



# 2025 Thunderbird Regional Championship

Port Townsend Sailing Association  
August 30 - 31, 2025  
Port Townsend, Washington, USA

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. RULES

- 1.1. In all rules governing this event, [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 1.2. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable requests from an event official. Such requests, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper action or omissions. Failure to comply with a request may be considered misconduct.

### 2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 60 minutes before the first race in which it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board.
- 3.2. The race office will be located at the PTSA Clubhouse.
- 3.3. A competitor meeting will be held at the PTSA Clubhouse at 1000 on Saturday, August 31.
- 3.4. On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 68. Failure to make announcements, the failure to hear the communication, or any other issues regarding the communication shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

### 4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1. Dates & Times of racing:

Saturday, August 30	1000	Competitor Meeting—PTSA Clubhouse
	1200	First Warning Signal
	1800	No Warning Signal After This Time
Sunday, August 31	1200	First Warning Signal
	1600	No Warning Signal After This Time

- 4.2. The race committee will start no more than five (5) races on each day of racing.

### 5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the PTSA Clubhouse.
- 5.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

### 6. CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1. The Class Flag will be a flag with the International Thunderbird logo.

### 7. COURSES

- 7.1. The diagram in SI Attachment A shows the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 7.2. Courses will be displayed on the signal vessel using alphanumeric placards.
- 7.3. A gate may be used in place of the "L1" or "L2" rounding mark. When gate marks are used, boats shall pass between the marks of the gate from the direction of the course from the previous mark.
- 7.4. If Mark "O" is absent it shall be disregarded.

## **8. MARKS**

- 8.1. Rounding mark "W" will be a temporary yellow inflatable tetrahedron.
- 8.2. Rounding mark "O" will be a temporary yellow inflatable cylinder.
- 8.3. Rounding marks "L1" and "L2" and gate marks, if used, will be temporary yellow inflatable tetrahedrons.
- 8.4. The Starting and Finishing marks will be a race committee vessel displaying an orange flag at the start and a blue flag at the finish at one end of the line and a temporary orange cylinder at the opposite end of the line.

## **9. THE START**

- 9.1. One minute prior to the warning signal, the signal vessel may sound an alert signal of multiple sounds. This signal may accompany the removal of the postpone, abandon or general recall signals. This changes "race signals".
- 9.2. The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the starting mark at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.
- 9.3. 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 may attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 9.4. A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

## **10. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 10.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark or the finishing line to a new position.
- 10.2. The Race Committee may change a leg of the course by displaying flag "C" with repetitive sounds only. This changes RRS 33(a) and (b).

## **11. THE FINISH**

- 11.1. The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing mark at one end of the line and the course side of the finishing mark at the opposite end.

## **12. TIME LIMITS**

- 12.1. The time limit for the first boat to finish is 90 minutes after the starting signal.
- 12.2. The Finishing Window shall be 20 minutes, and is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5 and A10.

## **13. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 13.1. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the signal vessel has returned to the dock, or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 13.2. Hearing request forms shall be delivered to the race office.
- 13.3. Notices will be posted on the white board in the race office no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held as soon as, practicable.
- 13.4. Notices of protests by a committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 60.2(d).
- 13.5. RRS 61.2 is changed as follows: Add RRS 61.2(b)(4), 'If the race committee posts a list of boats scored OCS, NSC, UFD, or BFD on the official notice board before the protest time limit a request for redress based on such a posted score shall be made no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit.'

## **14. [NP] [DP] SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 14.1. Boats shall not impede the safe passage of a stand on vessel not racing and shall comply with the International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea, 1972 (72 COLREGS). Boats that fail to comply promptly with signals from race officials to alter course may be subject to protest and possible disqualification.
- 14.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee (on-the-water or on-shore) as soon as possible.

Attachment A

SIGNAL	COURSE	SIGNAL	COURSE
A 1	S - W - O - L2 - F	B 1	S - W - O - L1 - W - O - F
A 2	S - W - O - L1 - W - O - L2 - F	B 2	S - W - O - L2 - W - O - F
A 3	S - W - O - L1 - W - O - L1 - W - O - L2 - F	B 3	S - W - O - L2 - W - O - L2 - W - O - F

