

# Charleston Ocean Racing Association

## 2024 Summer Series

Organizing Authority: Charleston Ocean Racing Association

Sponsored by North Sails



May 15 - September 11, 2024

Charleston, SC

## Sailing Instructions

(version 5/13/2024 v)

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a). The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

### 1. Rules

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

### 2. Changes To The Sailing Instructions

2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 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 in accordance with RRS 90.2(c) by displaying code flag L with 1 sound and the change will be communicated over VHF 73 prior to the warning signal for the race it will take effect.

### 3. Communication With Competitors

3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board on the CORA website in the individual event link: <https://charlestonoceanracing.com/calendar>

3.2. On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 73.

3.3. [NP][DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

- 3.3.1. On the water coaching from the event sponsor may be available during scheduled races and is allowed for communication. See SI 20 - Support Teams.
- 3.3.2. All participants will have equal access to coaching.

#### **4. Code of Conduct**

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

#### **5. Signals Made Ashore**

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the CYC dock.

#### **6. Schedule of Races**

- 6.1. The races are scheduled on Wednesdays beginning on May 15, 2024. Schedule updates will be posted on the CORA calendar event page for each date for racing. <https://charlestonoceanracing.com/calendar>
- 6.2. The scheduled time of the warning signal for Delta class each date is 1800.
- 6.3. Additional warnings will follow at 1815 as determined and announced by the Race Committee.
- 6.4. There will be no racing on May 22, 2024 or July 3, 2024.
- 6.5. There will be no racing after September 11, 2024. See SI 18 - Scoring for details on number of races.

#### **7. Class Flags**

- 7.1. Class A: PINK Class flag.
- 7.2. Class B: GREEN Class flag.
- 7.3. J24 Class: J24 Class flag.
- 7.4. J105 Class: J105 Class flag
- 7.5. Class C: YELLOW Class flag.
- 7.6. Class D: LIGHT BLUE Class flag.

#### **8. Racing Area**

- 8.1. The racing area will be Charleston Harbor.

#### **9. Courses**

- 9.1. The Race Committee will designate courses by use of a number board at the starting line based on the 2024 Race Courses section of the CORA website Skipper Info. [https://charlestonoceanracing.com/images/Documents\\_2023/CORA\\_Courses\\_2023-02-10.pdf](https://charlestonoceanracing.com/images/Documents_2023/CORA_Courses_2023-02-10.pdf)
- 9.2. The courses may be changed prior to the warning flag of the class that the change pertains to and will be announced on VHF channel 73 failure to hear the announcement is not grounds for redress signals posted take precedence.
- 9.3. A shortening of the course for harbor races will be signaled before the leading boat in a Class has begun the new final leg.

- 9.3.1. The Race Committee will hail on VHF channel 73 notifying the boats of the shortening of course, the last mark of the course, the direction to round the mark, and the Class or Classes affected.
- 9.3.2. The finish will be between the start/finish mark (the flag on Castle Pinckney) and a staff showing Code Flag S on the CYC dock. This modifies RRS 32 and the Race Signal Code Flag S.
- 9.3.3. Not having a functional VHF radio on board will not be grounds for redress in the event of a shortening of course.

## **10. Marks**

- 10.1. The starting and finishing marks will be anchored orange and/or yellow balls or tetrahedrons.
- 10.2. "J" mark will be a yellow marker buoy in the vicinity of (32.46.675N 79.55.075W)
- 10.3. All other marks are designated in the applicable course selection documents listed in on the Race Courses section of the CORA website Skipper Info. For Harbor Course fixed government marks, refer to NOAA Chart 11524.

## **11. Obstructions**

- 11.1. The following areas are designated as obstructions: Middle Ground, Castle Pinckney and all Commercial vessels.

## **12. The Start**

- 12.1. Races will be sailed in accordance with RRS 26, with classes starting with a five-minute sequence.
- 12.2. Classes will be started in an order determined by the Race Committee. The Race Committee will broadcast as a courtesy, the starting order via VHF channel 73. Class flags will take precedence.
- 12.3. The starting line will be between:
  - 12.3.1. A yellow mark and an orange mark positioned off of the Carolina Yacht Club dock, OR
  - 12.3.2. a staff displaying an orange flag on the Carolina Yacht Club dock and an orange mark, or
  - 12.3.3. a staff displaying an orange flag on the Carolina Yacht Club dock and the flag at Castle Pinckney.
- 12.4. The Race Committee shall announce the starting line configuration prior to the warning of the first class to start.
- 12.5. [NP] At its discretion, the Race Committee may start more than one class at a time.
- 12.6. In the event of a General Recall, the next Class(es) to start may not be the Class(es) which were recalled. This changes the last sentence of RRS 29.2. Race Committee will broadcast as a courtesy, the starting sequence via VHF channel 73.
- 12.7. A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

## **13. Change of the Next Leg of the Course**

- 13.1. No changes to the next legs of the course will be made.

## **14. The Finish**

- 14.1. The finish line will be between:
  - 14.1.1. a staff displaying a blue flag on the Carolina Yacht Club dock and an orange mark, or
  - 14.1.2. a staff displaying a blue flag on the Carolina Yacht Club dock and the flag at Castle Pinckney.
- 14.2. [DP] 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 Rear Commodore at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **15. Penalty System**

- 15.1. RRS Appendix V shall apply.

## **16. Time Limits**

- 16.1. The Race Time Limit for each class will be 3 hours from its starting signal.

## **17. Hearing Requests**

- 17.1. A protest by a boat, or by the Race Committee about an incident the Race Committee observed, shall be emailed to the race PRO or a member of the CORA Board no later than 1700 the first business day following the race. The Race Committee is not obligated to remain on station after the end of a race to await filing of protests.
- 17.2. The Rear Commodore (or their designee) will organize a Protest Committee. The protest hearing will be held as soon as possible following the protest filing time limit. The Protest Committee Chairman will notify the parties to the protest as to the time and the place of the hearing. It is the responsibility of these parties to have a representative at the meeting and to arrange for any witnesses to be present. The absence of a representative is not grounds for rescheduling a hearing.

## **18. Scoring**

- 18.1. PHRF:
  - 18.1.1. Boats will be handicapped using the appropriate PHRF rating corresponding to the spinnaker status in which each boat has opted to sail as outlined in the Notice of Race Section 4 - Eligibility and Entry
  - 18.1.2. Boats will be scored using PHRF Time-on-Time.
- 18.2. ORC:
  - 18.2.1. [NP] The windband will be selected from the 5 Band model by the RC prior to the race.
  - 18.2.2. [NP] The windband will be announced by the RC prior to the warning.
  - 18.2.3. [NP] In the event of a significant wind change during the race, the RC may change the windband and announce a new windband any time prior to the first finish.
  - 18.2.4. Boats will be handicapped using the appropriate ORC rating.
  - 18.2.5. Boats will be scored using ORC Time-on-Time.

- 18.3. The NORTH SAILS Summer Series will be scored as two separate Series: Summer Series I and Summer Series II.
  - 18.3.1. Series I shall commence on May 15, 2024 and will take place on scheduled Wednesday nights until six races are completed.
  - 18.3.2. Upon completion of Series I, Series II shall commence and will take place on scheduled Wednesday nights until six races are completed in this series.
- 18.4. A minimum of three races shall be completed to constitute a Series.

## 19. Safety Regulations

- 19.1. [NP][DP] A boat intending to race shall check in with the Race Committee using the boat name, sail number and Class participation via VHF channel 74 in accordance with the CORA Check In policy.
- 19.2. [NP] [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 19.3. [NP] Boats are encouraged to comply with 2023 US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements:  
<https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Monohull-SER-2023.0-Nearshore.pdf>
- 19.4. All harbor races and day-based Offshore races will be categorized as Nearshore Races.
- 19.5. Boats must always remain clear of commercial shipping traffic. Boats are encouraged to monitor VHF 16 when near any shipping channels. Boats are further encouraged to contact any commercial ship on VHF 13 that they may come near.
- 19.6. Any boat receiving five horns from a vessel constrained by draft may be disqualified (scored DSQ) by the Race Committee without redress.

## 20. [NP] Support Teams

- 20.1. On the water coaching may be available on scheduled race days.
- 20.2. Coach boats shall check in with the race committee on VHF 73 prior to the first warning signal of the day.
- 20.3. Communication with participants will be done on a VHF channel other than 73 or 74.
- 20.4. Availability of coaching and arrangements for communication should be made prior to any scheduled race.

## 21. Risk Statement

- 21.1. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**