



2026 Wednesday Night Races

April 22 - August 26, 2026

Organizing Authority: Annapolis Yacht Club,
Annapolis, Maryland, USA

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

NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

The notation '[NP]' in this document 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 ORC and PHRF classes, the "Nearshore" category of the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (available at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations>) will apply.
- 1.3 J105 Class Rules are modified by Article IX of the local J-105 Fleet-3 Article/Rules. This event is designated Level 3C. J-105 Fleet-3 Articles/Rules can be found at <https://www.j105fleet3.org/rules>
- 1.4 ORC Open and ORC Performance Cruising class rules are modified by ORC of the Chesapeake and can be found at <http://www.orcches.org>

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available on the event website approximately 10 days before the first scheduled race.

3 COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The official notice board is electronic and will be located at the following Yacht Scoring websites:
First Series:
<https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50566>
Second Series:
<https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50568>
Third Series:
<https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/505693>
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The specific channel will be stated in the sailing instructions.
- 3.3 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on US channels.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Boats of the Alberg 30, Cal 25, Harbor 20, Herreshoff Level, J/22, J/24, J/30, J/70, J/80, J/88, J/105, Sonars, ORC and PHRF classes are invited to participate.
- 4.2 Boats wishing to enter need to enter only one time, using one of the Yacht Scoring sites in NoR 3.1. Entries in the First Series will be re-entered for the Second Series and entries in the First and Second Series will be re-entered for the Third Series.
- 4.3 For a one-design class to be scored as a separate class for a series, it must have a minimum of 5 entries by 1700 on the day of the first race of the series.
- 4.4 The person entering a boat shall be a regular, active participant on the boat for the regatta and is responsible for the actions of the boat and crew while participating in the event.
- 4.5 Boats entered in PHRF shall have a valid certificate on file with PHRF of the Chesapeake, with a PHRF rating of 160 or higher. A boat's certificate when they enter shall be used for the entire regatta.
- 4.6 Boats in ORC classes shall have a valid ORC certificate of file with ORC. To apply for a certificate:
<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/orc/>
A boat's certificate used when entering shall be used for the entire regatta.
- 4.7 The race committee will determine the starting order and ORC class splits. More than one class may start at the same time.
- 4.8 To be considered an entry in the regatta, a boat shall complete all entry and registration steps and pay all fees.

5 FEES

- 5.1 The entry fee for all or some of the three series will be \$295
- 5.2 The entry fee is payable in full no later than 1200 on the day of a boat's first race. The entry fee is non-refundable except for boats in classes that fail to meet the minimum for a start (see NoR 4.3).
- 5.3 The entry fee includes, at a minimum, racing, and awards. Additional details will be included on the AYC event website.

6 SCHEDULE

- 6.1 The regatta will consist of three series:
 - First Series: April 22 - May 27*
 - Second Series: June 3 - July 15 (no racing July 1)*
 - Third Series: July 22 - August 26*
- 6.2 The first warning signal for the first race of each Wednesday is scheduled for 1745 for the Herreshoff Level class. The first warning signal for all other classes is 1800.
- 6.3 An awards party is scheduled to be held at AYC at 1900 on September 2.

7 VENUE

- 7.1 The racing area will be the Severn River and the Chesapeake Bay off the mouth of the Severn River.
- 7.2 The shore side venue will be AYC.

8 THE COURSES

- 8.1 The courses to be sailed will be a mix of government marks and drop marks as described in the sailing instructions.

9 CONTACT WITH MOORED BOATS

- 9.1 While racing, boats shall not contact anchored, moored or docked vessels.

10 [DP] DOCKING

- 10.1 Boats shall NOT tie up to or touch the docks belonging to the Yacht Basin immediately next to AYC. Boats that break this rule will be responsible for all charges to AYC.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 RRS 44.3, Scoring Penalty, will apply as changed in the sailing instructions.

12 SCORING

- 12.1 RRS Appendix A4, Low Point System will apply.
- 12.2 Up to 6 races are scheduled for each of the three series.
- 12.3 When 3 or fewer races in a series have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 4 or more races in a series have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 12.4 The first sentence of RRS Appendix A5.2 is deleted and replaced by: "A boat that did not start, did not finish, retired, was TLE, did not come to the starting area or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that finished."
- 12.5 RRS Appendix A9 (Race Scores Longer than a Regatta) is deleted.
- 12.6 Corrected times for PHRF will be calculated using PHRF Time-on-Time scoring and Random Course Handicap ratings.
- 12.7 Corrected times for ORC Classes will be calculated using ORC Time-on-Time ratings. The race committee will assign the course type and the wind speed selection on race day as detailed in the sailing instructions.

13 RISK STATEMENT

- 13.1 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.

14 INSURANCE

- 14.1 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.

15 PRIZES

- 15.1 Prizes will be given for the top 3 boats in each class in each series.
- 15.2 The OA anticipates that the following overall perpetual trophies will be awarded (as further described in the sailing instructions):
- (a) Charles Dell Trophy: best overall performance.
 - (b) Fred W. Carlson Trophy: best overall performance in ORC.
 - (c) Geiger Memorial: best overall performance in PHRF.
 - (d) Harvey Clap Trophy: first place in the Sonar class.
 - (e) Spadone Trophy: first place in the Herreshoff Level class.
 - (f) Commodore Bing Downing Trophy: best overall performance in Harbor 20 class.
- 15.3 Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the organizing authority.

16 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 16.1 For more information contact:
AYC Harborside Director: Linda Ambrose, lambrose@annapolisyc.org 410.858.4964