



## 2026 Montana Sailing Championships & Montana Cup Regatta

July 31 – August 2, 2026

North Flathead Yacht Club

Flathead Lake, Somers, Montana

### Sailing Instructions

#### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules defined in "The Racing Rules of Sailing"
- 1.2 RRS 61.1(a) is changed as follows: Replace the third sentence with, 'She shall inform the Race Committee immediately after finishing, or as soon as practical after she retires, of the boat(s) she intends to protest'
- 1.3 In all rules governing this event, [DP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

#### 2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted no less than 1 hour before the first warning signal 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.
- 2.2 Changes to a sailing instruction may be made on the water by VHF radio channel 68.

#### 3 COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the middle deck of the NFYC Clubhouse
- 3.2 Unofficial 'race committee actions may be broadcast on VHF channel 68 as a courtesy to competitors.

#### 4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 [DP]Competitors shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

#### 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the signal vessel while secured in the NFYC moorage.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

#### 6.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES

Saturday August 1

7:00 am – Competitor's meeting

8:00 am – 1st warning signal

No race will be started after 4:00 pm

Sunday August 2

7:30 am – 1st warning signal

No race will be started after 1:00 pm

## **7 CLASS FLAGS**

- 7.1 A Class Flag – Solid blue flag with letter “A” in the middle.  
B Class Flag – Solid red flag with letter “B” in the middle.  
C Class Flag – Solid yellow flag with letter “C” in the middle.  
D Class Flag – Solid grey with letter “D” in the middle.  
One Design Fleet flags to be determined.
- 7.2 Long Distance Class Flag – Solid green with letters “OD” in the middle.

## **8 COURSES**

- 8.1 SI Addendum A shows the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. The length of each leg and exact configuration of the course will be based on the sailing conditions.
- 8.2 The signal vessel will display a numeral pennant, 1, 2, 3, 5, or 6 with the warning signal for the class to indicate the course to be sailed for that class.
- 8.3 The Long Distance Class will use course “WB” on Saturday and course “AP” on Sunday.

## **9 MARKS**

- 9.1 Rounding marks 1, 3 and 5 are Orange Tetrahedrons.  
Rounding mark 2 is a Green Tetrahedron.
- 9.2 Rounding mark "WB" is a GPS waypoint at 47°59.150' N 114°5.062' W; approximate 1 mile west of Woods Bay Point.  
Rounding mark "AP" is a GPS waypoint at 47°59.128' N 114°10.010' W; approximately 200 feet offshore of Angel Point.
- 9.3 The starting marks will be a race committee vessel displaying an orange flag at one end of the starting line and a Large Green Tetrahedron at the port end of the starting line.
- 9.4 The finishing marks will be a race committee vessel displaying a blue flag at one end of the finishing line and a Red Ball at the starboard end of the finishing line.

## **10 THE START**

- 10.1 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel and the course side of the starting mark at the opposite end.
- 10.2 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 10.3 In the event of a General Recall, the recalled class will be restarted at the end of the current sequence of starts. The First Substitute will be removed with the Preparatory flag one minute before the start of the following class. This changes RRS 29.2.
- 10.4 A boat that does not start within five (5) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5

## **11 CHANGE OF COURSE**

The Race Committee may change the remaining course that begins at a rounding mark by changing the position of the next mark(s) or by changing which mark(s) are to be rounded, by signaling with a "C" flag and posting the order in which the new marks are to be rounded. If the RC chase boat also displays the class flag(s) then the change of course applies only to those fleets. This modifies RRS 33

## **12 THE FINISH**

- 12.1 The finishing line for the buoy races is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal vessel and the course side of the finishing mark at the opposite end.
- 12.2 The finishing line for the long distance races is between the hazard rocks south of the pilings in Somers Bay and a red mark southwest of the rocks.
- 12.3 [DP] Immediately after finishing boats shall sail well clear of the finishing area and other boats still racing.
- 12.4 Flag "A" displayed (with no sound) while boats are finishing means "No more racing today."
- 12.5 Boats in the distance fleet will record their finish times.

## **13 TIME LIMITS**

- 13.1 The Finishing Window will be 30 minutes for all courses except "WB" & "AP".
- 13.2 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat in the respective fleet sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 and A5.
- 13.3 The time limit for courses "WB" & "AP" will be 5 hours.
  - 13.3.1 If no boat in your fleet has finished within the time limit the course will be shortened at the rounding mark. A shortened course will not be signaled by the race committee. This changes RRS 32.2.
  - 13.3.2 A boat shall record her rounding time and, at the first reasonable opportunity, report to the race committee her time and her position in relation to nearby boats.

## **14 HEARING REQUESTS**

- 14.1 The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the race committee signal vessel docks.
- 14.2 Hearing request forms are available from the top drawer of the filing cabinet located in the race office on the top floor of the NFYC.
- 14.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 14.4 [NP] Hearings will be held in the assigned protest area, beginning at the time posted. Representatives of boats who are parties to a hearing and their witnesses shall report to the protest committee desk at the scheduled hearing time and remain there until called for their hearing.
- 14.5 The following US Sailing prescriptions will apply: Appendix T.
- 14.6 Rule T1(c) is changed as follows: A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by verbally notifying the principal race officer that she accepts the penalty and identifies the race number and where and when the incident occurred.

**15 SCORING**

- 15.1 A One-Design fleet of 5 or more boats may be combined with a PHRF fleet to form a class, but will be scored separately.

SI Addendum A – Race Courses

Buoy Race Courses:

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
<b>1</b>	Start – 1 – 3 – 1 – 3 – Finish
<b>2</b>	Start – 1 – 5 – 1 – 3 – Finish
<b>3</b>	Start – 1 – 3 -- Finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
<b>5</b>	Start – 1 – 2 – 5 – 1 – 3 – Finish
<b>6</b>	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 -- Finish

## Long Distance Race Courses:

Course WB: Start –WB – Finish

"WB" is a GPS waypoint at 47°59.150' N 114°5.062' W; approximate 1 mile west of Woods Bay Point.

The WB mark is to be left to starboard

~~"WB" is an Orange Tetrahedron approximately 200 yards WSW of Woods Bay Point.~~

The finish will be between the hazard rocks (south of the pilings in Somers Bay) and a red mark southwest of the rocks.

Course AP: Start – AP – Finish

"AP" is a GPS waypoint at 47°59.128' N 114°10.010' W; approximately 200 feet offshore of Angel Point.

~~"AP" is an Orange Tetrahedron located approximately 100 yards ENE of Angel Point.~~

The finish will be between the hazard rocks (south of the pilings in Somers Bay) and a red mark southwest of the rocks.

## Long Distance Finish Line

