



Seattle Yacht Club

Established in 1892

Mark Mayer Opening Day Race

May 3, 2026

Sailing Instructions

1 RULES

- 1.1 This regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The prescriptions of US Sailing to the following rules shall apply. These prescriptions are available from the US Sailing website at www.ussailing.org.
- 1.3 A boat rated by her handicap class in consideration of water ballast may use water ballast as rated. This changes RRS 51.
- 1.4 Changes to the rules may be noted elsewhere in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions. If the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions are in conflict, the Sailing Instructions shall have precedence.
- 1.5 When the protest committee decides that a boat has broken a rule of Part 4, it is not required to disqualify the party, but may impose a lesser penalty or issue a warning. This changes RRS 64.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board. The official notice board will be located at the south entrance of the Seattle Yacht Club Portage Bay clubhouse and optionally on the Seattle Yacht Club website at www.seattleyachtclub.org.
- 2.2 The race committee may provide unofficial communication at any time by hail or over VHF 72. Any communication not governed by the rules is unofficial communication. A request for redress may not be based on any aspect of unofficial communication, including content, timeliness, existence, or failure to hear. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Changes to the Sailing Instructions posted on the official notice board will be posted by 0900 the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 the day before it will take effect.

4 SCHEDULE

- 4.1 The schedule is as follows:

<u>Sunday</u>	
0945	Competitors Meeting-Jr. Clubhouse
1200	First warning signal
1500	No warning signal after this time
After racing	Party at Seattle Yacht Club
- 4.2 One Race is scheduled.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 There is no provision for signals made ashore.

6 RACING AREA AND RACE COMMITTEE SIGNAL BOAT

- 6.1 The racing area is Lake Washington north of the SR520 Bridge. The starting line will be in the area between Webster Point, Hunts Point, and Sand Point.
- 6.2 The race committee signal boat will be the Seattle Yacht Club M/V *Portage Bay*. If necessary, an alternate race committee signal boat may be used. The race committee signal boat will display the Seattle Yacht Club burgee and a blue "R/C" flag or sign.

7 CLASSES

- 7.1 Classes to race are PHRF Northwest handicap, including Cruiser/Racer, ORC, and one-design keelboat.
- 7.2 The Classes, Class flags, and boat Class assignments will be announced as a notice to competitors issued by 1800 on Saturday before the regatta. Subsequent changes may be made with the same process as changes to the Sailing Instructions.

8 COURSES

- 8.1 Courses will be signaled from a reader board on the race committee signal boat. The reader board will have three rows: top, middle, and bottom. Each class will be designated one of these rows, which will be announced with the classes, to signal the course for that class.
- 8.2 The course description on the reader board will be a series of letters on one row indicating the marks and their required sequence. The first letter displayed is the starting mark buoy, the last letter is the finishing mark buoy, and the letters between are rounding marks.
- 8.3 The marks are specified in Attachment A: Mark Descriptions.
- 8.4 All rounding marks shall be left to port. When mark S or F is used as a rounding mark, a boat must also pass between the mark and the race committee signal boat when rounding.
- 8.6 If a mark has been substituted by an object displaying flag M, the attachment of a buoy, including the original mark, to the object will not be considered temporary or accidental for its purpose of identification or protection, and the buoy will be considered part of the mark.
- 8.7 If a starting or finishing mark is substituted by an object displaying flag M, repetitive sound signals are not required. This changes RRS 34.



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- 8.8 After completing the first leg of the course, a boat shall not cross the finishing line unless she is finishing or rounding the finishing mark buoy as a rounding mark. This changes RRS 28.2. A boat that fails to observe this restriction may exonerate herself by taking a Two-Turns Penalty as described in RRS 44.2. This changes RRS 44.1 but does not change RRS 44.1(b). A boat that fails to exonerate herself will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5. The finishing line and its marks is an obstruction and not a mark for a boat required to keep clear.
- 9 THE START**
- 9.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat and the starting mark buoy.
- 9.2 If a general recall for a preceding class is signaled after the warning signal of a succeeding class, then the visual signals for the succeeding class will be removed and the start of the succeeding class will be considered abandoned without further signal.
- 9.3 If a boat is subject to RRS 29.1, Individual Recall, or RRS 30, Starting Penalties, the race committee may attempt to hail her sail number directly and/or on VHF 72. This is unofficial communication as in Sailing Instructions 2.2.
- 9.4 A boat starting later than twenty minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes RRS A5.
- 9.5 A boat whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area when other boats are racing but have not yet started.
- 9.6 The race committee signal boat, when a starting mark, may maneuver to maintain the starting line at any time, including while anchored.
- 10 THE FINISH**
- 10.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee signal boat and the finishing mark buoy.
- 10.2 The race committee may adjust the finishing marks to maintain the finishing line at any time without regard to RRS 33.
- 11 TIME LIMIT**
- 11.1 The time limit is the maximum allowable time from a boat's starting signal to her finish time.
- 11.2 The time limit will be 4 hours.
- 11.3 A boat that does not finish within her time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS 35.
- 12 PROTESTS**
- 12.1 A boat intending to protest or request redress for an incident that occurred while racing must orally notify the race committee on the signal boat as soon as reasonably possible after retiring or finishing by hail or VHF 72 until she receives an oral confirmation from the race committee. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 12.2 Written protests and requests for redress must be delivered within the protest time limit to the front desk of the Seattle Yacht Club Portage Bay clubhouse.
- 12.3 The protest time limit will be posted on the official notice board after racing. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the end of the race or 15 minutes after the posting of the time limit, whichever is later.
- 12.4 Hearing notices will be posted on the official notice board within 5 minutes after the protest time limit to inform parties of the time and place of the hearing. Hearings may commence at any time if parties are present and prepared; otherwise, hearings may be scheduled as early as 10 minutes after the protest time limit. The posting of hearing notices shall be considered notice as required by RRS 63.2.
- 12.5 A boat may not protest another boat for Sailing Instructions 9.5. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 12.6 Penalties under Sailing Instructions 9.5 or 14 may be less than disqualification. This changes RRS 64.1(a).
- 13 SCORING**
- 13.1 Boats will be scored in class.
- 13.2 Corrected times for PHRF Northwest and ORC handicap classes will be calculated using the Time on Time method.
- 13.3 A boat that did not start (DNC, DNS, OCS), did not finish (DNF), retired (RET), or is disqualified (DSQ, DNE, DGM, BFD) will be scored the number of finishers plus one. This changes RRS A4.2 and A9.
- 14 EQUIPMENT AND OPERATING REQUIREMENTS**
- 14.1 Boats must check in with the race committee signal boat at the starting area before their warning signal. Boats should check in by hail, unless safety requires checking in by VHF 72.
- 14.2 A boat that retires while racing must orally notify the race committee as soon as reasonably possible after retiring by hail or VHF 72.
- 14.3 Neither PIYASR nor OSR equipment requirements apply.
- 14.4 Boats must comply with U.S. Coast Guard regulations.
- 15 PARTY AND AWARDS**
- 15.1 Party and awards at Seattle Yacht Club on lawn and Heritage Room after racing.





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**Buoy Course Marks
(Position relative to RC)**


Intended Wind
Direction

 A (Yellow)

 B (Green)



 Y (Green)

 Z (Yellow)

The course diagram for buoy course marks shows the general orientation of the race committee signal boat ("R/C"), other marks (identified by the letters S, A, B, G, X, Y, Z and F), and the intended wind direction. All marks other than the race committee signal boat are inflatable buoys. Positions are approximate and the diagram is not to scale.