



**2026 SCYA 96th Midwinter Regatta**  
**Newport Harbor Yacht Club**  
**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**  
**January 31 & February 1, 2026**  
Organizing Authority: Newport Harbor Yacht Club

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## **1 GENERAL**

- 1.1 US Sailing is the National Authority of the venue. US Sailing National Prescriptions can be downloaded from the World Sailing Website.
- 1.2 Newport Harbor Yacht Club is the Organizing Authority (OA).

## **2 RULES**

- 2.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 2.2 Breaches of instructions which are annotated [NP] will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). If the jury concludes that a boat has broken one of these rules, or rule 47, it may impose a penalty other than disqualification. In these cases, the discretionary penalty, if less than disqualification, will be represented by the scoring abbreviation "DPI". The penalty imposed by the jury in such case constitutes the "other penalty" in the first sentence of rule 64.2.
- 2.3 [NP] Competitors shall wear USCG-approved PFD's at all times while on the water, other than during brief periods while adding or removing clothing.
- 2.4 The US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.2 will not apply.
- 2.5 Where there is a conflict between the rules in the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7
- 2.6 Contact with moored vessels-Any regatta participant that contacts a moored boat is required to do the following:
  - 2.6.1 Immediately take a one turn penalty (if racing)
  - 2.6.2 Notify the Race Committee immediately (after the race if racing)
  - 2.6.3 Notify parent/guardian of the incident then contact the owner of the moored boat as soon as possible.
  - 2.6.4 Complete a Contact Information Form located in the Race Office
  - 2.6.5 Take full financial responsibility for the damage.

## **3 NOTICE TO COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the Sailing Patio.

## **4 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 4.1 The race committee will post any change in the sailing instructions not fewer than thirty (30) minutes before it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be made by 2000h on the day before it will take effect.

## **5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on a flag pole located at the top of the launch ramp.
- 5.2 Flag "L" over a numeral pennant displayed ashore will signal the most recent amendment.

## 6 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Race Venue</u>	<u>Saturday 1/31/26</u>	<u>Sunday 2/1/26</u>
Check in	Non Calm Patio	--	0900 - 1100	--
Competitors Meeting	Main Boatyard	Venue 1	1100	
First Warning	--	--	1200	1200
No Warning Signal after	--	--	--	1600
Trophies	Flag Deck	--	--	After Racing

## 7 COURSES

7.1 The diagram in Addendum A – Venue 1 shows the courses, including the approximate angle between the legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. Except at a gate, a boat shall leave each rounding mark to port. The race committee will announce the course description for a race from the race committee signal boat before the warning signal for that race.

## 8 MARKS

8.1 See Addendum A, Table 2 for detailed descriptions of the marks.

8.2 The start and finish line marks are not marks of the course except when starting or finishing.

8.3 [NP] Moored boats rank as obstructions. Moored boats and their mooring balls and lines shall not be touched in any way. This changes RRS 60.1.

## 9 START/FINISH

9.1 All races will be started using RRS US Sailing Prescription Appendix U.

9.2 The start line will be a straight line between the course side of a staff with an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of the nearby starting mark.

9.3 The finish line will be a straight line between the course side of a staff with a blue flag on the designated RC/Finish signal boat and the course side of the nearby finishing mark.

9.4 [NP] If a “Sabot A, B or C1” boat is one of the first five finishers in a race, after finishing, she shall proceed directly to the race committee boat if she is displaying the code flag “F” (red diamond on a white field) for inspection of INSA-required equipment.

## 10 TIME LIMIT AND TARGET TIMES

10.1 The time limit for the first boat in each class to finish will be forty-five (45) minutes.

10.2 A boat that fails to finish within fifteen (15) minutes after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (“TLE”) without a hearing. In such case, the RC may terminate the race and score the boat points equal to the number of boats finishing plus two (2). This changes RRS 35, 63.1, A4, A5, and A11.

## 11 RETIREMENT

[NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify a race committee boat before leaving the race area. If that is impossible, then immediately after arriving ashore, the competitor shall notify a regatta representative.

## 12 PROTESTS

12.1 RRS 61.1(a) is changed by adding this sentence before the word “However”: “She shall also notify the race committee at the finish line as soon as practicable after she finishes.”

- 12.2 A party shall submit a protest or request for redress in writing. Forms are available at the protest desk located on the Sailing Patio. Regarding an incident observed in the racing area, a boat, the race committee, or the protest committee shall deliver a completed form to the protest desk no later than thirty (30) minutes after the last finish in the class' last race of the day. That time will be posted. This constitutes the time limit mentioned in the first sentence of RRS 61.3.
- 12.3 The PC will hear protests as soon as possible and in the order it determines. The hearing schedule will be posted on the notice board and at the protest desk no later than 10 minutes after the close of protest time. This posting will constitute the notification required by RRS 63.2.
- 12.4 Notice of any other protest by the race committee or protest committee will also be posted. This will constitute the notification required under 61.1(b).
- 12.5 Only the skipper may represent a boat in a hearing. No coach or other person may represent a boat or file a protest on her behalf. This changes RRS 63.3(a).
- 12.6 It is the sole responsibility of each boat involved to be ready and have witnesses available when the hearing is called.
- 12.7 If the race committee posts a list of boats scored OCS, UFP, 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 one (1) hour after the protest time limit. This changes the first sentence of RRS 62.2.
- 12.8 On the last scheduled day of racing, a party to the hearing shall deliver a request for reopening a hearing or a request for redress based on a protest committee decision no later than thirty (30) minutes after being informed of the decision. This changes RRS 62.2.

## 13 SUPPORT BOATS

[NP] Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel (including family members) shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished, or until the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. Any penalty associated with this SI shall apply to the boat(s) associated with the support boat in question. This SI shall not apply to any support boat (or her associated competitors) that the race committee has directed to help a boat or competitor that is in danger while racing.

Sabot A, B, C1, & C2 Classes:

[NP] From the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished, or until the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment, all team leaders, coaches, and other support personnel (including family members) shall stay:

- a. At least 50 meters away from any boat that is racing; and
- b. outside of the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and mark 1 until all boats have finished; and
- c. outside of the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and mark 2 until all boats have finished.

Any penalty associated with this SI shall apply to the boat(s) associated with the support boat in question. This SI shall not apply to any support boat (or her associated competitors) that the race committee has directed to help a boat or competitor that is in danger while racing.

## 14 SCORING

- 14.1 Three (3) completed races shall constitute a series.
- 14.2 When five (5) or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores with no score excluded.

## 15 TROPHIES

The OA will present trophies as soon as possible after the conclusion of racing on Sunday, February 1st.

## 16 DISCLAIMER

Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this race participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The race organizers (OA, race committee, PC, 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 race. By participating in this race, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.