



Sailing Instructions

Commonwealth Cup

Hosted By

Commonwealth Yacht Club

September 26 - 27, 2025

1. RULES:

1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Commonwealth Yacht Club.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be announced at the skipper's meeting or posted on the official website by 0800 the day of racing.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Commonwealth Yacht Club.

5. SCHEDULE

Friday, September 26, 2025

5:00 PM - Registration / Check In

6:00 PM - Appetizers

6:30 PM - Skippers' Meeting

Saturday, September 27, 2025

6:30 AM - Grab N Go Breakfast provided at CYC

9:00 AM - Warning Signal

4:00 PM - Finish time limit

6:00 PM - Approx - Dinner and Trophy presentation after racing.

6. CLASSES:

6.1. Spinnaker, JAM A, and JAM B will start at the time assigned during the skippers meeting.

7. CLASS FLAGS

7.1. A class flag will be a unique color, pattern, and shape, or class logo. A description of each class flag will be posted on the official notice board and / or announced at the skipper's meeting.

8. COURSE:

**8.1. The course is approximately 10 miles between the starting line near the north entrance to Sledd Creek (24 MM) to an inflatable mark near the entrance to Duncan Bay (34 MM), then 10 miles back.
Total 20 mile course.**

8.2. All boats must pass to the east of each Primary Navigation red nun buoy throughout the course. (The two red nun buoys are Star Lime Red Nun and the red nun approximately 1.9 NM SSE of Star Lime).

Approximate Coordinates from Navionics:

Coordinates of Star Lime Red Nun = 36° 56.352 N - 88° 11.731 W

Coordinates for Red Nun SSE of Star Lime = 36° 54.612 N - 88° 10.803 W

8.3. There are many shallow areas and navigational hazards throughout the lake. Racers are advised to monitor their depth and use Navionics or other navigational aids to avoid running aground.

9. MARKS:

9.1. The turning mark will be a yellow inflatable pyramid near the entrance to Duncan Bay at approximately 34 MM. Round mark to port.

10. THE START

10.1. The start will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat and the orange inflatable at the port end. Start will be just south of Ky. Dam near the 24 MM.

10.2. The race will be started in accordance with RRS 26.

10.3. Boats are required to check in with the Committee Boat using VHF Channel 72 prior to the 6 minute courtesy warning.

11. SHORTENING OF COURSE AFTER THE START: If the Race Committee determines the need to shorten the course after the start of race, the RC will communicate this information on VHF Channel 72.

12. THE FINISH: The finish will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the orange inflatable pin at the port end.

13. TIME LIMIT:

13.1. The time limit for the PHRF race is 1600 (4:00 pm) Saturday, September 27, 2025. Boats not finishing by the end time will be DNF.

14. PROTESTS

14.1. A boat intending to protest shall attempt to notify the race committee of its intent to protest and identify the protested boat at the first reasonable opportunity. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

14.2. Protests will be written and delivered to the Protest Committee Chairperson before the end of "Protest Filing Time," which will begin when the race ends and end 45 minutes later. These times will be posted on the official notice board.

14.3. Protest notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the end of "Protest Filing Time" to inform competitors of the place and time of hearings.

14.4. Protests will then be heard as soon as possible, in approximately the order of receipt.

15. SCORING:

PHRF

15.1. Wind dependent Bluegrass Sailing Club (BSC) PHRF handicaps and Time-on-Time adjustment factors will be used. $\text{Corrected time} = \text{Elapsed time} \times 650 / (550 + \text{PHRF})$

15.2. Time Correction Formula (TCF) = $650 / (f + \text{PHRF})$ where $f = 650$ for light air, 550 for moderate air, and 450 for heavy air as assessed by the Race Committee.

16. SAFETY REGULATIONS

16.1. For all competitors' safety, VHF Radios are mandatory.

16.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

16.3. Channel 72 is the official CYC / BSC - RC communications channel and appropriate for communicating with fellow competitors. The Intership Navigation Safety Channel 13, and International Distress, Safety & Calling Channel 16 are your best channels to communicate with barge traffic.

16.4. The course, set on Kentucky Lake, may intersect the navigational channel. Commercial traffic (barges) and deep-draft craft in the channel have right-of-way over sailboats and must be treated with utmost respect. Competitors are encouraged to monitor their VHF radio for warnings and communication with other vessels as it relates to these “right of way” vessels.

16.5. When a boat is becalmed or otherwise unable to sail out of the channel before an approaching barge is half a mile distant, she may use her engine or any other method to clear the channel provided the boat does not thereby gain a significant advantage in the race. This changes RRS 42.3(h).

16.6. When a boat sailing under these rules meets a vessel that is not, the rules of Part 2 (When Boats Meet) are replaced by the Inland Navigation Rules. Any boat impeding the passage of a right-of-way vessel is subject to protest by the race committee or the protest committee.

17. PRIZES: Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in each class.

18. WAIVER: Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. Competitors agree that the race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be 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. As an inducement to the race organizers to produce the regatta, each competitor agrees that by participating in this event each competitor is deemed to have waived all claims against and released the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law and is deemed to have warranted that he has obtained this same release of the race organizers by each crew member.

19. INSURANCE: Each participating boat must be insured with valid third-party liability insurance.

20. CYC Participation Requirements

20.1. The Commonwealth Yacht Club recommends everyone wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Personal Floatation Device (PFD) to participate in club races and any on-the-water events. This is a requirement of the club's insurance policy.

FURTHER INFORMATION - For further information please contact
Commonwealth Cup Organizers -

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Course Map

