHRF 148 and lower

B Fleet: displacement boats with PHRF 148 thru 181

C Fleet: displacement boats with PHRF 182 thru 234

D Fleet: displacement boats with PHRF 235 and higher

Thistles and any other type of boat declaring a one-design fleet before the start of the first race will each be considered One Design Fleets for the season, and will race level in their respective fleets.

Starting Order:

Fleets will start in the following order:

1st start: C and D fleets (yellow flag with the letter C in the center)

2nd start: B, and One-Design fleets (blue flag with the letter B in the center)

3rd start: A fleet (red flag with the letter A in the center)

Starting Times:

Fridays, 7:30 p.m. – June July races. 7:00 p.m. – August.

First practice race June 12, 2009, first regular season race June 19, 2009

The start sequence will be:

Class flag 5 min. before start

Preparatory flag 4 min.

Preparatory flag removed 1 min.

Class flag removed START.

For those fleets starting immediately after another fleet, fleets A, B and one design, their class flag will go up at the same time the previous fleet flag goes down which begins their 5 min. warning.

If there is a general recall at the start that fleet will begin a new start immediately after the A-fleet start. Other potential general recalls will follow in consecutive order.

Course:

The course shall be windward/leeward with a short leeward mark and a long leeward mark(see course diagram). Each fleet will sail twice around their course. C & D will sail two short courses, B will sail a long and a short, and A will sail two long courses.

Starting line will be between a staff on the committee boat flying an orange flag and an orange (pin) buoy at the port end. Starting area is restricted to only the class within its preparatory signal. All other boats shall stay clear of the starting area, or may be subject to protest from affected boats or the race committee.

All mark roundings will be to port. After all fleets have started the committee boat will reposition starboard of the windward mark to establish a race finish line. The starting pin will become the short leeward mark. A minimum three boat length restriction around the short leeward mark shall be observed by all boats not engaged in rounding the short leeward mark when any boat is rounding. This rule will be strictly enforced for safety reasons, and non-compliance may result in disqualification.

The finish line will be at the windward mark for all fleets. Upon finishing, boats are required to sail well clear of the finish area, and of other boats still racing, subject to protest by the race committee or affected boats.

Shortened Course:

The race may be shortened due to lack of wind per discretion of the race steward. If the short course flag is flown prior to the first start, the race course will be shortened to once around each fleet's respective first lap course. If the shorten course flag is flown while a race is underway, the finish line will be where established by the committee boat.

Scoring:

Boats with current PHRF ratings with adjustments made for equipment and sail modifications will be eligible to participate. Sail measurements must be submitted to the vice commodore or fleet captain before start of series.

Proof of Liability Insurance must be submitted before start of series. Boats failing to provide proof of insurance will not be scored.

The best 6 scores for each boat shall be counted toward the series.

Penalties:

Rule 44.1 & 44.2 (two-turns penalty) is in effect. One turn for touching a mark (Rule 31).

Protests:

A protesting boat will have 30 minutes from the time the race committee boat is secure at the yacht club to file their protest form with their Fleet Captain, Vice Commodore or Race Steward. Protest forms are available in the top drawer of the file cabinet in the upstairs club room. The protest committee will be composed of 1 fleet captain (from a fleet not involved in the protest) acting as judge and 2 other members participating in that particular race. The protest committee will review the filed protest form and schedule a protest hearing. Protest hearings should be held the same day as the incident occurred if at all possible.

All safety and sportsmanship violations should be reported to the Vice Commodore and/or the Fleet Captain (not the race steward).

Changes to sailing instructions: these sailing instructions may be amended by posting amendments on the bulletin board(s) of the yacht club no less than 4 hours prior to the next start.