



Thistle Atlantic Coast Championship
June 8-9, 2019
Tred Avon Yacht Club
Oxford, MD



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing, 2017 – 2020* (RRS), the rules of the Thistle Class Association, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 In the event of a conflict between the *Notice of Race* and the *Sailing Instructions*, the *Sailing Instructions* take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official bulletin board located in the first floor lobby of the Tred Avon Yacht Club (TAYC).
- 2.2 On the water, the Race Committee (RC) intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF channel 71.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change(s) to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0930 on the day it is to take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted no later than 2000 the day before it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the signal mast on TAYC's upper deck.
- 4.2 When flag "AP" is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in Race Signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 June 8 0800-0900 Registration
1000 Competitors Meeting on the first floor of the TAYC clubhouse
1030 Harbor Start
1130 Warning signal for first race
- June 9 0900 Harbor Start
1000 Warning signal for first race
Awards following racing on first floor of clubhouse
- 5.2 The number of races will be a minimum of one with a goal of five, weather permitting. No warning signal will be made after 1400 Sunday, June 9.
- 5.3 The finish boat will display code flag "H" when the last race of the day has been completed.

6 RACING AREA

- 6.1 Races will be sailed in the Choptank River southwest of Choptank River Light, weather permitting. PRO will confirm racing area at competitors meeting.

7 THE COURSES

- 7.1 The attached diagrams show the two possible courses, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left. The course descriptions follow:
- 7.2 **Windward/Leeward - Course "W"**

The legs will be approximately 1.0 to 1.3 nautical miles. The start/finish line will lie approximately 30% of the way, measured from the leeward mark, between the leeward and windward marks. The starting line will be to port of the Race Committee signal boat and the finish line will be to starboard. There will be a windward mark (optional offset mark approximately 15 boat lengths away) to be rounded to port. The leeward mark may be a gate with two marks approximately 8-10 boat lengths apart. If no gate, the leeward mark is to be rounded to port.
- 7.3 **Triangle/Windward/Leeward – Course "O"**

The windward leg will be approximately 1.0 to 1.3 nautical miles. The start/finish line will be approximately 30% of the way, measured from the leeward mark, between the leeward and windward marks. The starting line will be to port of the Race Committee signal boat and the finish line will be to starboard. On the fifth leg of the course, the single leeward mark may be replaced by a gate with two marks approximately 8-10 boat lengths apart.
- 7.4 With either course, boats may sail through the starting line on subsequent legs of the course but may sail through the finishing line only when finishing.
- 7.5 No later than the Warning Signal, the Race Committee signal boat will display the course letter and the approximate compass bearing and distance, in nautical miles, from the starting line to the first mark.

8 MARKS

- 8.1 The start and finish marks will be orange cylindrical marks.
- 8.2 The windward, wing and leeward marks, including gate marks, if any, will be orange/yellow tetrahedrons.
- 8.3 The off-set mark, if any, will be a red ball.
- 8.4 All marks of the course shall be rounded to port, except the starboard leeward gate mark shall be rounded to starboard. In the event one of the gate marks is missing, the remaining mark shall be rounded to port.
- 8.5 A race committee starting or finishing boat may set a stand-off buoy, which buoy, the line attaching it to the race committee boat and the race committee boat are all part of the starting or finishing mark.

9 THE START

- 9.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal. A series of short attention sounds may be used to alert competitors of the Race Committee's intention to sound the warning signal in approximately 1 minute.
- 9.2 The starting line will be between an orange flag on the RC signal boat and an orange cylindrical mark to port.

- 9.3 A boat crossing the starting line later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored “DNS” without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 9.4 The race committee will attempt to hail OCS boats on VHF channel 71, but the failure to hail, the hail of some but not all OCS boats, the order in which hailed or untimely hailing of boats shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

10 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 10.1 A change of the next leg of the course will be accomplished in accordance with RRS 33. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated to maintain the original course configuration.

11 THE FINISH

- 11.1 The finishing line will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee finishing boat and the course side of the nearby finishing mark, which will be located to starboard of the RC finishing boat.

12 TIME LIMITS

- 12.1 The time limit for the first boat to finish will be 2 hours.
- 12.2 All other boats must finish within 30 minutes of the first boat or be scored “TLE” and given two (2) points plus the last properly finishing boat, not to exceed class registrants plus one (1). This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

13 PROTEST AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 13.1 The protesting yacht must notify the RC boat at the finish line and receive acknowledgement.
- 13.2 A written protest or request for redress must be filed with the RC within one hour after the RC finishing boat returns to the dock. Protest forms are available in the clubhouse.
- 13.3 The time and location of protest hearings will be posted as soon as practicable after the protest time limit on the official bulletin board.

14 SCORING

- 14.1 Each boat’s total score will be the sum of her scores for all races.
- 14.2 One race must be completed to constitute the series.
- 14.3 Boats that tie in a single race shall score points equal to the best position involved. The position(s) immediately after shall remain vacant (if two boats tie for first place, both are scored 1 point and the next boat to finish scores 3 points). This changes RRS A7.

15 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 15.1 A boat that retires or leaves the racing area between races shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity by hail or on channel 71.
- 15.2 Competitors are strongly encouraged to wear a USCG approved PFD while racing.

16 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 16.1 Except when notifying the Race Committee of her intent to withdraw as per SI Rule 15.1, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

16.2 VHF radios with GPS features shall not use such features unless permitted by the Notice of Race or these Sailing Instructions.

17 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

17.1 Substitution of crew will not be allowed without prior approval of the Race Committee.

17.2 Substitution of Class specified/measured equipment that has been damaged or lost is not allowed without prior authorization of the Race Committee.

18 PRIZES

18.1 Trophies will be awarded as stated in the NOR.

19 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

19.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

2019 Thistle ACC Course Diagrams

