



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Flying Scot® Midwinter Championship



March 6 – 8, 2026

Hosted by Sarasota Sailing Squadron (“SSS”)

1717 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34236

Organizing Authorities: Flying Scot® Sailing Association (FSSA) and Sarasota Sailing Squadron (SSS)

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 The Technical Committee is the Measurement Committee appointed by FSSA.
- 1.3 The notation [NP] means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1. The notation [DP] means that the penalty for breach of a rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification per RRS 64.
- 1.4 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed to read: “(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule in part 2 or rule 31 and it is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or”.
- 1.5 The US SAILING prescriptions Appendix R and Appendix V will apply and are contained in their entirety at: <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/rules-officiating/racing-rules/>.
- 1.6 The US SAILING prescription to RRS Rule 63.1 shall not apply.
- 1.7 RRS Rules 32, 33, 34, 35, 60.1, 61.2(b), 61.4, A5.1, A5.2, A10, and Race Signals are changed as stated in these SIs.

2. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board, which is located on the wall at the south end of the screened-in patio of the SSS clubhouse. Notices may also be posted on the UNOFFICIAL online notice board on the regatta website on www.regattanetwork.com. Failure to post a notice on the unofficial notice board will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4.
- 2.2 The Race Committee (“RC”) will use Channel 68 to communicate with competitors.
- 2.3 [DP][NP] Competitors only may use VHF radios or other electronic communication devices as permitted by FSSA Class Rules, Article S-V, paragraph 7.
- 2.4 A boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that are not available to all boats, this includes any type of VHF, cellular phone and GPS capable device.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions (SI’s) will be posted before 0900 on the day they will take effect, except that any change in the racing schedule will be posted before 2000 the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole located on the front lawn at the SSS.
- 4.2 When Flag AP is displayed ashore, “one minute” is replaced with “not less than 60 minutes” in the Race Signal AP. This changes “Race Signals”.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 A maximum of 8 races for each Division are scheduled for the regatta.
- 5.2 A competitors’ meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 6, 2026 under the SSS pavilion.

5.3 Races are scheduled as follows:

Friday, March 6, 2026: First warning signal at 12:00 noon; additional races to follow.

Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8, 2026: First warning signal at 11:00 a.m.; additional races to follow.

Note: Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8, 2026.

5.4 No warning signal will be made after 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 8, 2026.

5.5 Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means “No more racing today.”

5.6 Flag H displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means “return to harbor, further signals ashore.

5.7 The same number of races may not be conducted for each Division. The RC may display Flag A or H for a single Division by displaying it along with the class flag for the one Division to which it applies. If no class flag is displayed, flag A or flag H applies to both Divisions.”

6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1 Class flags will be:

6.1.1 Championship Division – white flag with a blue FS insignia.

6.1.2 Challenger Division – red flag with a white FS insignia.

6.1.3 Challenger Division boats shall display the colored streamer provided at on-site registration, which shall be flown from the leech of the mainsail at least 12 inches and not more than 36 inches above the clew.

7. RACING AREA

7.1 The racing area will be Sarasota Bay north of New Pass Channel. See Addendum A.

8. THE COURSES

8.1 The courses to be sailed and the marks to be rounded will be windward-leeward courses as depicted in Addendum B.

8.2 If the offset mark is missing, competitors need only round the windward mark. This changes *RRS 34*.

8.3 If one of the two gate marks is missing, the remaining gate mark shall be left to port. This changes *RRS 34*.

8.4 Marks 2s and 2p are NOT rounding marks on the second downwind leg of Course 4 and may be passed on either side. Marks 2s and 2p ARE rounding marks on the second downwind leg of Course 5. See Addendum B.

8.5 The approximate heading to the weather mark and the length of the first weather leg will be displayed on a course board on the RC signal boat no later than the warning.

9. MARKS

9.1 The windward mark, Mark 1, will be an orange tetrahedron.

9.2 The offset mark, Mark 1a, will be a red ball.

9.3 The gate marks, Marks 2s and 2p, will be pink tetrahedrons.

9.4 The finishing mark will be a yellow ball.

9.5 The change mark for Mark 1 will be a yellow tetrahedron. If Mark 1 is changed, an offset may not be set. If Mark 1 is changed again, the original marks will be used.

10. SAFETY CHECK-IN

10.1 [NP][DP] Competitors not leaving the dock on a race day shall inform the RC by telling them directly or via VHF radio no later than 30 minutes before the scheduled first warning of the day.

10.2 [NP][DP] Each boat shall check in at the RC signal boat **no later than 10 minutes** before the scheduled first warning on each day of racing by sailing past the stern of the RC signal boat on starboard and hailing her sail number until acknowledged.

10.3 [NP][DP] If a boat does not check in with the RC, a 10% penalty may be added to her score for the first race she sails for that day.

- 10.4 [NP][DP] A boat that first arrives to the race course after the first race, retires from a race, or leaves the race area, shall notify the RC at the first reasonable opportunity.

11. THE START

- 11.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat at the starboard end, and a staff displaying an orange flag on an RC boat on the port end.
- 11.2 As a courtesy, the warning signal for a Division may be preceded by a VHF announcement to alert competitors that a starting sequence is about to begin.
- 11.3 [DP] During any starting sequence, boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.
- 11.4 As a courtesy, the RC may, after the starting signal, hail the sail numbers of OCS boats via VHF radio. The delay of such hails, the order of hailing, the failure of the RC to hail, or the failure of a competitor to hear such a hail shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).
- 11.5 A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her Division's starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1.

12. CHANGED OR SHORTENED COURSE

- 12.1 If a changed or shortened course affects only one Division, the RC will display the class flag for the Division affected along with flag "C" or flag "S". If no class flag is displayed, flag "C" or flag "S" applies to both Divisions.
- 12.2 No course shall be shortened to fewer than three legs, two of which shall be to windward, and the second windward leg shall be no shorter than as the course was originally configured. The leg of the course from the windward mark to the offset mark will not count as a leg of the course for purposes of this rule. This changes RRS 32.
- 12.3 The RC may make minor adjustments of up to 5 degrees and/or .1nm. in length to the course during a race without signaling a course change. This changes RRS 33.

13. THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finish will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on an RC vessel and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 13.2 Boats that retire before finishing should inform the RC as soon as possible and may do so by VHF radio.

14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 The following time limits apply to each race:
- 14.1.1 The time limit for the first boat to pass the Mark 1 will be 45 minutes, and for the first boat to sail the course and finish will be 120 minutes.
- 14.1.2 If either of the time limits in 14.1.1 is not met, the race shall be abandoned.
- 14.1.3 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes of the first boat to sail the course and finish in each Division will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) as described in the SCORING section below. This changes RRS 35 and A10.

15. HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 Hearing Request forms will be available in the SSS office or at the registration desk.
- 15.2 Protests shall be filed within 60 minutes of the RC signal boat docking time, which will be posted on the official notice board. The order of protests will be posted within 15 minutes of the end of the protest time.
- 15.3 Hearings will be held in the SSS Office. Hearings may include the participation of remote judges via video conferencing.
- 15.4 On the last day of racing, a request to reopen a hearing based on a Protest Committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 61.2(b).

16. SCORING

- 16.1 Three races must be completed for a Division to constitute a Championship for that Division.
- 16.2 The Low Point System of Appendix A of the RRS will apply with the following modifications:
 - 16.2.1 Each boat's score shall be the total of her race scores, and no score shall be excluded.
 - 16.2.2 A boat scored DNC, DNS, OCS, UFD, BFD, NSC, DNF, RET, DSQ or DNE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats assigned to its Division. This changes RRS A5.2.
 - 16.2.3 A boat scored TLE will be awarded points two greater than the last boat assigned to its Division to sail the course and finish within the time limit, but in no event more than the score for DNF. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

17. SUPPORT BOATS

- 17.1 A competitor shall not use support or spectator personnel or their equipment, including tow vessels, while away from the dock unless they have been pre-approved by the Protest Committee, RC, or made available to all competitors by an Organizing Authority
- 17.2 [DP] Support boats shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start of a race until all boats have finished or retired or the RC signals a postponement or abandonment for such race
- 17.3 Each support vessel shall carry a working VHF marine radio, shall monitor the RC channel, and shall perform the functions of a safety boat upon the request of the RC. The RC channel will be 68.

18. PRIZES

- 18.1 Awards will be given as described in the Notice of Race

19. RISK STATEMENT

- 19.1 The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone. It is the sole responsibility of each participant to decide whether or not to start or continue a race, or to participate or continue to participate in any on-the-water event. Competitors participate in Sarasota Sailing Squadron events entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 Decision to Race. 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.** Each competitor, by participation, agrees to sail and utilize the Sarasota Sailing Squadron facilities at his/her own risk. Neither the Sarasota Sailing Squadron nor persons assisting in the conduct of races or other on-the-water activities shall be liable for damage or injuries incurred during participation in racing or other activities. It is known and understood that all participants, skippers, crew, and guests, accept the Sailing Instructions and all personal risks

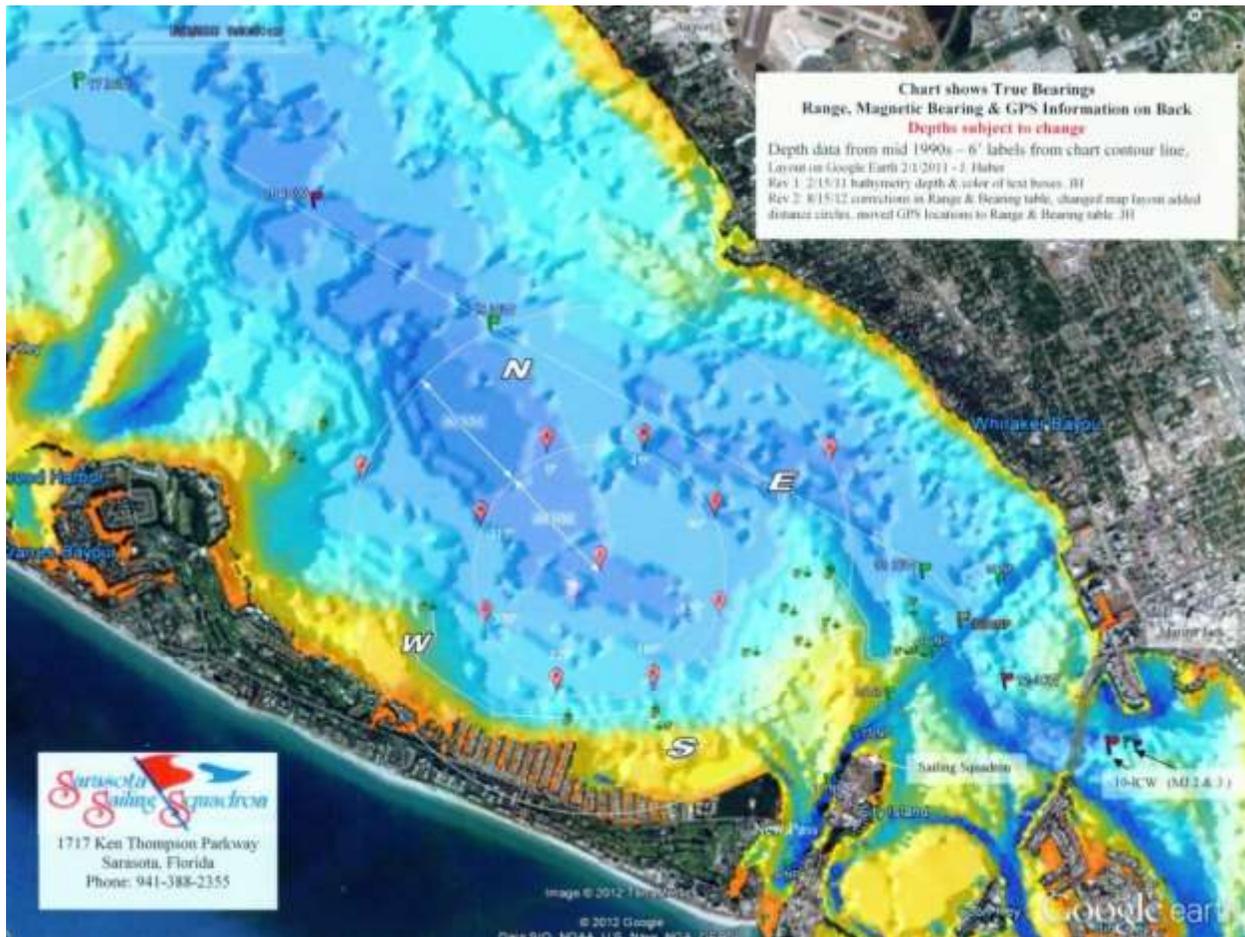
20. PUBLICITY & PHOTOGRAPHER'S RIGHTS

- 20.1 As a condition of participation, each competitor, participant and volunteer grants Sarasota Sailing Squadron, the Flying Scot® Sailing Association, and **Flying Scot Fleet #** (and each of their respective officers, directors, employees, staff, videographers, photographer(s), volunteers, contractors, agents and representatives) the perpetual and irrevocable right, license, and permission to record, use, publish, and distribute their name, photos, video, audios, images, likeness, scoring, finishes, results, statements and other information about them and their boat in all forms and media worldwide (including without limitation the email, internet, website, and/or social media) for any purpose(s) whatsoever (including but not limited to advertisement, promotions, and/or public sale of pictures) without compensation, restriction, or further permission

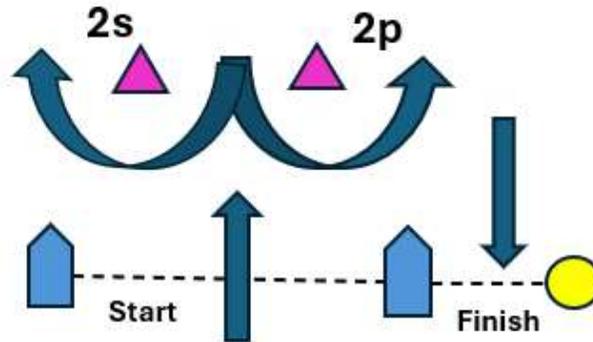
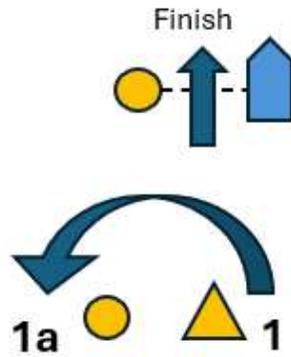
21. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 21.1 Regatta Website:
- 21.2 Regatta Co-Chairpersons: Jennifer Ikeda, ikedaj@hotmail.com and Brad West, bfreshwest@gmail.com
- 21.3 Sarasota Sailing Squadron: **941-388-2355** and membership@ssssailing.com.

Addendum A - Racing Area



Addendum B – Course



Course	Rounding Marks
3	Start, 1, 1a, 2s/2p, Finish (upwind)
4	Start, 1, 1a, 2s/2p, 1, 1a, Finish (downwind)
5	Start, 1, 1a, 2s/2p, 1, 1a, 2s/2p, Finish (upwind)