

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2025 THISTLE SOUTHEAST CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

June 21-22, 2025



Blackbeard Sailing Club
1215 Barkentine Drive
New Bern, NC



The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1

1 RULES

- 1.1** The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the rules of the Thistle Class will govern the regatta, except as altered by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2** Appendix V Alternative Penalties will apply.
- 1.3** (NP) Use of Life Jackets (unless made mandatory by display of the Y flag) is encouraged.
- 1.4** Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows:
(2) if it from a boat that alleges a breach of Part 2 or rule 31, but she was not involved in it and did not see the incident, or

2 COMMUNICATION

- 2.1** Notices to competitors will be posted on the "Official Notice Board" which will be on the windows at the eastern end of the BSC Clubhouse.
- 2.2** On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors by hailing and on VHF 72.
- 2.3** [DP] While racing, from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, 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 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1** Any written change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 1.5 hours before the scheduled start of the day's racing, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2** Oral changes may be made on the water verbally and acknowledged by each boat. The signal vessel will ~~signal~~ display Flag L ("come within hail") with one sound.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1** Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagstaff on the deck at the BSC Clubhouse.
- 4.2** When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1** The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is shown in the table below.

Saturday, June 21	Competitors Meeting	1100
	First Warning	1300
	Subsequent races to follow.	
	No warning signal after 1730	
Sunday, June 22	First Warning	0930
	Subsequent races to follow.	
	No warning signal after 1230	

- 5.2** Five races are scheduled. Any number of races may be sailed each day.
- 5.3** Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means 'No more racing today.'

6 CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be the Thistle Class burgee.

7 RACING AREA

The racing area will be on the Neuse River, in the vicinity of markers 17, 19, 1N and 2, near Upper Broad Creek, or in Upper Broad Creek.

8 COURSES

- 8.1** Courses will be windward-leeward with the leeward gate to weather of the starting line as described in Illustration A. Illustration A shows the courses, including the order in which marks are to be passed as well as the side on which to pass each mark.
- 8.2** The signal vessel will display the course and approximate compass bearing no later than the warning signal.

9 MARKS

- 9.1** Marks 1, 4s, and 4p will be large orange tetrahedrons.
- 9.2** Mark 1a offset mark will be a small orange ball.
- 9.3** A new mark, as provided in SI 11, will be a large yellow tetrahedron.
- 9.4** The starting mark will be a small orange tetrahedron.
- 9.5** For Course WL4, the finishing mark will be a small yellow tetrahedron. For Course WL5, the finishing mark will be Mark 1, which is a large orange or yellow tetrahedron.

10 THE START

- 10.1** Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 10.2** The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel and the course side of the starting mark.

10.3 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number and via the official VHF channel. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

11 CHANGE OF COURSE

11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) then remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by the original mark.

11.2 If a change of mark is signaled, there will be no offset at the new mark.

12 THE FINISH

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

13 TIME LIMITS

13.1 The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish is 90 minutes.

13.2 Boats failing to finish with 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) without a hearing.

14 HEARING REQUESTS

14.1 Protests shall be written on forms available by the race committee and delivered there within 45 minutes of the docking time of the RC vessel. The Protest Time Limit will be posted on the official notice board.

14.2 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted on the official notice board to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

15 SAFETY REGULATIONS

15.1 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.

15.2 Prior to the warning signal of her first race each day, a boat shall sail past the stern of the race signal vessel, hail her sail number and be acknowledged by the race committee.

16 SCORING

16.1 One completed race will constitute a series.

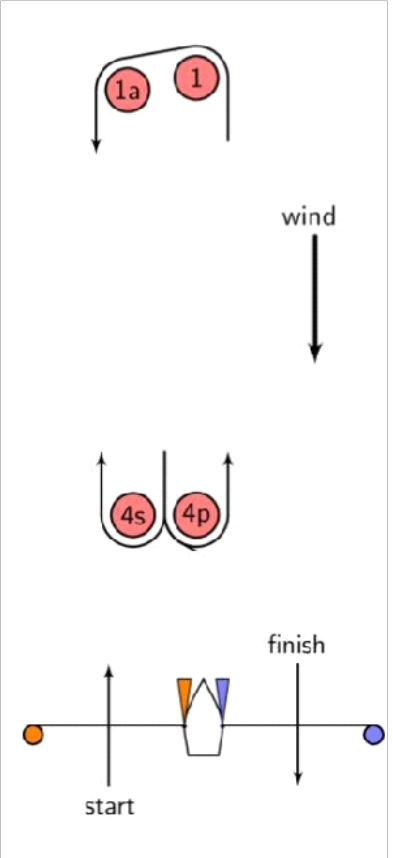
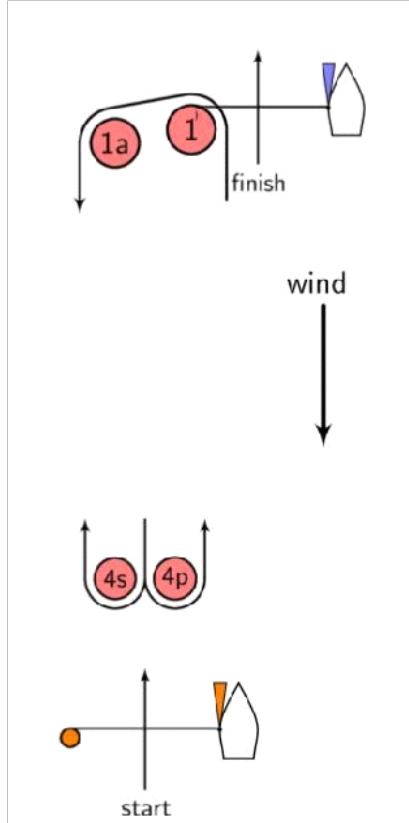
16.2 A maximum of 5 races are scheduled. A boats series score will be the total of her races without exclusion.

16.3 Boats scored "TLE" will receive 2 points more than the number of finishers in that race but will not be scored worse than DNF.

17 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to racing 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.**

ILLUSTRATION A

Course "WL4"	Course "WL5"
 <p>The diagram for Course WL4 shows a start line with an orange dot on the left and a blue dot on the right. A vertical line with an upward arrow is labeled 'start'. A vertical line with a downward arrow is labeled 'finish'. Above the start line, there are two red circles labeled '1a' and '1'. Above the finish line, there are two red circles labeled '4s' and '4p'. A wind direction arrow points downwards from the top right towards the center.</p>	 <p>The diagram for Course WL5 shows a start line with an orange dot on the left and a blue dot on the right. A vertical line with an upward arrow is labeled 'start'. A vertical line with a downward arrow is labeled 'finish'. Above the start line, there are two red circles labeled '1a' and '1'. Above the finish line, there are two red circles labeled '4s' and '4p'. A wind direction arrow points downwards from the top right towards the center.</p>
<p>Mark Rounding Order:</p> <p>Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – Finish</p>	<p>Mark Rounding Order:</p> <p>Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – Finish</p>

Schematic – not to scale