



**Shields 2021 Fall Series**  
**September 19; October 2, 3, 10**  
**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* (RRS) and by the rules of the Shields Class Racing Association.
- 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 in the TAYC clubhouse by 1100 on race day.
- 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 to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than 1100 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted no later than 2000 on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 Changes to the Sailing Instructions made on the water shall be communicated to all boats with an acknowledgement from each.

**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 Conditions permitting, the RC intends to have three practice starts before the first race of each day. The warning signal for the first practice start will be at 1200. The first race will start as soon as practical following the last practice start.
- 5.2 The RC will start such races each day as conditions and circumstances warrant.
- 5.3 No race shall start after 1600.

**6 CLASS FLAGS**

- 6.1 The RC signal boat shall display the class flag which is a red Shields insignia on a white field or as otherwise stated by the RC.

**7 RACING AREAS**

- 7.1 The racing area will be in the Tred Avon River and/or the Choptank River SW of Choptank River Light.

**8 THE COURSES**

- 8.1 The attached diagrams (Shields Courses) depict courses 2 through 6, showing the number of legs, the order in which marks are to be passed and on which side marks are to be passed.

- 8.2 No later than the warning signal, the RC Signal boat will display the course number, the approximate magnetic bearing and the distance in nautical miles to the windward mark (Mark **1**) on a board visible to competitors.
- 8.3 Mark **1** is the windward mark. Mark **1a** is an offset mark which, if set, will be positioned to port eight or more boat lengths from Mark **1**. Marks **1** and **1a** shall be rounded to port.
- 8.4 For courses 3, 4, 5 & 6, a leeward mark (Mark **2**) or gate (Marks **2s** and **2p**) may be positioned approximately 50-100 yards to windward of the RC signal boat. In that event, neither the leeward mark nor the gate marks shall be considered marks of the course for the first or final legs.
- 8.5 When there is a single leeward mark (Mark **2**) it shall be rounded to port.
- 8.6 When there is a gate, boats shall sail between the gate marks (**2s** and **2p**) from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark.
- 8.7 The RC may designate the start/finish mark as the leeward mark in place of Mark **2** (as shown in attached course diagram) and, in that event, it shall be rounded to port except when finishing.
- 8.8 In the event of a shortened course, the finish line shall be crossed from the direction of the previous mark (this changes RRS 32.2):
  - (a) at a rounding mark, between the mark and a staff displaying code flag "S";
  - (b) at a line the course requires boats to cross (i.e., original start and/or finish line);
  - (c) at a gate, between the gate marks.

## **9 MARKS**

- 9.1 The start/finish mark will be an orange cylinder.
- 9.2 The windward mark (Mark **1**), single leeward mark (Mark **2**) or gate marks (Marks **2s** and **2p**) will be orange tetrahedrons. The offset mark (Mark **1a**), if set, is a small orange sphere.
- 9.3 The RC starting or finishing boat may set a stand-off buoy, which buoy, the line attaching it to the RC boat and the RC boat are all part of the starting or finishing mark.

## **10 THE START**

- 10.1 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 RC's intention to sound the warning signal in approximately 1 minute.
- 10.2 The starting line will be between an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of an orange cylindrical mark to port.
- 10.3 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.
- 10.4 The RC 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).

## **11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 11.1 A change of the next leg of the course will be accomplished in accordance with RRS 33.

## **12 THE FINISH**

- 12.1 The finishing line for even numbered courses (downwind finish) will be between a blue flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of the nearby orange cylindrical mark to port.
- 12.2 The finishing line for odd numbered courses (upwind finish) will be between a blue flag on the RC boat and the course side of Mark 1 to port.

## **13 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 13.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

## **14 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

- 14.1 Competitors are responsible for having a functioning VHF radio aboard and operating at all times between departure and return to the TAYC basin.
- 14.2 The RC intends to use Channel 71 to supplement signaled information to all boats.
- 14.3. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make nor receive radio or cell phone communications not available to all boats. This restriction does not apply to personal, non-racing related communications.

## **15 TIME LIMITS**

- 15.1 The time limit for the first boat to finish will be 2 hours.
- 15.2 All other boats must finish within 30 minutes of the first boat that sails the course and finishes or be scored "DNF" without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

## **16 PROTEST AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 16.1 The protesting yacht must notify the RC boat at the finish line or as soon as possible after the finish and receive acknowledgement.
- 16.2 Protest forms are available at the clubhouse. A written protest or request for redress must be filed with the RC within 60 minutes after the RC signal boat returns to the dock. The RC signal boat docking time will be posted on the official bulletin board.
- 16.3 The time and location of protest hearings 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 and where the hearings will be held.
- 16.4 Representatives of the boats who are parties to a hearing and their witnesses shall remain in the vicinity of the TAYC protest hearing room.
- 16.5 Notices of protests by the RC, technical committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

## **17 SCORING**

- 17.1 RRS Appendix A4, Low Point System, will apply.
- 17.2 One race must be completed to constitute the series.
- 17.3 If fewer than five races are completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores.
- 17.4 If five or more races are completed, a boat's worst score will be excluded from her total score, subject to RRS 90.3(b). If ten or more races are completed in the series, a boat may exclude her two worst scores, subject to RRS 90.3(b).

## **18 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 18.1 A boat that retires or leaves the racing area between races shall notify the RC at the first reasonable opportunity by hail or on channel 71.
- 18.2 Competitors are strongly encouraged to wear a USCG approved PFD while racing and are required to do so whenever the RC signal boat hoists code flag "Y" under RRS 40.1 and 40.2.
- 18.3 When the RC displays flag V with one sound, all boats and official and support vessels shall, if possible, monitor channel 71 for search and rescue instructions.
- 18.4 Current state and local requirements for protection against the transmission of Covid-19 must be practiced throughout the regatta. Masks and social distancing are recommended for those who have not been fully vaccinated.

## **19 PRIZES**

- 19.1 Trophies will be awarded as stated in the NOR.

## 20 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

20.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, 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.

## Shields Courses

