

# LITTLE CREEK SAILING ASSOCIATION WEDNESDAY NIGHT SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2012

## **Rules:**

Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009 – 2012, and these Sailing Instructions.

Non spinnaker classes will be single-headsail only.

Boats are strongly encouraged to meet or exceed equipment requirements for PHRF Category 5P.

No crew limits apply.

All changes to the hull, rig, sails or other factors upon which a rating is based must be reported to the LCSA Point of Contact for evaluation.

## **Registration:**

Each boat must be registered, have paid the entry fee, and signed up for a Race Committee boat slot (unless all slots have been filled) in order to be scored. Submit a valid PHRF rating with your registration. A yacht without a valid PHRF rating will be assigned a courtesy rating by the LCSA Point of Contact until a valid certificate is obtained

## **Written Changes to Sailing Instructions:**

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be emailed to the captains of all registered boats before 1700 on the day before it will take effect.

## **Oral Changes to Sailing Instructions:**

As per Rule 90.2 (c), oral changes to these Sailing Instructions as well as other necessary information may be communicated via VHF-72. Such communication will be made between 1700 and the first warning of the evening.

## **Weather cancellations:**

Unless weather conditions are clearly inhospitable, the decision to set the marks and start/finish line shall be made by 1700. Cancellation announcements will be made via VHF channel 72.

Racing may be cancelled either before or during a race when weather conditions warrant. This decision will be made based on the judgment of the Race Committee and the decision is not subject to request for redress. Cancellations will be announced via VHF channel 72, and, while racing, by a yellow flag signal and a series of three horn blasts.

## **Schedule of Races:**

Wednesdays (weather permitting) beginning on April 4, 2012 through September 26, 2012; the first Warning signal will be scheduled for 1825 except during the month of September when it will be at 1755 due to the earlier sunset.

## **Classes and Flags:**

Spinnaker (Class A, B, or C Flag)

Non-Spinnaker I – PHRF rating of 164 or less (Class Flag "5", Blue/Yellow)

Non-Spinnaker II – PHRF rating of 165 or higher (Class Flag White)

All participating boats must display their class flag on the backstay approximately 5 feet above the transom.

## **Racing Area:**

All races will be held outside of the Little Creek entrance off the shore of the East Beach development.

## **Courses:**

Courses shall be posted on the Race Committee boat as indicated by large letters for course marks and numbers for number of laps. Leave RED letter marks to PORT and GREEN or BLACK letter marks to STARBOARD. The last letter will be "S", finish between the "S" mark and the Race Committee boat. If course has been shortened, finish between Race Committee boat and designated mark.

**Marks:**

S – Orange Ball drop mark in the vicinity of the Race Committee boat.

J – VMRC reef buoy off Ocean view beach.

K – Red LC2 buoy at the entrance to Little Creek channel.

L – Green LC1 buoy approximately 2 miles north of the Little Creek channel.

**The Start:**

All starts shall be in accordance with RRS 26 with two modifications. A courtesy sound warning may be signaled approximately one minute before the Warning signal and only a P flag will be used at the Preparatory signal. The first Warning signal will be scheduled for 1825 except during the month of September when it will be at 1755 due to the earlier sunset.

<u>Signal</u>	<u>Flag &amp; Sound</u>	<u>Minutes before starting signal</u>
Courtesy warning	3 or 4 rapid sounds	6 (approximate)
Warning	Class flag(s); 1 sound	5
Preparatory	P Flag: 1 sound	4
One-minute	Preparatory flag removed; 1 long sound	1
Starting	Class flag(s) removed; 1 sound	0

It is anticipated (but not required) that all classes will start at the same time; if more than one start is to be used, subsequent Warning Signals will be made simultaneously with the previous class Starting Signal. WATCH THE FLAGS ON THE RACE COMMITTEE BOAT!

**Starting Line:**

The starting line for all fleets will be between the S drop mark and an orange flag on the Race Committee boat.

**Keeping Clear of Starting Area:**

Boats whose warning signal has not been made MUST KEEP CLEAR OF THE STARTING AREA AND BOATS WHOSE WARNING SIGNAL HAS BEEN MADE.. The starting area is defined as a rectangle (4 sides) with one side that parallels the starting line at a distance of 100' on the course side of the starting line; one side that parallels the starting line at a distance of 200' on the pre-start side of the starting line; one side that is perpendicular to the starting line at a distance of 200' from the committee boat on the opposite side of the committee boat from the starting line; and one side that is perpendicular to the starting line at a distance of 200' from the Start Mark on the opposite side of the Start Mark from the starting line.

**Compliance with government restrictions:**

Boats must comply with government-restricted areas, whether marked by buoys, defined by law (keeping clear of war ships), or instructed by military / public safety personnel. No redress will be given for compliance with government restrictions.

**Shortening Course:**

The Race Committee may shorten the course at any time by anchoring at a mark of the course, displaying Flag "S", and sounding two horns as the first boat approaches. Boats shall finish by passing between the RC boat and the mark in the direction from the previous mark.

**The Finish:**

The Finishing Line for all classes will be between the S drop mark and the orange flag on the Race Committee boat.

**Penalty System:**

Except when she is required to retire by RRS 44.1, a boat infringing a rule of RRS Part 2 may take a penalty in accordance with RRS 44.2 (720 Degree Turns Penalty – HIGHLY RECOMMENDED).

**Time Limit:**

No boat will be scored later than two hours after the first start (2030 if the first start was at 1830; 2000 if the first start was at 1800) or after sunset (whichever is earlier). This modifies Rule 35.

**Protests and Requests for Redress:**

In addition to the requirements of Rule 61.1(a), boats shall inform the race committee of their protest immediately after crossing the finish line or as soon as possible after retiring. This changes Rule 61.1(a).

Protests and Requests for Redress shall be delivered (in writing) to the Race Committee at the Bay Point Marina within 1 hour of the time the committee boat reaches the dock on the day of the incident (protest time limit). It is the responsibility of the protester to remain in the area until the end of the time limit or until the written protest has been delivered. Protest forms are available from the Race Committee. However, written protests can be submitted on other types of paper.

Before a protest hearing is scheduled for an alleged violation of a Part 2 rule, the LCSA Point of Contact or designee will set up a meeting between the parties to attempt to mediate the protest. If agreement can be reached, the protest can be withdrawn, or one or more of the parties can accept a 50% scoring penalty. This modifies Rule 63.

Protest hearings shall be scheduled by the LCSA Point of Contact. The protest committee shall be appointed by the LCSA Point of Contact.

**Scoring:**

Five races conducted will comprise a series. Each series will be scored according to RRS Appendix A Low Point System, except that 1) there will be 2 throwout races in each series, and 2) Appendix A Section 9, Race Scores In A Series Longer Than A Regatta, will not apply.

Scores for disqualification as a result of a protest hearing (DSQ, DNE) shall not be used as a throwout. Exception: If the race is abandoned, no boat will receive a score for that race.

A boat scheduled to be Race Committee shall either serve as scheduled, or find her own replacement. If she is unable to either serve or find a replacement, she will be penalized in accordance with RRS 44.3(c) (20% penalty) for the next 5 races in which she competes.

**Prizes:**

Trophies for the first three places in each series will be given at the LCSA 2012 Awards/2013 Kick off meeting to be held in March 2013.

**Disclaimer of Liability:**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

**Insurance:**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$100,000 per event or the equivalent.

**LCSA Point of Contact:**

John Bergman, 757-362-3775 Home, 757-492-8154 Work