

J/88 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

September 24 - September 28, 2025

Annapolis, Maryland



(OA) Co-Organizing Authority: Annapolis Yacht Club
and J/88 Class Association(USA)

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS including Amendment No. 1 & 2 ***(Amendments in italics)***

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

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The J88 Class Association Constitution and the J88 Class Rules apply: <https://j88class.org/>
- 1.3 Class Rule 6.2 (Crew weight limit) is in effect.
- 1.4 Appendix T and US Sailing Prescription Appendix V, will apply.
- 1.5 RRS 60.4 (a) (2) is replaced with: "If it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or"

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than 0930 on the day they 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

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB) available at: <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/17012>
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors via VHF channel 71.
- 3.3 ***[DP] No communications***, data, vocal or visual signaling of any kind, or tactical placement from support boat is permitted after the race boat departs the dock until after the race boat retires for the day or after finishing the last race of the day.
- 3.4 [DP] All support boats must remain out of the way of Race Committee boats and boats with a Jury or Press flag at all rounding marks, and start and finish lines, except when rendering assistance to a boat in danger at the request of the boat or at the request of the Race Committee. Support boats must fly their flag from leaving the dock until the last boat finishes for the day.
- 3.5 [DP] From the first warning signal of the day, until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications not available to all boats.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flagpole at the Annapolis Yacht Club.
- 4.2 When flag "AP" is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced by "not less than 60 minutes" in Race Signals AP.

5 SCHEDULE

Tues. Sept 23	1000 - 1700	Onsite Registration, Weigh-In and Measurement - AYC Sailing Center
Wed. Sept 24	1000 - 1700	Onsite Registration, Weigh-In and Measurement - AYC Sailing Center
	1300	Practice Racing with Quantum
	1700	Competitors Meeting & Social sponsored by North Point Yacht Sales - AYC Sailing Center
Thurs. Sept 25	1100	First Warning Signal
	1800	After racing social hosted by Chris & Liz Chadwick at their home. BYOB
Fri. Sept 26	1100	First Warning Signal
		After racing social - AYC Sailing Center
Sat. Sept 27	1100	First Warning
		After Racing Social - Sailing Center
Sun. Sept 28	1100	First Warning
	1500	No warning signal after this time
	Following Racing & Protest Hearings	Awards Party and Trophy Presentation - Sailing Center

6 RACING AREA

Races will be on the Chesapeake Bay off the mouth of the Severn River.

7 COURSES

- 7.1 The courses will be four leg Windward / Leeward with marks rounded to port.
- 7.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display and announce on VHF the approximate compass bearing and distance to the windward mark.
- 7.3 There may be a windward offset mark and a leeward gate set approximately 0.1nm to windward of the starting line. If the windward offset is not in place, boats shall leave the windward mark to port. If only one gate mark is in place, boats shall round the remaining one leeward mark to port.
- 7.4 The gate or leeward mark is not a mark of the course for the first leg or the final downwind leg.

8 MARKS

- 8.1 Marks will be robotic Mark Set Bots or inflatable marks. Routine movement of robotic marks will not be grounds for redress. This included marks returning to station after having been pushed away by a boat or competitor. RRS 31 still applies.
- 8.2 **The starting / finishing mark will be green. The Windward mark, offset mark and gate marks will be yellow.**

9 THE START

- 9.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 9.2 The warning signal will be a J/88 class flag or Numeral Pennant One.
- 9.3 The race committee will attempt to announce on VHF radio the boats identified as OCS, UFD or BFD. A

boat may not base a request for redress on the failure to hear or receive the announcements, the timing of the announcements or the order in which boats are announced.

- 9.4 A boat that does not start within five minutes after her starting signal, will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1.

10 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 10.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original marks (or the finishing line) to a new position. Marks may be moving into position after the change is signaled.

11 THE FINISH

- 11.1 The finish line will be on the opposite side of the signal boat from the starting line. The line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag in the signal boat and the course side of a nearby finishing mark.

12 TIME LIMIT

- 12.1 The Time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish will be 90 minutes.
- 12.2 Finishing window: Boats not finishing within 30 minutes after the first boat to start, sail the course and finish, will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) without a hearing.
- 12.3 [NP] Boats failing to finish within the finishing window and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored points equal to the number of boats that finished within the time limit plus 2 points, but the score will not exceed the number of entries plus 1 point. This changes RRS 35 and A5.1.

13 HEARING REQUESTS

- 13.1 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has completed the the last race of the day. The protest time limit will be posted on the official notice board
- 13.2 Immediately after finishing, a boat intending to protest another boat shall notify the race committee on VHF radio and identify the boat she intends to protest,
- 13.3 Protest forms can be found on the official notice board and filed on Yacht Scoring.
- 13.4 Notice of hearings will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible after the protest time limit has expired.

14 SCORING

- 14.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 14.2 When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her races scores. When five, or more races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

15 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 15.1 Prior to the first warning signal each day, boats shall sail past the stern of the race committee signal boat, on starboard tack, hail her bow or sail number and be acknowledged by the race committee.
- 15.2 [DP] A boat that retires from a race, shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

16 HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 16.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with written permission of the race committee after consultation with the class representative.
- 16.2 All boats shall be in the water by 1600 on Tuesday, September 23 and shall remain in the water through the end of the regatta.

17 PRIZES

- 17.1 Prizes will be awarded to boats finishing first through third place overall.
- 17.2 A Corinthian trophy will be awarded to the top scoring boat with an all-Corinthian crew.
- 17.3 Additional prizes maybe awarded at the discretion of the OA.

18 COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC

- 18.1 [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. The US Coast Guard, ship captains, and bay pilots have been encouraged to report any incident they observe.
- 18.2 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 (in writing or by e-mail to raceoffice@annapolisyc.org) by the protest filing deadline describing the incident and the boat's actions.
- 18.3 The race committee or protest committee may protest a boat for SI 18.1 based on information received from any source. A written statement from the US Coast Guard, a ship captain, or a bay pilot will be accepted as evidence without the author present. The protest time limit does not apply. This changes RRS 60.2, 60.3 and 63.4.

19 INSURANCE

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

20 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 20.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. 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. 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.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

Event Chair: John Bell sloopjohnbell@verizon.net

J/88 Class Representative: Andrew Graff andrewcgraff@yahoo.com

AYC Harborside Director: Linda Ambrose, lambrose@annapolisyc.org 410.858.4964