



2026 Early Bird Series
June 9 – June 19, 2026
North Flathead Yacht Club
Flathead Lake, Somers, Montana

Notice of Race

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in "The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028."
- 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 Prescriptions of PHRF, the Sailing Instructions and all amendments thereto, will apply.
- 1.4
 - A. The host club organizes registered boats into fleets based on handicaps.
 - B. The Early Bird Series shall be governed by the PHRF of the Northern Rockies. Boats without ratings shall contact the host club and will be assigned a base rating.
 - C. Specifications and measurements may be required to assign the base rating. Any adjustments will require a completed measurement form.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Sailing instructions will be posted on the NFYC website: www.nfyc.org/racing.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 The regatta is open to all displacement and non-displacement boats.
- 3.2 There will be four PHRF fleets for displacement boats and one fleet for non-displacement boats.
- 3.3 Fleets will be determined by quantity and type of yachts entered. Fleets with a minimum of three one-design boats registered may be given their own start and fleet at the discretion of the organizing authority.
- 3.4 **Boats which sailed in any buoy race in 2025 (Tuesday Evening, POETS or Saturday races) will automatically be registered for all events in 2026.** New boats (not having raced in 2025) may enter by registering online at NFYC website: www.nfyc.org/racing. Registration can happen at any time during the series. Registration online helps our race committee organize the race and produce cleaner faster results.
- 3.5 **Registration is not required for participation but is required to be scored and to be eligible for awards. Registration must be completed prior to the start of a race to be scored.**

4 FEES

- 4.1 Required fees are as follows:
There is no fee to register.

5 SCHEDULE

- 5.1 Every Friday from June 9 through June 19, 2026.
First warning signal at 7pm.

6 MEASUREMENTS

- 6.1 The Early Bird Series shall be governed by the PHRF of the Northern Rockies. Boats without ratings shall contact North Flathead Yacht Club and will be assigned a base rating.

7 VENUE

- 7.1 NFYC and the north end of Flathead Lake, Montana in Fish Hatchery Bay

8 STANDARD COURSES

- 8.1 Fleets A-D: The courses will be windward / leeward
A fleet will sail 2 long legs finishing to windward
B fleet will sail 1 long and 1 short leg finishing to windward
C and D Fleets will sail 2 Short legs finishing to windward
The Thistle fleet will sail 1 long and 1 short leg finishing to windward

9 SCORING

- 9.1 The scoring system is as follows: Low-point scoring system.
9.2 One completed race constitutes a series.
9.3 If four or five races have been completed, each boat's worst score will be excluded from her series score.
If six or seven races have been completed, each boat's two worst scores will be excluded from her series score.
If eight or more races have been completed, each boat's three worst scores will be excluded from her series score.

10 PRIZES

- 10.1 Prizes will be awarded to the first three finishers in each fleet.

11 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 11.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta.

12 INSURANCE

- 12.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$100,000. Proof of insurance may be required.

13 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 13.1 For further information, please see the club website; www.nfyc.org, or contact Stan Strathman, Vice Commodore of Racing, at nfycvice@gmail.com