



2025 Fall Race to Solomons

Saturday September 20, 2025

Co-Organizing Authorities: Annapolis Yacht Club, Annapolis, MD
and Southern Maryland Sailing Association, Solomons Island, MD

<http://www.annapolisyc.com/racing/regattas>



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS including Amendment No. 1

(Amendments in italics)

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the SIs or NoR means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 For all monohull boats competing, the "Nearshore" category of the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER, available at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations>) will apply as changed below. (a) In the event of a conflict between the SER and applicable class rules, the class rules shall govern. All monohulls must also meet SER 2.4.1 LIFELINES, or alternatively, all persons must wear a USCG approved PFD at all times when racing.
- 1.3 For all multihull boats competing, the "Nearshore" category of the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER, available at: <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations>) In the event of a conflict between the SER and applicable class rules, the class rules shall govern.
- 1.4 All crew aboard a boat without lifelines, a multihull or any boat racing double handed, must wear a USCG approved PFD at all times when on deck. This changes RRS 40.
- 1.5 All boats in all classes are to have a minimum crew of two persons.
- 1.6 ORC Open and ORC Performance Cruiser class rules are modified by ORC of the Chesapeake and can be found at <http://www.orcches.org>

2 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0800 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board which is electronic and located at: <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/17011>
- 3.2 The race office can be reached by telephone at 410-858-4964 or by email at raceoffice@annapolisyc.org. Forms can be found online at the above website or at <https://www.annapolisyc.com/racing/raceoffice>
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio on channel 69. This includes announcements and confirmation of race committee signals before, during, and after racing.

3.4 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

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

5 SCHEDULE

5.1 The first warning signal is scheduled for 0930. Classes will be started in approximate "reverse order" with slower classes starting first.

5.2 The starting order will be posted to the notice board no later than 1700 on Wednesday, September 18.

6 CLASS FLAGS

6.1 The class flags are:

ORC 1	Flag O over numeral pennant 1
ORC 2	Flag O over numeral pennant 2
ORC 3	Flag o over numeral pennant 3
ORC Performance Cruising	Flag O over numeral pennant 5
PHRF A	Numeral pennant 9
PHRF B / C	Numeral pennant 6 or 7
CHESSS	Pennant 3 rd Substitute
Multihull	Flag W

6.2 [DP] All boats shall clearly display their assigned class flag at the stern.

6.3 The OA will post assignments of boats in handicap fleets to starting classes no later than 1700 on Wednesday, September 17. The OA may change the assignment of a handicap boat's starting class until 1700 on Friday, September 20.

7 THE COURSE

7.1 The start will be at G/R can "SR" located near and southeast of Thomas Point Light.

7.2 Before the start, the race committee may shorten the course by displaying Flag L with a sound, announcing on VHF 69, and move the starting area south.

7.3 After starting, the following marks shall be rounded or passed in the following order:

(a) Bloody Pt. Warning Light (LLNR 7751), passed to port (unless SI 7.2 is enacted).

(b) R"84", passed to **port**,

(c) Sharps Island Light passed to port,

(d) G"77", rounded to **starboard**.

7.4 [NP] [DP] Areas that are obstructions: Boats are prohibited from entering the restricted area located North of Cove Point Light designated by Marks F, G, H, and J at the Cove Point Light LNG Refueling Dock.

7.5 The race committee may shorten the course at rounding mark G"77". **In the event the course is shortened at G "77" boats shall round G "77" within 0.25nm. Race committee will announce this to all competitors on VHF 69.**

8 THE START

8.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.

8.2 Prior to the warning signal, the race committee will announce the next class to start on VHF radio.

8.3 The starting line will be between the staff with an orange flag displayed on the race committee signal vessel and the course side of the starting mark, which will be **G/R can "SR" located near and southeast of Thomas Point Light.**

- 8.4 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other competitors.
- 8.5 The race committee will announce on VHF radio boats identified as OCS. A boat may not base a request for redress on the failure to hear or receive the announcements, the timeliness of announcement or the order in which boats are announced. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 8.6 A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 8.7 [NP] MANDATORY CHECK-IN - Prior to starting, each boat shall pass astern of the Signal boat, hail her sail number and the number of persons on board, and receive a verbal confirmation by the race committee. A boat that starts without checking in will receive a 20% scoring penalty (see RRS 44.3(c)) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
- 9 THE FINISH**
- 9.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee vessel and Patuxent River Light R "6"
- 9.2 If the race committee is not on station:
(a) the finishing line will be a line extending 300 feet on a bearing of 360 degrees magnetic to Patuxent River Light R "6".
(b) A boat shall record her finish time and shall report her finish time as soon as practicable to the race office (see SI 3.2).
- 10 PENALTY SYSTEM**
- 10.1 Penalties while racing: RRS 44.1, One-Turn and Two-Turns Penalties will apply.
- 10.2 Penalties after racing: RRS/US Appendix V2, Penalty Taken After the Race, will apply.
- 11 TIME LIMITS**
- 11.1 The time limit to finish is 1900 hours. Boats not finishing by 1900 hours will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. Boats scored TLE will be scored two places greater than the number of boats finishing in that class, but not worse than the number of starters.
- 12 HEARING REQUESTS**
- 12.1 Protest forms are available online¹(see SI 3.2). Protests, requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 12.2 Scoring inquiry forms are available at the race office (see SI 3.2). When the race committee receives a scoring inquiry form, it will review its records and respond as soon as practicable.
- 12.3 The protest time limit for each boat is 60 minutes after the boat finishes.
- 12.4 The protest committee intends to schedule and conduct hearings via tele-or-video conferencing. The protest committee will post a notice to inform competitors of the schedule and location of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Information on the process will be emailed to the parties and posted on the official notice board.
- 12.5 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2(d).
- 12.6 As soon as practicable after a protest is filed, the protest committee will post a notice to inform competitors of the schedule and location of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 13 SCORING**
- 13.1 RRS Appendix A4, Low Point System, will apply.
- 13.2 Corrected times for PHRF will be calculated using PHRF Time-on-Time scoring. The race committee will determine the course type rating ("Handicap (Spinnaker)" or "Random Course Handicap (Spinnaker)") prior to scoring the race. A boat's corrected time will be her elapsed time multiplied by: $(650 / (550 + \text{PHRF Rating}))$.

13.3 Corrected times for the ORC classes will be calculated using the appropriate ORC Time-on-Time ratings. The race committee will determine the proper course type and the wind speed rating prior to scoring the race. A boat may not base a redress request on the race committee's decision of course type and wind speed band. This changes RRS 61.1.

14 SAFETY REGULATIONS

14.1 [DP] A boat that retires from the race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

14.2 [NP] [DP] A boat shall not exercise right of way, cross in proximity to, or interfere with reasonable transit of the race area by commercial ships, tugs, or barges. Boats must take evasive action well in advance of a potentially dangerous situation.

14.3 A boat without way may use any means of propulsion to avoid commercial traffic that is under way provided: (a) the boat does not gain an advantage; (b) use of the propulsion is the boat's only means of avoiding the commercial traffic; and (c) the boat submits a report to the race office (see SI 3) by the protest filing deadline describing the incident and the boat's actions.

14.4 The race committee or protest committee may protest a boat for SI 14.2 based on information received from any source. The protest time limit does not apply. A written statement from the US Coast Guard, a ship captain, or a bay pilot will be accepted as evidence without the author present. This changes RRS 20.3, 60.2, and 63.5.

15 PRIZES

15.1 Prizes will be given in each class for 1st place with 3 or more starters (boats starting in at least one race), 2nd place with 6 or more starters, and 3rd place with 9 or more starters

15.2 The OA anticipates that the following perpetual trophies will be awarded :

(a) Pavana Trophy: best overall corrected time in ORC.

(b) America's Trophy: this event will be part of AYC's season series for overall performance in ORC.

15.3 Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the organizing authority.

15.4 Awards will be presented during the post-race regatta gathering at the SMSA Clubhouse.

15 RISK STATEMENT

15.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks, which are assumed by the competitor.

16 INSURANCE

16.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 combined single limit, or shall be a vessel representing a Government Agency. Competitors are solely responsible for obtaining the required coverage.

