

2025 SHEARWATER REGATTA

Organizing Authority: Ocean Springs Sailing Squadron

hosted by Ocean Springs Yacht Club (OSYC)

October 18 - 19, 2025

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation [DP] in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation [NP] in a rule in the SI means that is non-protestable by a boat, the RC or the Technical Committee.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* and the Formula Wave Class Rules for the Wave Class.
- 1.2 US Sailing Prescriptions to RRS **Part 5, Section B preamble** and 63.1 do not apply.
- 1.3 RRS 60.1 is changed to prohibit a boat from protesting another for an alleged breach of class rule requiring class membership
- 1.4 The last statement in RRS 63.5(c) will be changed to read, "then the protest committee shall apply the rule in the SI."
- 1.5 Any conflicts between the NOR and the SIs the Sailing Instruction prevails.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than 60 minutes prior to the first scheduled race on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it shall take effect or prior to the previous day's protest time limit, whichever is later.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the notice board located on the 2nd floor of the YC outside the bar area. **NOTE:** White boards may be used for informal communications (weather reports, provisional results, etc). They are not OFFICIAL notice boards.
- 3.2 There will be a competitors' meeting on Saturday, October 18 at 0930 under the YC weather permitting. Other competitors' meetings may be scheduled as required.
- 3.3 Competitors are permitted to carry VHF radios on the water and the Race Committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio **channel 68**. This information is given as a courtesy and a request for redress may not be based on any aspect of this unofficial communication, including content, timeliness, existence, and/or failure to hear. *This changes **RRS 61.4(b)(1)**.*
- 3.4 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. [DP]

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable request from race officials. [DP]

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will displayed from the southeast corner (pool/bay side) on the second floor of the YC.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in race signal AP. *This changes Race Signal AP.*

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 There will be 2 days of fleet racing (10/18 – 10/19).
- 6.2 The objective of 3 to 5 races per day, back to back.
- 6.3 There is no maximum number of races that may be conducted.
- 6.4 The scheduled first warning signal:
 - 6.4.1 Saturday – 10/18 is 1100
 - 6.4.2 Sunday – 10/19 is 1100
- 6.5 On Sunday, 10/19, no warning signal will be made after 1500 hours.

7 CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1 Class flag shall be
- 7.2 Nacra 20 – Red background with Nacra logo
- 7.3 Hobie 20 – White background with Hobie logo
- 7.4 Hobie 16 – Purple background with Hobie logo
- 7.5 Wave – Pink background with WAVE spelled in Black

8 INITIAL STARTING ORDER – as listed in SI 7

9 RACING AREA

- 9.1 The racing area shall be on the Mississippi Sound in front of the YC and to the East of the Biloxi Bridge.

10 THE COURSES

- 10.1 Standard Multihull Courses will be used. Reference Attachment A.
 - 10.1.1 Outside Course Mark A1 will be sailed by Nacra 20, Hobie 20 and Hobie 16 classes.
 - 10.1.2 Inside Course Mark A2 will be sailed by Wave class.
- 10.2 The “G” option will NOT be displayed by the Signal Boat. The leeward mark may be a single mark or a gate. If the leeward mark is a single mark it shall be left to port.
- 10.3 No later than the warning signal, the Signal Boat may display an approx. compass bearing & distance of the first leg.

11 MARKS

- 11.1 Rounding Marks
 - 11.1.1 Inside Course Mark A2: **Yellow Inflatable Mark**
 - 11.1.2 Outside Course Mark A: **Orange Inflatable Mark**
 - 11.1.3 Gate: **Orange Inflatable Mark**
 - 11.1.4 Offset Mark for A1: **White Inflatable Mark – NOT SHOWN IN ATTACHMENT A**
- 11.2 Change mark as provided in Instruction 13.1
 - 11.2.1 Inside Course Mark A2 – there will not be a change mark, Mark A2 will be adjusted if possible
 - 11.2.2 Outside Course Mark A: **Green Inflatable Mark**
 - 11.2.3 When a change mark is used there will not be an offset mark.
- 11.3 Starting and Finishing marks: **Yellow Inflatable Mark**

12 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 12.1 The Start and Finish lines will be closed unless starting or finishing.

13 THE START

- 13.1 The Start Line shall be between a staff displaying an Orange flag on the RC Signal Vessel and the course side of the starting mark as described in instruction 10.3.
- 13.2 A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.*

14 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 14.1 To change the next leg of the course, the RC will lay a change mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a change mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. A single gate mark may be moved or adjusted without a signal. *This changes RRS 33.*

15 THE FINISH

- 15.1 The Finish Line shall be between a staff displaying an Orange flag on the RC Signal Vessel and the course side of the finishing mark as described in instruction 10.3. *This changes RRS Race Signals, Blue Flag.*
- 15.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

16 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 16.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 16.2 APPENDIX V2 is turned on – POST-RACE PENALTIES

17 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 17.1 Time limits and target times are as follows:

Class	Race Target Time	Race Time Limit	Initial Weather Mark Time Limit	Initial Weather Mark Target Time
All	40-45 minutes	90 minutes	30 minutes	8-13 minutes

17.2 If no boat has passed their initial Weather Mark (A or A2) within the Initial Weather Mark time limit, the race shall be abandoned.

17.3 Failure to meet the target times will not be grounds for redress. *This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).*

17.4 Boats may be finished on the course at the discretion of the RC. The RC determines the method and order of finishing. *This changes RRS 35 and A4.*

18 HEARING REQUESTS

18.1 Hearing Request forms are available at the notice board as described in instruction 3.1. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

18.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the signal boat has docked after the last race of the day. The time will be posted on the official notice board.

18.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, the location of which shall be posted on the official notice board, beginning at the time posted on the notice board.

18.4 Notices of RC or Protest Committee (PC) protests will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2(d).

18.5 Breaches of IHCA class rule 8.1 (with respect to the country of certification only), of instructions 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 12.2, 16.4, 19, 21 will not be grounds for a protest or a request for redress by a boat. *This changes RRS 60.1.* [DP]

19 SCORING

19.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

19.2 When five or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. *This changes RRS A2.*

20 SAFETY REGULATIONS

20.1 Competitors shall check in by hailing their bow number to the RC Signal Boat before the start of the first race each day (and the first race following any postponement ashore). A boat is checked in when the RC acknowledges her by repeating her sail number. [DP]

20.2 A competitor that retires from a race shall notify the RC as soon as possible. [DP]

20.3 The PFD must be worn outside of all clothing except that a thin shirt may be worn over the PFD to prevent snagging.

21 REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

21.1 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution of equipment shall be made to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity. [DP]

22 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

22.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a RC equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection. [DP]

23 AWARDS

23.1 Awards will be presented at the Awards Ceremony after the conclusion of racing on the last day of each event. The number of trophies in each class will be based on pre-registrations.

24 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk, See RRS 3, Decision to Race. It is the personal responsibility of each competitor to determine their level of safety. If wind, wave or water conditions make you doubtful of your ability to handle the conditions safely, it is your decision and your decision only to continue sailing or to retire. The organizing authority and hosting authority will not accept any liability for property damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta.

25 INSURANCE

25.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$100,000 (USD) per event or the equivalent. [NP] [DP]

26 SPECIAL NOTES

26.1 Any boat receiving 'hands on' assistance from rescue/mark boats will be scored Did Not Finish. *This changes RRS rule A5.* The RC may decide when a boat or crew needs assistance.

26.2 The RC may request redress for competitors who exhibit extraordinary sportsmanship.

SAFETY NOTES TO ALL SAILORS

WHILE THE EVENT SITE IS CLEAR OF ELECTRICAL POWER LINES, WHEN OFF-SITE – AVOID!!!

Whenever off-site whether raising or lowering a mast, while sailing, or moving your boat over land ALWAYS check for and avoid low overhead electrical power lines. If you see a power line, **AVOID IT! A MAST COMING IN CONTACT OR EVEN NEAR AN ELECTRICAL POWER LINE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO PEOPLE ON OR TOUCHING THE BOAT!**

ATTACHMENT A – Illustrating the Course

No.	Course	Finish	Options
1	(S) A C A	(F) Downwind	1G
2	(S) A C A C A	(F) Downwind	2G
5	(S) A C	(F) Upwind	5G
6	(S) A C A C	(F) Upwind	6G

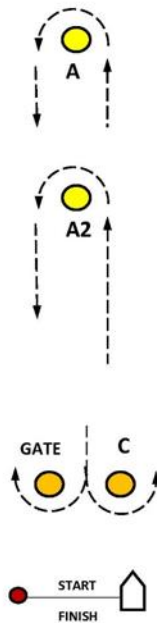
NOTES:

1. Color and/or shape of marks used in illustrations may not accurately represent the actual color or shape of marks used on the actual race course. Refer to SI 10, 12 and 14.
2. Offset marks not shown

COURSE 1 and 2 DIAGRAM and ROUNDING ORDER (Not to Scale)

COURSE 1: START – W – GATE – W – FINISH

COURSE 2: START – W – GATE – W – GATE – W – FINISH



COURSE 5 and 6 DIAGRAM and ROUNDING ORDER (Not to Scale)

COURSE 5: START – W – L (or GATE) – FINISH

COURSE 6: START – W – L (or GATE) – W – L (or GATE) – FINISH

