

POETS Race Series, 2018 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

This series will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2018, the prescriptions of US Sailing, the regulations of Northern Rockies Sailing Association, Class rules for One Designs, and these sailing instructions.

The PHRF handicap number assigned to each boat for racing will be the base number as determined by the NFYC PHRF Committee. To gain an adjustment for sailing without a spinnaker or with an undersized head sail, competitors may be required to complete a sail measurement form including only the sails to be used during the series. An adjusted handicap will be assigned for use during the entire series.

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 149 thru 181

C Fleet: displacement boats with PHRF 182 thru 234

D Fleet: Displacement boats with PHRF 235 and higher

One Design Fleets: Any group of three or more competitors may petition to race as One Design Fleet for the entire series and race according to their individual Class Rules.

Starting Order:

The starting order for fleets will be displayed on the Committee boat for each race and will be at the discretion of the race management on the water. Fleet flags will be flown prior to the preparatory flag to indicate the next fleet start.

A Fleet: blue flag with letter A in the center

B and One Design Fleets: red flag with the letter B in the Center

C and D Fleet: yellow flag with the letter C in the center

Starting Times:

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

First regular season race: June 22, 2018

The Start Sequence will be:

Fleet flag 5 min. before start

Preparatory flag 4 min.

Preparatory flag removed 1 min.

Fleet flag removed START

For those fleets starting immediately after another fleet, their fleet flag will go up at the same time the previous fleet flag goes down, beginning their 5 minute sequence.

If there is a general recall at the start, that fleet will begin a new start immediately after all other fleets have started. 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. Each fleet will sail twice around their course. C & D will sail two short courses, B will sail one long and one short course, A fleet 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 and 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 race committee.

All marks will be rounded 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) buoy will become the short leeward mark. A minimum three boat length restriction around 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. All boats that have started and elect to retire before finishing must inform the race steward before returning to dock.

Shortened Course:

The race may be shortened at the 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 shortened course flag is flown while a race is underway, the finish line will be where established by the committee boat and the nearest mark.

Scoring:

Boats owned or skippered by current members of North Flathead Yacht Club will be eligible to participate for prizes. Non-members will need to register with the race committee and pay Regatta Fee to be determined by said committee.

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

The Low-point scoring system will be used, with the best six scores for each boat counted towards the series.

Penalties:

Rule 44.1 & 44.2(two-turns penalty) is in effect. That is two complete tacks and two complete gybes. One turn for touching a mark (Rule 31). That is one complete tack and one complete gybe.

Protests:

A protesting boat will have 45 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 member (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 rulings by the protest committee will be FINAL.

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 posted amendments on the bulletin board(s) of the yacht club no less than 4 hours prior to the next start.