

**Lightning Fleet 192**  
**Havre de Grace Yacht Club**  
Havre de Grace, Maryland

**2025 Dixie District Championship  
and Duck Challenge Regatta**  
**August 23 & 24, 2025**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**1 RULES**

- 1.1 The current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of US Sailing, the ILCA Document governing ILCA championships, the Notice of Race, and the Sailing Instructions shall be in effect. In case of conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

**2 ENTRIES**

- 2.1 Eligible boats may be entered by completing a registration form and paying the entry fee on Regatta Network.
- 2.2 Completed entry forms may also be submitted at the registration desk by 0930 Hours on August 23, 2025.

All competitors must sign the online HDGYC Regatta Waiver and Release of Liability during registration.

**3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the club room door of the Havre de Grace YC (water side of Marina Store).
- 3.2 A competitors' meeting shall be held at 0930 on August 23, 2025.

**4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 4.1 Changes to the sailing instructions made on the first day of the regatta will be posted no later than 15 minutes after the end of the competitors' meeting.
- 4.2 On race days without a competitors' meeting, changes to the sailing instructions will be posted at least two hours before the first scheduled warning signal, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted before 1900 hours on the day before it will take effect.

**5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole located on the water side of the Tidewater marina store.

- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in RRS "Race Signals".

**6 SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 6.1 The WARNING SIGNAL for the first race will be at 1100 hours on Saturday and 1000 hours on Sunday.
- 6.2 Six (6) races are scheduled, with one (1) race required to complete the regatta. NO WARNING SIGNAL for a race will be made after 1500 Hours on Sunday.

**7 RACING AREA**

- 7.1 The intended racing area shall be ESE of the mouth of the Susquehanna River, in the Chesapeake Bay, approximately 1 mile from Tidewater Marina.

**8 THE COURSE**

- 8.1 Courses will consist of temporary marks set by the race committee.
- 8.2 The course will be either W with a windward finish or D with a downwind finish. The race committee signal boat will display a course board with a W or a D. The W course will consist of 5 legs and the D course will consist of 4 legs. When sailing course W, the weather mark will become the finish mark on the final leg. When sailing course D, the leeward mark is not a mark of the course on the final leg from Mark 1A to the finish.
- 8.3 The course diagram (SI Appendix A) shows the possible courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.4 The approximate compass bearing from the starting line to the first mark will be displayed on the race committee signal boat.
- 8.5 The leeward mark may be a gate.

**9 MARKS**

- 9.1 Windward mark 1 and the leeward mark(s) 2 are yellow tetrahedrons. The windward change mark will be an orange cylinder. When there is a subsequent change of course and the orange cylinder is replaced, it will be replaced with the original yellow tetrahedron mark. The offset mark 1A is an orange ball. The finishing mark for the W course will be either a yellow tetrahedron or an orange cylinder. The finishing mark for the D course will be a yellow duck. The starting mark will be a yellow cylinder.

## **10 CHECK IN / WITHDRAWAL**

- 10.1 Before the first race each day, all boats shall check in with the race committee signal boat by hailing her sail number and being acknowledged by the race committee.
- 10.2 A boat that retires from a race, before racing is completed for the day, shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity. The Race Committee may be contacted by VHF (channel 72) to comply with this instruction.
- 10.3 A boat failing to comply with SI 10.1 or 10.2 may receive, without a hearing, a 20% scoring penalty in the next completed race, or in the previous race if all races have been completed. The penalty shall be calculated in accordance with RRS 44.3(c).

## **11 THE START**

- 11.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between a staff or halyard displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat and the course side of a mark designating the port end of the starting line.
- 11.3 A boat that starts more than 10 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes RRS A5.1.

## **12 RECALLS**

- 12.1 The Race Committee intends to notify OCS (On Course Side of the starting line) boats by hailing sail numbers, orally and/or on VHF channel 72. Failure to receive a hail, for a hail to be made, or the order of hails shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).

## **13 COURSE CHANGE AFTER THE START**

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark, signal in accordance with RRS 33, and remove the original mark as soon as practical. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by the original mark.

## **14 THE FINISH**

- 14.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee finish boat and the course side of the finishing mark.

## **15 TIME LIMIT**

- 15.1 The time limit is 1.5 hours. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing and receive 2 points more than the number of boats finishing within the time limit. This changes RRS 35, 63.1, A4, A5, and A10.

## **16 PROTESTS**

- 16.1 RRS 60.2 is modified such that a boat intending to protest another boat shall notify the race committee finish boat as soon as is practical after finishing of her intent to protest and of the identity of the boat to be protested.
- 16.2 A boat may not protest another boat for SI 10.1, 10.2, or 15.
- 16.3 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the official arrival of the race committee signal boat at the dock. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and for requests for redress. This changes RRS 60.3(b) and RRS 61.2.
- 16.4 The race committee will post its official arrival time on the notice board. Flag "B" will be hoisted when the RC signal boat docks and will be lowered with one sound signal at the protest time limit.
- 16.5 Notices will be posted on the notice board within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. However, see 16.9 below.
- 16.6 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2(a)(2).
- 16.7 On the last day of the regatta, a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day or no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision that day. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 16.8 On the last day of the regatta a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 61.2.
- 16.9 Expedited hearings may be held per Appendix T3 and T4.

## **17 SCORING**

- 17.1 The low point scoring system in Appendix A shall be in effect except that a boat's series score shall exclude her worst score if 6 races are completed. Changes Rule A2.

## 18 PENALTIES

- 18.1 Penalties at the Time of the Incident - The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 while racing. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while racing in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty."
- 18.2 Post-Race Penalties may be taken in accordance with Appendix T1
- 18.3 Change RRS 44.1 to say "When an infringing yacht has its spinnaker drawing at the time of the infringement, drops it completely while taking her penalty, and resets it immediately and has it drawing after the penalty, the penalty is a One-Turn Penalty."

## 19 PROPULSION

- 19.1 RRS 42.3(c) is replaced with Article VIII – 12 of the Rules Governing All Lightning Class District Championships: "Except on a beat to windward, when surfing (rapidly accelerating down the front of a wave) or planning is possible, the boat's crew may pull any sail using the sheet only, (not the guy) in order to initiate surfing or planning but each sail may be pulled in only once for each wave or gust of wind. When the mainsail is pumped, only that part of the sheet between the crew member handling the sheet and the first block on the boom shall be used."

## 20 RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 20.1 Use of handheld VHF radios will be permitted for communication from the race committee to competitors on channel 72. The race committee intends to use VHF radio to communicate with the fleet on the water. Such communication is unofficial, and the information itself is not grounds for redress.

## 21 PRIZES

- 21.1 Prizes will be awarded to the skippers and crews placing first through third in the regatta.

## 22 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 22.1 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.

## APPENDIX A COURSE DIAGRAM

