

*2026 Racing Series*  
*The Cleveland Yacht Racing Association*  
*May 20, 2026 – September 27, 2026*  
*Cleveland, Ohio*

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SIs)**

*Preamble*      *The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule.*

**1**      **RULES**

1.1      The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.2      PHRF Class rules shall apply. Class rules for one-design classes shall apply.

1.3      The rules of The Cleveland Yacht Racing Association (“CYRA”) shall apply.

1.4      US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63 shall not apply.

**2**      **CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Changes in the sailing instructions will be approved by the CYRA Officers and posted more than five (5) days before taking effect.

**3**      **COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

3.1      Notices to competitors will be emailed to all registered skippers.

3.2      On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on **VHF radio channel 69**.

**4**      **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

**5**      **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

5.1      Signals made ashore will be displayed from the race committee booth on the grounds of Forest City Yacht Club.

5.2      When flag AP is displayed ashore before the wake-up signal, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 30 minutes’ in Race Signals AP.

5.3      Should the race committee booth not be available, the starting sequence and course will be announced over the radio.

**6**      **SCHEDULE OF RACES**

The schedule of races for each series is published online at [www.cyra.us](http://www.cyra.us).

**7**      **CLASS FLAGS**

7.1      **Wednesday Spring Series and Wednesday Fall Series:**

**Spinnaker: Purple**

**JAM A: Yellow**

**JAM B: Green**

7.2      **Sunday Gold Series:**

**Spinnaker: Purple**

**JAM: Yellow**

7.3      **Sunday Silver Series races only:**

Spinnaker Class Flag will be used for the first start only. Subsequent starts will be

signalled only by horn.

## 8 RACING AREA

The racing area is on the open waters of Lake Erie and the eastern end of Cleveland Harbor.

## 9 COURSES

9.1 The course card available at [www.cyra.us](http://www.cyra.us) 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.

9.2 No later than the preparatory signal for each class, the race committee starting booth will display the number of the course to be sailed. As a courtesy, the race committee may announce the course(s) over VHF Channel 69.

### 9.3 Sunday Silver Series races only:

The course is normally 8.8 nautical miles in length, unless a shortened course is called or the course is shortened according to the provisions under section 16 of these instructions. In the event a shortened course is sailed, the finishing times will be adjusted to reflect the handicaps over the shorter distance.

## 10 MARKS

Marks are orange and white poles and green government buoys. Temporary pyramidal marks may be used if original mark is missing. The location of the marks is described in the course card located online at [www.cyra.us](http://www.cyra.us).

## 11 START

11.1 The Starting line is between an orange and white mark offshore from Forest City Yacht Club marking the port end, and the center pole of the RC booth marking the starboard end.

11.2 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

11.3 *Before the start for her class, each yacht shall sail in the vicinity of the race committee booth and hail the booth, but in such a manner as to not interfere with boats in the immediate starting sequence, or check in by radio. A yacht failing to do so may be scored as "DID NOT START [DNS]."*

11.4 *Yachts whose class has started and are either late to the starting area or returning to restart must stay clear of all boats whose classes have not started. Failure to do so will result in a DNS for that race.*

### 11.5 Wednesday Spring Series, Wednesday Fall Series and Sunday Gold Series Start:

11.5.a Races will be started using RRS 26.

#### Wednesdays

Time	Visual Signal	Sound Signal	Means
18:29	None	Multiple short horns	Wake-up
18:30	Class Flag	One horn	Warning Signal
18:31	P Flag	One horn	Preparatory Signal
18:34	P Flag removed	One long horn	One minute
18:35	Class Flag removed	One Horn	First Class Start Second Class Warning
			Repeat per class

### Sundays

Time	Visual Signal	Sound Signal	Means
09:29	None	Multiple short horns	Wake-up
09:30	Class Flag	One horn	Warning Signal
09:31	P Flag	One horn	Preparatory Signal
09:34	P Flag removed	One long horn	One minute
09:35	Class Flag removed	One Horn	First Class Start Second Class Warning
			Repeat per class

#### 11.6 Sunday Silver Series Start:

11.6.a Sunday Silver series races will be conducted as a pursuit start (highest rated boat starts first) with each yacht starting individually at a time determined by its PHRF or JAM rating. The sequence of starting times will be posted at [www.cyra.us](http://www.cyra.us) and emailed to registered competitors.

#### 11.6.b Sunday Silver Starting Sequence

Time	Visual Signal	Sound Signal	Means
09:34	None	Multiple short horns	Wake-up
09:35	Class Flag	One horn	Warning Signal
09:36	P Flag	One horn	Preparatory Signal
09:39	P Flag removed	One long horn	One minute
09:40	Class Flag removed	One Horn	First Starting Signal for slowest rated boat
		One Horn	Each subsequent boat

A horn will be sounded at the time of each subsequent scheduled start.

11.6.c It is the responsibility of each skipper to keep track of the starting order, and to start at the correct time.

11.7 If a boat starts prematurely, a recall signal will be given. The starting committee has no obligation to hail the boat starting prematurely.

## 12 THE FINISH

12.1 The finishing line is between the centerline of the RC booth at the port end and an orange and white mark offshore from Forest City Yacht Club marking the starboard end.

12.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she shall report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at [bridge@cyra.us](mailto:bridge@cyra.us) within two hours of finishing.

12.3 After finishing, a boat shall clear the finish area. While any other boats are still racing near the finish line, no finished boat shall re-cross the finish line. Any boat who wants to sail to the course side of the finish line shall either go around the buoy end of the finish line, or must wait until the area is clear of other boats that are finishing.

12.4 During night finishes, crews must shine a light on their sail numbers. It is the responsibility of each boat to identify itself for the race committee in the race committee booth, particularly at night or when visibility is limited. If in doubt, a boat shall report as stated in SI 12.2.

- 12.5** Finish times will be posted on the CYRA web site as soon as possible after the completion of each race. Each boat is responsible for confirming the boat's finish time. If there is a disagreement, the boat is responsible for filing a Scoring Inquiry with the race committee prior to the next scheduled race. Scoring inquiries may be emailed to [bridge@cyra.us](mailto:bridge@cyra.us) or delivered to the CYRA scorer or put in the CYRA box at Lakeside Yacht Club.

**15 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 15.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty, however, RRS 44.1(a) and (b) apply.

**16 AUTOMATIC COURSE SHORTENING**

**16.1 Automatic course shortening for all Series:**

The table below sets time limits to an intermediate mark of the course. If the lead boat in a class has not rounded the specified intermediate mark within the time limit shown, that fleet's course automatically will be shortened. The new course to be sailed is listed in the table below. Note that the course shortening rule applies separately to each fleet.

Course	Intermediate Mark Time Limit	New Course From Int. Mark
2-9, N2-N9	Mark #2 (A) 1.0 hrs	Start-Finish Line (S-F)
2-9, N6-N9, A6-A9	Mark #3 (B,C,D,E) 1.5 hrs	Wall (stbd), S-F

**TIME LIMITS**

- 16.2 Time limit for all boats in the Wednesday Series races is 2.5 hours. Boats finishing after 2130 must take and report their own time to the race committee as stated in SI 12.2.

Time limit for all boats in the Sunday Series (Gold and Silver) races is four (4) hours. Skippers of boats finishing after 1330 must take and report their own time to the race committee as stated in SI 12.2.

Failure to meet the time limit will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b).

**17 HEARING REQUESTS**

- 17.1 The hearing request time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.

- 17.2 Hearing request forms are available from the race committee booth, the CYRA box at Lakeside Yacht Club or at [US Sailing](#).

- 17.3 Completed hearing request forms can be delivered to the race committee booth and handed to the scorer, the CYRA box at Lakeside Yacht Club or emailed to [bridge@cyra.us](mailto:bridge@cyra.us). **In all cases, the race committee must be emailed at [bridge@cyra.us](mailto:bridge@cyra.us).**

- 17.4 Notices will be emailed after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be scheduled at the earliest convenience in order to ensure all named parties have an opportunity to appear.

**18 SCORING**

- 18.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

- 18.2 A boat's specific series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst scores based on the schedule below.

<b>Number Per Series</b>
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<b>Total Races Scored</b>	<b>Throwouts</b>
4 or less	0
5-6	1
7-8	2

18.3 Rule A5.3 will be in effect.

**19 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

19.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity via **VHF Channel 69** or in person at the RC booth.

**20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

**21 TRASH DISPOSAL**

[DP] RRS 47 shall apply at all times.

**22 PRIZES**

22.1 If five or more boats compete in a class in any series, awards will be made for first, second and third places.

If four boats compete, awards will be made for first and second place only.

If three or fewer boats compete, only first place will receive an award.

22.2 The Schnagle-Murphy Cup will be presented to the PHRF boat with the lowest points total for all four series.

The Commodore Depner Trophy will be presented to the JAM boat with the lowest points total for all four series.

The Sportsman of the Year Trophy may be awarded. Nominations for this trophy can be made to the CYRA Bridge.

**24 INSURANCE**

24.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

## US Sailing Referenced Rules

- RRS 3 The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.
- RRS A5.3 If the notice of race or sailing instructions state that rule A5.3 will apply, rule A5.2 is changed so that a boat that came to the starting area but did not sail the course, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area, and a boat that did not come to Appendix A SCORING 61 the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series.  
Translation: DNS, DNF, RAF, OCS and DSQ – Starters +1, DNC – Entries +1
- RRS 44.1a A boat may take a Two-Turns Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules  
RRS 44.1b of Part 2 in an incident while *racing*. She may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken rule 31. Alternatively, the notice of race or sailing instructions may specify the use of the Scoring Penalty or some other penalty, in which case the specified penalty shall replace the One-Turn and the Two-Turns Penalty. However,  
a. when a boat may have broken a rule of Part 2 and rule 31 in the same incident she need not take the penalty for breaking rule 31;  
b. if the boat caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire.
- RRS 47 Competitors and *support persons* shall not intentionally put trash in the water. This rule applies at all times while afloat. The penalty for a breach of this rule may be less than disqualification
- RRS 61.4(b) A boat is entitled to redress if her score or place in a race or series has been made, or may be made, significantly worse through no fault of her own by (1) an improper action or improper omission of a committee or the organizing authority, but not by a protest committee decision when the boat was a party to the hearing, (2) injury or physical damage because of the action of a boat that was breaking a rule of Part 2 and took an appropriate penalty or was penalized, (3) injury or physical damage because of the action of a vessel not racing that was required to keep clear or is determined to be at fault under the IRPCAS or a government right-of-way rule, (4) giving help (except to herself or her crew) in compliance with rule 1.1, or (5) an action of another boat, or a crew member or support person of that boat, that resulted in a penalty under rule 2 or a penalty or warning under rule 69.
- RRS 63.1 (a) All parties to a hearing shall be (1) informed of the time and place of the hearing, (2) given access to the protest, request for redress, or report to be considered at the hearing, (3) allowed reasonable time to prepare for the hearing, and (4) allowed to have a representative present throughout the hearing of the evidence but, in a protest involving a breach of a rule of Part 2, 3 or 4, representatives of boats shall have been on board at the time of the incident unless there is good reason for the protest committee to decide otherwise. (b) If a party does not come to a hearing, the protest committee may proceed with the hearing in their absence.
- RRS 63.7(b) A party to the hearing may request a reopening by delivering a written request to the race office (or by such other method as stated in the sailing instructions) no later than 24 hours after being informed of the decision. The request shall identify the reason for making it. However, on the last scheduled day of racing the request shall be delivered (1) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day; (2) no later than 30 minutes after the party was informed of the decision on that day. A request that does not comply with this rule is invalid.

