

HIGH SIERRA REGATTA SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2025

1. RULES:

- 1.1. The Regatta will be governed by the "Rules" as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) (2025-2028), the prescriptions of US Sailing, the rules of their own one-design classes, and for the PHRF Fleet the rules and bylaws of the FYC PHRF Fleet, except as may be changed herein, the Notice of Race and by these Sailing Instructions (SI).
- 1.2. Changes have been made by these Sailing Instructions to the following RRS sections: RRS 29.1 is changed per SI 12, 'RRS 26 is changed per SI 8.1, RRS 40 is changed per SI 3.2, RRS Appendix A2 is changed per SI 15.1.

2. RESPONSIBILITY:

- 2.1. It shall be the sole responsibility of the skipper/participants to decide whether or not to start or continue any race.

3. SAFETY:

- 3.1. Each participant is solely responsible for his/her personal safety. However, in circumstances it considers hazardous the Race Committee (RC) and FYC Race Officials may exercise authority to require a boat to accept help.
- 3.2. US Coast Guard Approved Personal Flotation is required by the U.S. Forest Service and MUST be worn at all times while racing. A "wet suit" is not adequate flotation. This is a change to RRS 40.
- 3.3. A painter or throw line of adequate length to facilitate towing shall be carried at all times by centerboard boats.

4. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:

- 4.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the registration tent, adjacent to the launch ramp, prior to 10:00 AM on the day they will take effect.

5. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND SCHEDULE:

- 5.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted prior to 10:00 AM each scheduled race day.
- 5.2. Any change to the schedule shall be posted by 6 PM the day prior to the change taking effect.
- 5.3. On the water changes are allowed per RRS 90.2 (c).

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:

- 6.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed by the Race Committee ashore.

7. SCHEDULE:

- 7.1. The schedule shall be as follows:

Skippers Meeting - Saturday 9:30 AM at the Registration Tent adjacent to the launch ramp.

Race 1 - Saturday 10:55 AM Warning Signal for the first Start, rolling sequences for subsequent starts are anticipated, but may not be necessarily initiated.

Race 2 & 3 - The Warning Signal for race two (2) and three (3) for a particular fleet will be a minimum of 15 minutes after the last boat in that fleet finishes the previous race.

Race 4 - Sunday 10:55 AM Warning Signal for the first Start, rolling sequences for subsequent starts are anticipated, but may not be necessarily initiated.

Race 5 - The Warning Signal for race five (5) for a particular fleet will be a minimum of 15 minutes after the last boat in that fleet finishes race four (4).

Awards - Near registration tent.
Approximately 3 PM.

8. CLASS FLAGS:

- 8.1. RRS 26 is modified, replacing the term "class flag" with the term "group class flag" for classes starting together as a group. A group class may consist of one or more classes. Numeric signal flags will designate group classes. Group classes will start in the order posted on the "Official Notice Board" and announced at the skipper's meeting. The starting order for the first race of each day will be posted no later than 9:30 AM Saturday prior to the skipper's meeting.

9. COURSES:

- 9.1. The courses to be sailed are described on the "High Sierra Regatta Course Sheet" or the "Optimist Regatta Course Sheet" supplied with the registration packet upon check-in.
- 9.2. The course to be sailed will be represented by a number. The number will be displayed upon a board located adjacent to the signal flag mast on shore. The course number board is approximately 4 feet high with a florescent green numeral.

10. MARKS:

- 10.1. Marks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8 are Yellow buoys. S & X are Red buoys. F is a Red ball. Marks Jr/W and Jr/L are orange tetrahedrons.

11. THE START:

- 11.1. The Race Committee will be on shore (west of the beach area) and afloat at the finish line (south of the launch ramp).
- 11.2. Classes will be signaled by their group class flag as noted in SI 8 (CLASS FLAGS). Starting order may deviate from original order.

- 11.3. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal given five (5) minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.4. A boat starting more than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without hearing. This changes rule RRS Appendix A5.
- 11.5. The Start Line will be between an inner red buoy “S” approximately 125 feet off shore and an outer red buoy “X” approximately 500 feet from the inner buoy. Boats not racing shall keep clear of the Starting Line and its extensions. During a starting sequence a Restricted Zone exists from the Start Line to approximately 75 feet east, marked by white buoys with black/yellow stripes. Only boats in their Preparatory sequence shall be in the restricted zone, all other boats must keep clear, and are subject to protest.
- 11.6. The Start Line is restricted after all boats in a group class have started.
12. **RECALLS:**
- 12.1. When individual recalls are signaled, the Race Committee (at its discretion) may attempt to hail the sail numbers of the recalled boats with megaphones and over VHF. Failure of the race committee to hail or failure of a boat to hear the hail of its sail number will not relieve the boat of its obligation to start correctly.
- 12.2. When a general recall has been signaled, the RC will attempt to start the same class 5 minutes after the recalled start. The starts for the succeeding classes will be postponed accordingly.
13. **THE FINISH:**
- 13.1. The FINISH LINE will be between the red buoy “F” and a blue flag on the finish boat approximately one third mile east of the start line. The finish line is restricted.
- 13.2. At the RC’s discretion, a one-design class boat may be finished on course a min. of 15 minutes after the first boat in that class finishes.
14. **PENALTY SYSTEM & PROTESTS:**
- 14.1. Competitors are encouraged to settle rules infractions on the water and avoid protests.
- 14.2. A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in a single distinct incident and/or event while racing. This is a change to Rule 44.1 Taking a Penalty.
- 14.3. In addition to RRS 61, protest forms shall be lodged with the Race Committee at the registration tent not later than 30 minutes after the last boat finished the last race of the day.
- 14.4. Protests will be heard at the registration tent immediately following the deadline for filing. Sail numbers of boats involved will be posted at the tent. Failure on the part of any involved party, or their representative, to make an effort to attend the hearing may justify the Protest Committee to decide the outcome without a full hearing. The RC may opt for a mediation process instead of a protest hearing.
15. **SCORING:**
- 15.1. Five (5) races are scheduled of which one (1) must be completed to constitute a series. Each boat’s series score shall, subject to rule 90.3(b), be the total of her race scores with no exclusion of races. This is an amendment of Appendix A of the Racing Rules.
16. **NOTIFICATIONS:**
- 16.1. Boats that withdraw or do not finish shall notify the race committee as soon as possible. In the event the race committee has left their station, the staff at the registration tent must be notified.
- 16.2. The committee may, at their discretion, make courtesy announcements on VHF channel 68, including recalls and announcements of impending starts.
17. **EQUIPMENT:**
- 17.1. Sail number changes: The race committee may at its own discretion allow for a boat to change (race with) different sail numbers than entered with. Report change requests to the race committee before 9:30 AM.
- 17.2. All one-design classes shall be equipped as required by their own class rules, except the anchor requirement for all classes is waived and VHF radios are permitted on all boats.
18. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:**
- Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4 – Decision to Race – ***“The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.”*** The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, or any other organization or official) are not responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor’s participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.